

## How to Become a Partner Family

Applications are typically accepted annually during the months of February and August. Interested parties should contact the office directly at 318.449.9804 to find out more information relative to times and location.



Families must meet specific income guidelines. Habitat conducts credit checks on all partner families. Families with poor credit; but are working on improving their credit rating may be eligible to become a Habitat partner.

Other qualification criteria is outlined below:

1. Demonstrated need for safe, decent housing.
2. Demonstrated ability to pay a mortgage and keep home in good condition.
3. Willingness to partner with Habitat.
4. Completion of 350 "sweat equity" hours.

\*Habitat also conducts back ground and sex offender registry checks on all applicants.

Once applicants have been accepted, they must participate in: budget counseling, home visits, home maintenance workshops, and finance management sessions.

Single persons are welcome to apply.



Rapides Habitat for Humanity is an equal opportunity provider and does not discriminate on any basis, including race, religion, gender, creed, color, handicap, national origin, or otherwise.

## Volunteering as a Group

Churches, businesses, civic clubs, book clubs, school groups, and others often volunteer as a group. Of course, individuals are always welcome! Groups have traditionally facilitated "Saturday Workdays" at construction build sites. Others have hosted out-of-town groups at their church by providing lodging and/or meals.

## Have you Heard about the



???

The ReStore accepts donations of new and gently used building materials and household goods such as lighting, sinks, doors, windows, hardware, and appliances. These items are resold to the general public at a fraction of the new cost of such items. Donations to the ReStore are tax deductible.

Donation pick ups are available Tuesdays from 8 AM - 4 PM. To schedule a pick up call 318.561.0490.

### The ReStore also...

1. Serves as a year round fundraiser that generates money to support the Habitat ministry of building safe and affordable housing for deserving families in need.
2. Provides the community with affordable building materials to encourage the maintenance of rental or investment property; especially those that are unoccupied.
3. Recycles building materials that might otherwise end up in landfills.



*Building houses, building hope...since 1989*

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## Building Houses

A nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry, Rapides Habitat for Humanity builds simple, decent affordable homes in partnership with those in need. Families purchase the houses at no profit, through interest-free loans.

The driving force behind the organization is its volunteers, those who contribute a day, a week, a few months, to give Habitat's vision a tangible form. Volunteers

joining with future homeowner families, provide virtually all of the house building labor. Individuals, religious

organizations and corporations that support Habitat's mission also provide the tax-deductible donations of money, land and materials that make the work possible.



## Building Dignity, Building Community

In the midst of a world wide housing crisis, millions of families still live in rotting shacks and dangerous unhealthy housing struggling every day just to survive.

Habitat finds these conditions unacceptable.

Accordingly, Habitat builds *alongside* those who demonstrate need and willingness to partner with Habitat.

Homeowner families invest hundreds of hours of their own "sweat equity" labor into the houses. Their monthly mortgage payments go into a revolving account to help fund the construction of more houses. Via this approach, Habitat gives partner families a hand up, restoring the hope and dignity that poverty strips away. Habitat work sites are places to build relationships as well as houses.

Habitat's self-help solution to substandard housing is popular with people from diverse backgrounds.

## Building the Future

In freeing families from the unending struggles that accompany inadequate shelter, Habitat houses open the door to increased self-esteem and self-reliance. And, in turn, families can devote more attention to job opportunities, education, and health.

As the crushing cycle of poverty is broken, their children benefit, their neighborhoods change for the better, and entire communities improve.

Thanks to dedicated and generous supporters, Habitat has already built or renovated houses providing shelter to 76 people and/or families. But thousands more around our community, still live in deplorable conditions. That's why Habitat's house building, hope building work is so urgent.

## Help Build It!

On average, the cost to construct a Habitat house is \$58k. Sponsorships, at various levels, are sold to churches, corporations, organizations, and individuals.

These funds are utilized to procure needed professional services, building supplies, and materials.

\$10	Box of Nails
\$35	Roof Shingles
\$50	Low Flow Toilet
\$75	Window
\$100	Kitchen Sink
\$150	Front Door
\$500	Siding
\$1000	Wallboard
\$2000	Flooring
\$25000	Half House
\$50000	Whole House

Some groups donate meals, soft drinks, and other volunteer support items. Building materials can be donated in some instances. Habitat has an investment account and can

receive gifts of stock from donors who want the tax advantages of donating appreciated stock.

## Get Involved...Volunteer!

Habitat works with both skilled and unskilled volunteers. On site training is provided for those volunteers who need to be taught skills necessary to complete a given task.

A brief overview of volunteer opportunities are listed below:

### Construction Volunteers

Carpenters  
Roofers  
Crew Chief  
House Leader  
Landscapers  
Drywall Installers  
Floor Tile Installers (non ceramic)  
Unskilled Helpers

### Volunteer Support

Prepare and deliver meals  
Deliver and ice down beverages  
Keep worksite clean and free of debris

### Administrative

Serve on Committees (e.g. marketing)  
Construction Supervision  
Fundraising  
Public Relations  
Volunteer Recruitment and Coordination  
Church Relations  
Data Entry  
Mail Outs

