



Orphans and Vulnerable Groups Fund distribution

Fiscal year 2024

The Orphans and Vulnerable Groups Fund supports the efforts of Habitat for Humanity organizations to provide adequate shelter and other interventions for particularly vulnerable communities around the world.

These groups – children who have lost one or both parents, people living with a disease or disability, and marginalized people facing social exclusion – are confronted by many barriers to escaping chronic poverty and inadequate housing. The OVG Fund supports Habitat's work to provide these most vulnerable groups with a hand up through housing solutions.

In fiscal year 2024, 193 U.S. Habitat organizations tithed \$748,004 to the OVG Fund. These contributions will support programs in Fiji, Jordan, Lesotho, Macedonia, Mexico and Uganda.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can support the OVG Fund, please visit the tithe homepage on MyHabitat – hfhi.sharepoint.com/sites/Tithe – or contact us directly at tithe@habitat.org.

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\$117,000 to advance energy efficiency and inclusive housing for people with disabilities in North Macedonia

In 2008, North Macedonia closed state mental hospitals and helped individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities transition to smaller, community-based group homes or collective houses. High energy costs pose a great challenge for the nonprofits that operate these homes. Through this project and in partnership with a local nonprofit, Habitat Macedonia will enhance the energy effectiveness of 10 group houses in Poraka, which will benefit 133 individuals.

\$125,000 to help vulnerable young men in Fiji establish shelter and build livelihoods

The project will support vulnerable young men who have experienced abandonment, abuse or neglect. Upon turning 18 years old, these young men are required to leave the group residential home where they have been living. In partnership with Veilomani Boys Home, a nonprofit organization operated by the Methodist Church of Fiji, Habitat Fiji will build a transitional home to house 10 young men annually. Other partner organizations will provide counseling and financial literacy.

\$125,000 to enhance communal facilities in Palestinian camps in Jordan

Palestinian refugee camps are home to some of the most vulnerable and marginalized communities in Jordan. An estimated 2 million individuals live in informal communities facing significant challenges related to infrastructure, safety and access to essential services. This project will support vulnerable groups in the Palestinian camp of Schneller or Hitten, which is 10 kilometers northeast of the capital, Amman. The camp is home to nearly 70,000 registered refugees, including most recently Syrian refugees. Habitat Jordan will continue its work in this camp by rehabilitating eight public facilities, serving an estimated 10,000 individuals, and will improve the energy efficiency of the buildings.

\$125,000 to house vulnerable families in Lesotho

In Lesotho, nearly 1 in 4 people are living with HIV, and children are vulnerable to losing one or both parents to HIV/AIDS. Habitat Lesotho will support an additional 27 vulnerable families in Molepolole's Hoek district with new housing and sanitation facilities. Families will also receive training in home maintenance, inheritance rights and hygiene.

\$125,000 to help Indigenous families in Mexico improve their housing

The Chiapas region has one of the highest rates of poverty in Mexico, with nearly 3 out of 4 residents classified as very low-income. Most houses in this region have only one room, serving as the bedroom, kitchen and common area. Exposure to wood smoke from cooking represents a significant risk factor for respiratory disease in the region, while overcrowded and unhygienic conditions contribute to the transmission of infectious diseases. This project will construct separate, smoke-free kitchen spaces for the homes of 13 particularly vulnerable families who have children born with congenital malformations, such as cleft palate, or other chronic diseases. In addition to improving respiratory health, these enhancements enable families to meet minimum requirements for their children to receive cleft palate correction surgery.

\$125,000 to help vulnerable families in Uganda build eco-friendly housing

Nearly two-thirds of Ugandans live in substandard housing. Habitat Uganda will build 12 eco-friendly houses in Tubur sub-county of Soroti district, which has especially high rates of poverty (50% of the population), disability, HIV/AIDS (4.2% of the population is HIV-positive) and disempowerment. The homes will be constructed from Interlocking Stabilized Soil Blocks, and each home will include a latrine, a bathing shelter and a 3,000-liter rainwater harvesting tank. Ramps will be installed on the homes of people with disabilities. Habitat Uganda will also install solar lighting for each home and help establish backyard gardens with vegetables.



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