

Building strength, stability, and self-reliance through shelter in El Paso County, Colorado, since 1986

## **Serving El Paso County Veterans**

As an official Veterans Build Affiliate with Habitat for Humanity International, Pikes Peak Habitat builds, maintains, and preserves homes in partnership with veterans and their families.



## Willie and Barbara 6th Veterans Build Future Homeowners

Willie is a United States Army veteran who first moved to El Paso County in 1988, when he was stationed at Fort Carson. He returned to El Paso County eight years ago to care for his aging father – and found love!

Barbara hails from a military family. Her father was a veteran of the Vietnam War, and her brother served for 28 years before retiring as a master sergeant.

Willie and Barbara lived in a car and stayed in motels before renting their apartment in a high-crime area. While they're grateful to have a roof over their heads, they struggle with health conditions that are worsened by living on the third floor without air conditioning.

But that's about to change: They will move into their new Pikes Peak Habitat home in November – just in time for Veteran's Day!



## Home Repair Program Serves El Paso County Veterans

In fiscal year 2024, we completed repairs on **nine** households where veterans lived.

U.S. Army veterans Mike (left) and Bill both partnered with our home

repair program to replace roofs that were leaking.

Scan the QR codes to read their stories!

Bill, who "pays it forward" by volunteering at the ReStore South, says, "If there's a thousand percent difference, it's just like another world, a world I didn't know existed. A world of honest, forthright people...I had a lot of good things happen to me that I can't really explain."



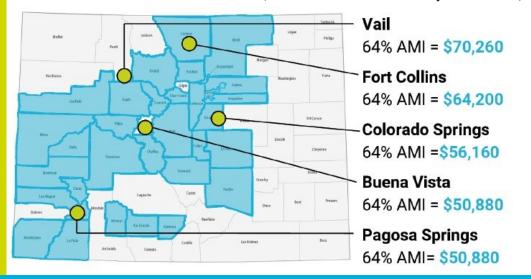
## **Our Work in El Paso County, Colorado**

Our homeowners support the local economy by working in fields including

- Childcare/education
- Construction
- Government
- Healthcare
- Hospitality
- Media
- Telecommunications
- Transportation

Like many other Habitat for Humanity affiliates in Colorado, our homeowners earn an average of 64% of AMI (area median income). In El Paso County's largest city of Colorado Springs, average income for Pikes Peak Habitat homeowners is \$56,160.

(Source: Habitat for Humanity of Colorado)



In fiscal year 2024, Pikes Peak Habitat homeowners reinvested **\$215,817** in the local community through property taxes. Habitat homeownership has also decreased usage of public assistance programs by **59%**, according to a 2024 survey of our homeowners.

