

Hello, friends and supporters of Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity!

I am Kris Lewis, CEO of Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity, here in the kitchen of our latest home to be dedicated in September, so you may hear some construction noise in the background. I am here to thank you for all you do to lift up our neighbors to the opportunities that affordable homeownership provides.

As we reflect on fiscal year 2024 – which spanned July 1 of 2023, to June 30 of 2024—we're grateful for you: your donations of funds and materials, your volunteer hours, your prayers, your creativity, your sharing of our stories, your ReStore purchases, and your passion for our mission! You are crucial in impacting lives through affordable homeownership in El Paso County, Colorado, and beyond.

Your support and participation made fiscal year 2024 a banner year for our Faith in Action program. We completed the eight-part “Bridgebuilding: An Interfaith Collaboration” video training series and companion workbook—Pikes Peak Habitat’s contribution to the White House’s United We Stand initiative that led to the creation of the national Team Up pilot program.

Pikes Peak Habitat was one of 10 Habitat affiliates chosen to participate in this innovative project. In addition to Habitat for Humanity International, founding partner organizations are Catholic Charities USA, Interfaith America, and YMCA of the USA. We are excited to collaborate with such esteemed organizations—not only to remind Americans that the values uniting us are so much stronger than the forces trying to divide us, but we also are here to demonstrate practical, boots-on-the-ground ways to work across our differences.

Our approach to bridgebuilding is showcased in the interfaith dialogue, held every year in conjunction with United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week. It’s the first week in February. Our 2024 dialogue, “Who Is Your Neighbor?,” along with our seven-day challenge, received second place in His Majesty King Abdullah II United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week international competition! We are honored and humbled by this recognition.

Through our tithe program, we supported Habitat funds and affiliates in Bangladesh, Dominican Republic, and Uganda. Our contribution of \$154,000 helped 34 families internationally. These families were able to achieve stable housing.

Locally, six workforce families moved into their own homes during fiscal year 2024. One of these was a recycled home—this means we originally built it, and it was later returned to Pikes Peak Habitat, and we renovated it to sell to a new homeowner. Because of these efforts, made possible by you, 12 more children are growing up in their own homes in a close-knit community!

We also completed 77 home repairs focused on health, safety, and accessibility, including 43 through the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing Community Aging in Place, Advancing Better Living for Elders, otherwise known as CAPABLE, program. Nine of the households served through our repair program include a United States military veteran, and we are thrilled to be able to repay them for their service to us by offering affordable, attainable repairs.

Our first ReStore in Colorado Springs—the South location on South Wahsatch Avenue—celebrated its 20th anniversary in January, and we rejoiced to look back on the store’s growth and the addition of our ReStore Northeast. That location, with ReStore South, have put moneys into building 128 (and counting!) El Paso County homes, made possible through proceeds from the ReStores over the past two decades. We added textile recycling to our metal, paint, and porcelain recycling programs. The ReStores together kept almost 3,000 tons of items out of landfills and generated more than \$1 million in profits to support affordable homeownership here in El Paso County.

We couldn’t do any of this work without your support. Our volunteers—nearly 3,000 of you in fiscal year 2024!—and the donors together, you are the lifeblood of this organization. We—and the many families we partner with, both in El Paso County and around the world—remain incredibly thankful to you.

Thank you.