

GOD BLESS THIS HOME
SR

Faith in Action

Congregations partnering to build homes, community, and hope in Hampden County.



OUR MISSION

Seeking to put God's love into action, Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope.

Preserving homes, preserving communities

"Behold, all things are made new ..."
(Rev 21:5 KJV)



Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity, best known for building new homes, also works with homeowners to preserve communities. Repairing a roof or a stoop may seem small, but for some the cost of repairs may put families and homes in crisis. **Our home preservation program allows people to remain in their communities.** Repair projects are also good opportunities for small groups of people to volunteer on a single project rather than the longer term commitment to build a new house. These projects prevent land loss and community deterioration in communities struggling to stay vibrant.

Interested in working with us? Contact:

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Building homes, changing lives

"You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm, and shade from the heat." (Is 25:4)

What is the good of a home? People with safe, clean permanent housing have more stable lives, healthier lives, financially more secure lives, and children that have better social and educational outcomes. As OluTimehin Abegbeye says, "The minimum requirement of a dream is a safe place to lay your head." In other words, **secure housing makes people whole.**



Building a community

"This is how love is made complete among us ..." (1 John 4:17)

Habitat brings people together. Central to the mission of Habitat for Humanity is the call to build community. The people we work with are not problems to solve, but treasured partners, who work alongside and then contribute to the community even after the house is built as a permanent residence. Churches, likewise, can invest in these families, get to know them, work alongside them, turning a construction project for an affordable house into the shared journey of building a home. This work can also be done in partnership with other churches and faith organizations. Building a home then can be an opportunity for churches to work across denominational, racial, and religious lines to invest in a community.

Habitat works globally

"[The] yoke will be taken away from my people, [the] burden removed from their shoulders ... this is the plan determined for the whole world."
(Is 14:25-26)



Greater Springfield Habitat tithes a portion of its donations to support affordable home construction in other countries. Habitat International is at work in 70 countries, and Greater Springfield Habitat sends staff and volunteers regularly to Guatemala. When churches and faith groups help fund our work here, **this support extends beyond Hampden County to the rest of the world.** There are also opportunities for people or faith groups to join us on our trips to Guatemala. Want to join us in this work?

Mindful creation care

"When you send your spirit ... you renew the face of the ground."
(Ps 104:30)



Habitat takes great care with the impact we make on the land where we build. Often building to a silver or bronze efficiency rating, each of our homes is designed to reduce heating and cooling costs, limit and recycle building materials, and leave the land in good shape for the community. Habitat does not build just to build. We offer something good to our homeowners, a home whose efficiency will warm and cool their family without an undue burden on the utility bills or the environment.

OUR VISION

A world where everyone has a decent place to live.

Calling the faithful to the housing crisis

"For he stands at the right hand of the needy, to save their lives from those who would condemn them."
(Ps: 109)



Why should churches and faith groups get involved in solving the affordable housing crisis? Faith is a hope in the unseen, and right now there are thousands of people – because of wage stagnation, development, and housing insecurity – who are left behind in the Hampden County housing market. They are often unseen and forgotten. **It takes people and communities of faith to see and remember these people, to see them as valuable to our community, to see them as the image of God.** In getting involved with the work of building affordable housing with Habitat, churches and faith groups can be the face of those unseen and the hope for everyone in Hampden County to have a decent place to live.

Get your congregation involved!

For more information, contact John O'Farrell
at (413) 739-5503 or ofarrell@habitatspringfield.org



**Volunteer.
Donate.
Advocate.**

Join with other supporting congregations. Greater Springfield Habitat is looking for partners to help us build houses, communities, and hope.