

# Volunteers are the Heart of the ReStore



*Core Volunteers Ed Hettler (left) and Bob Ray (right) sorting donations*

During any regular month, around 200 volunteers support operations at our ReStore. By dedicating their time and expertise, volunteers provide much-needed support to the organization of inventory and assisting customers. Their volunteerism enables the ReStore to process more donations, serve more customers, and achieve more sales. The net proceeds of ReStore sales help fund Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity's programs: new home construction, repairs program, and homeowner services. Through their service, ReStore volunteers fundamentally advance our mission to help low-income families achieve their dreams of affordable homeownership in El Paso County.

At the end of March, the ReStore closed for 10 days to help ensure the health and safety of our customers, staff, and community. Following the closure, the ReStore reopened in a limited capacity and adopted several procedures so that we could continue to serve our community safely. These procedures include sanitizing the entire store, enacting social distancing protocols, as well as requiring all staff to wear masks and gloves. We also ask all customers to wear face coverings when shopping at the ReStore. During the ReStore's reduced operations, we could only sell essential construction items, and, unfortunately, could not utilize volunteer support. Our volunteers' absence was a firm reminder of the immeasurable magnitude they have on our ability to serve our community. The ReStore is now back at full operations, including welcoming volunteers back in the store. "We have some of the greatest volunteers anyone could hope for!" said ReStore Volunteer Coordinator Dusty Last. "As a staff member, I've had the opportunity over the past years to get to know these amazing people. They do so much for us. They sort, prepare, and price all of the items that are donated. They are a wealth of knowledge for our customers. They keep our departments organized and tidy. They are the heart of our ReStore."



*Core Volunteer Suzanne Ballard sorting donations*

There is a dedicated group of people that regularly commit their time and talents to the ReStore: our Core Volunteers. Suzanne, a Core Volunteer, has been volunteering with the ReStore for over 14 years. She shared that she started volunteering to support her community and stays because she makes a positive difference in so many lives. Suzanne said, "It makes me feel good inside! I know I help improve other peoples' lives. Why would I ever stop doing something that makes me feel that good?" Ed and Bob, also Core Volunteers, have been with the ReStore for almost 10 years. They both enjoy being a part of the ReStore team and speak of the camaraderie and friendships they have built while working to make a difference in our community. Janna, a new volunteer, shared that even though she is working full-time, she felt she could do more to make a positive impact locally and found this to be true as a ReStore volunteer. Whether new or seasoned, what unites all of our ReStore volunteers is their dedication, their generosity, and their willingness to lift others up to create a better El Paso County community! To learn more and sign up to volunteer, visit [pikespeakhabitat.org/volunteer](http://pikespeakhabitat.org/volunteer) or contact ReStore Volunteer Coordinator Dusty Last at 719.213.5655 or [restorevolunteer@pikespeakhabitat.org](mailto:restorevolunteer@pikespeakhabitat.org).



*Core Volunteer Janna Blanton pricing products*