

# program overview

## our mission & goals



Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley is continuing to grow our investment in the community, serving more neighbors in more ways. Our goals for the 2024 Fiscal Year are:

- Renovate and sell 6 homes to future homeowners through our Home Ownership Program (HOP)
- Serve 160+ households with Home Improvement Projects (HIP), which includes home modifications for seniors, critical repairs for veterans, weatherization projects, energy efficiency improvements, home exterior improvements, roof replacements and other critical home projects.
- Engage an additional 1,600+ residents and community partners with us through our Community Development Program, including 15 neighborhood activities and 10 exterior home improvement projects

### HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAM

We provide no-profit, low-interest mortgages to qualified partnering applicants in need of decent, safe and affordable housing. Newly renovated, energy-efficient Habitat homes are sold to those who qualify and are approved for our program. Habitat homebuyers must have a need for affordable housing, live or work in Washtenaw County and partner with us to provide 'sweat equity' hours. Habitat has sold over 275 houses in Washtenaw County since 1989.

### HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Everyone deserves a safe and healthy place to live. Habitat provides families and individuals of low-income who already own their homes with critical home repairs and energy-saving appliance improvements to ensure stability and safety comes first. Home repairs, such as a roof or barrier-free shower, can be costly, especially for those who are living in the neighborhoods we serve. Habitat partnered with Ypsilanti Township to help homeowners with critical repairs and energy savings in their home. Typical repairs include roof replacements, furnace or water heater replacements, bathroom modifications and other critical repairs.

### VETERANS HOME REPAIRS PROGRAM

We offer programs to help those who have served in the military build their American dream. Our Veterans Critical Repair and Weatherization Program helps veteran homeowners with critical repairs that may be too costly or physically challenging for them to tackle themselves. Program services include refrigerator replacements, furnace test and tunes, roof replacements, exterior clean up, energy audits, barrier-free showers and other critical home repairs.

### AGING IN PLACE PROGRAM

Our Aging in Place Program addresses the need for home improvements and modifications to help older adults to continue to live safely in their home as they age. It is targeted to the often overlooked lower-income seniors of the Ypsilanti area. Aging in Place is built around the principal to provide the senior what they want and need in order to remain in their home with access to the community they know and love. Older adults participating in the program receive repairs that make their homes safe, lower their utility bills and give them peace of mind working with a trusted partner.

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Our work goes beyond the brick and mortar of the houses we renovate. Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley partners with residents and businesses in Gault Village, Sugarbrook and West Willow neighborhoods in Ypsilanti Township to make their community an even better place to live and work. We do this by facilitating and providing support for community planning and organization work within the neighborhood.

# why support Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley

Improving affordable homeownership leads to numerous outcomes that extend beyond the house: greater economic stability, access to quality education, increased civic and social engagement, better health and reduced environmental footprint.

However, affordable housing is a challenge, and Habitat strains to combat inflation and provide affordable solutions for low-income families. We are leveraging government funding, maximizing volunteers and in-kind donations, forming partnerships to provide favorable mortgage packages, addressing critical needs to keep residents in their homes and afford basic needs.

While these strategies have served us well, they can't offset inflated costs and rising market values that strain our resources, and we need support from our partners, like you.

Additionally, there are historic systemic barriers to homeownership for people of color, particularly in Washtenaw County, which is the eighth-most economically segregated metro area in the United States. In fact, Black homeownership rates have yet to recover to their pre-recession levels, and the gap is wider than it was before the passage of the 1968 Fair Housing Act, according to Habitat International.

Locally, 70% of our homeowners identified as Black/ African American and average approximately 50% of the area median income.

The CDC recognized that people with low incomes and communities of color tend to reside in places with more health risks — greater exposure to

health hazards within the home and the community, such as lead, mold and toxic pollutants — and face housing cost burdens that encourage housing instability, which can jeopardize the ability to meet their basic needs.

We are committed to increasing housing equity, stability, and community sustainability by providing access to affordable housing for all families and individuals of low-income in Washtenaw County. And, we need you to help us continue our work.

Your support will help us keep housing affordable, eliminate health hazards, reduce substandard housing conditions and address environmental challenges in an affordable way.



*Wendy Alfaro-Cruz at her Habitat home closing in 2023, Habitat's 275th home sold!*

## our numbers

**1,500+** residents and community partners engage with us through our Community Development Program every year

**6+** new homeowners buy homes through Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley every year

**700+** families are served and assisted through our various Home Improvement Programs every year