

# annual report

July 2022 - June 2023



# **Whabitat for Humanity**® of Snohomish County



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# A message from our Executive Director

### Dear friends,

During our 2022-2023 fiscal year, as the COVID pandemic slowly subsided and the world began to resume normal activities again, our Habitat for Humanity of Snohomish County affiliate continued to establish more sustainability in our organization. Building upon the many investments and improvements to our organizational infrastructure that had begun the prior year including restructuring our staff, modernizing our technology, optimizing our store operations and building better organized systems, we have continued to make progress towards building a stronger and more resilient organization to better support our communities for years to come.

At the same time, we have continued to focus on helping our low-income homeowners remain in their safe and affordable homes through critical home repair and preservation projects along with accessibility and agingin-place improvements. Our Home Repair Service has completed 37 projects since the program was launched in late 2020. We recently hired additional program staff and are excited to expand this critical service to more of our Snohomish County low-income homeowners.

We have also begun to re-establish our construction pipeline with the acquisition of a property in the Bayside neighborhood of Everett with plans to expand and rehab a home starting this fall. With this current project near previous Habitat built homes, completed repair projects as well as our Everett Habitat Store, we look forward to partnering with the community towards building a stronger and more sustainable Bayside neighborhood.

As we move into this new fiscal year, our goal is to continue sustainably growing our capacity to build, repair, and preserve homes while also increasing support, training and resources to empower current and future homeowners to thrive in their homes and neighborhoods. We are also increasing our efforts to advocate for policies that increase funding and create more diverse and equitable opportunities for affordable homeownership.



While home prices have tempered slightly this past year, the rise in mortgage interest rates, ongoing shortage of housing inventory, rising rents, and high inflation continue to greatly impact housing affordability in our region. This has placed many of our residents with low to moderate incomes in unstable and precarious housing situations while our neighbors at the lowest income levels have found themselves at risk of falling into homelessness.

There is still a lot of work to be done to establish housing stability for more of our Snohomish County neighbors. While the challenges remain great, I continue to be grateful for the partnership and support from our community towards this important work of building homes, community and hope. I am hopeful that together we will move towards our vision where everyone has a decent place to live.

With Gratitude,

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Steven Li Executive Director Habitat for Humanity of Snohomish County



# **Unaffordable** Housing

Since 2005, Snohomish County homeownership has decreased by 9.3%.

Renters need to earn **2.5 times minimum wage** to **afford the average asking rent** in Snohomish County.

**1 out of 3** students in Snohomish County school districts experienced **homelessness** or was **unhoused**, and/or fell under **"low income"**.

Rising housing prices and the increasing cost of living continue to exacerbate the affordable housing crisis in our region. Homeownership and its many benefits have become further out of reach for many of our Snohomish County residents.



# New Homes Build New Foundations

Through our homeownership program, we partner and work alongside families to help them build their own home and guide them through the process of establishing a mortgage and purchasing the home.

Homebuyers partner with Habitat and the Snohomish County community to help build their own houses by putting in sweat equity and purchasing with an affordable mortgage. Our Habitat homes are a hand up, not a handout. Homebuyers qualify for an affordable mortgage by demonstrating their need for a Habitat house, their ability to pay for it, and their willingness to accomplish their sweat-equity hours.

# Bayside Home



# **Bayside Home Build**

Snohomish County has been the second-fastest growing county in Washington, adding 100,000 people since 2013. Population and job growth are outpacing housing growth by more than 3:1, leading to unsustainable appreciation in home values. 1 in every 7 Americans are spending more than half of their household income on housing. This unbalanced growth trajectory has created a detrimental housing crisis that has made it even harder for cost-burdened families and individuals to find safe and affordable housing. Our homeownership program is a critical tool in addressing income inequality, alleviating poverty, and increasing housing stability. We are thrilled to be rehabilitating and improving an existing home in the Bayside neighborhood of Everett.

The existing Bayside Home is currently a 1 bed, 1bath, 650 sq. ft. home built 108 years ago and in need of major rehabilitation. It is estimated to be completed in the Spring of 2024. The home is being redesigned and expanded to accommodate a fully accessible living area, bedroom, and bathroom.

Along with our Home Repair Service, rehabilitating existing homes and building new homes are a critical component of our strategy to contribute to the revitalization and resilience of our neighborhoods. With this current rehab project nearby previously completed home construction and repair projects as well as our Everett Habitat Store, we hope to join the community towards building a stronger and more sustainable Bayside neighborhood.

Thriving neighborhoods are essential to the health and wellbeing of our families and communities, which is why we are excited to be partnering with community members, businesses, faith communities, and individuals to help a family in our own community achieve a better life. There will be planned build days open for volunteers to sign up and participate, including exclusive build days for corporate or community-based groups eager to impact their community.



Habitat for Humanity of Snohomish County is built on the foundation of bringing people together to build homes, community, and hope. Habitat in partnership with our community of volunteers and supporters will work alongside our future Habitat homeowner, simultaneously building bridges and taking concrete action to address today's affordable housing crisis. Through financial support, volunteering, or adding a voice to support our mission, everyone can help families achieve the strength, stability, and selfreliance they need to build better lives for themselves. Through shelter, we empower.



# Home Repairs Bring Blue Skies

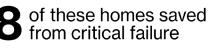
Through a strategic combination of critical home repair, preservation, and weatherization projects, our aim is to empower homeowners to build the necessary resiliency, sustainability, and stability to remain living in their safe, decent, and affordable homes.

Soaring home prices and rising inflation have led to an unsustainable cost of living for many homeowners in our community. Many low-income homeowners (seniors, veterans, disabled) with limited incomes are unable to keep up with these rising costs. Critical home repairs are unaffordable and often end up being neglected, resulting in unsafe and unhealthy living conditions. The goal of our Home Repair Service is to rehabilitate homes in disrepair so more homeowners can continue to live safely in their homes.

### Home Repair Service by the Numbers



12 homes repaired



 people with disabilities served

 senior citizens served 2 Veterans served

844 volunteer construction hours

25 volunteer builders

# **Home Repair Service in Action**

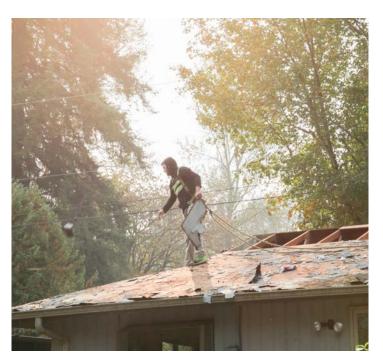
Retired aviation technician and teacher Vicki Rode contacted Habitat Snohomish regarding repairs to the roof of her aging Snohomish home.

During the great recession, Vicki was laid off from her 25-year technician career. As a 59-year-old woman, she found herself confronting age and gender-based biases when trying to re-enter the workforce. Unable to find employment, she was forced to live off her limited savings and had a hard time keeping up with expensive home repairs.

When the Habitat Home Repair Service team arrived to perform their inspection, they found that this repair was requested just in time considering the extensive deterioration of the roof. Rode had contacted several other services and contractors who deemed the roof unsafe to work on. One inspector even partially fell through a soft spot on the north side.

As Habitat Construction Manager, Chris Anderson, walked through the home, he discovered a major leak in the master bathroom, multiple cases of drywall peeling and collapsing, water leaking from the roof through window frames, major leakage and rot around the chimney, and an area where water was seeping down a wall and into the home's electrical panel. It was quickly determined that the roof would likely not survive another winter.

Habitat Snohomish sprung to action and brought the community together to fundraise for the project. Thanks to many generous financial donations from dedicated community members and organizations including Cascade Lumber, the project took off. With help from our volunteer builders and Home Repair Service partner Axis Roofing, Viki Rode's roof was completed before harsh winter weather arrived.



"I had to not think about it and hope for a miracle," said Vicki. "It will take such a load off my mind. Without Habitat's help I would have to continue what I've been doing for far too long, which is waiting and hoping the roof would make it through the next winter without failing completely."

**Partners of the Home Repair Service** 











### Serving Through Stores

We continue to build strength, stability and improvement in our Stores to serve more of our community by supplying affordable materials for critical home improvement projects.

In addition to generating revenue to support our programs and operations, our Habitat Stores also serve as a gathering place for our community as volunteers, customers, donors, and staff come together to support our mission to build homes, community and hope in our neighborhoods.



# Lynnwood, WA 98037



Everett 2302 Broadway Everett WA 08201

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EPEAT



2302 Broadway Everett, WA 98201

### Smokey Point Blvd Arlington, WA 98223

**Our Habitat Stores generated \$1.2 Million in store revenue.** 

1,529,920 pounds of waste was diverted from landfills through 43,846 donated items.

43,712 customers shopped at our Habitat Stores and supported our mission to build and repair decent, affordable housing.

# Fostering Community

Bringing people together is at the core of our mission. Through the unique skills and talents of our community members, we assemble a community that is greater than the sum of its parts.

At Habitat Snohomish, volunteers have the opportunity to be a part of the change they want to see in their community. Volunteers support all aspects of our organization through their valuable contributions to home construction and home repair projects, stores, committees, and administration.

6 68



projects completed per month

124 new volunteers

"I just really enjoy it and I'm helping. I get excited to come in when I think about my work leaving a long-term impact on the community." - Al Buchholz, Lynnwood Store volunteer

### Cars for Homes

Donating a car, truck, boat or recreational vehicle to Habitat for Humanity is a great way to help families get into safe, affordable housing. The net proceeds from the sale of your donated vehicle will help build and repair affordable homes right here in Snohomish County.

In the last year, we received **71** vehicle donations totaling **\$52,551**.

### Thank you for your service! Our top volunteers July 2022 - June 2023:

### Retail

Our retail volunteers help process donations and staff our stores.

Elizabeth Winter, James Hoff, Gail Mackey, Linda Jennings, Isabella Almacen, Al Buchholz, Michael Fowler, Bruce Reid, Norma Kageyama, David Skolnik, Garry-David Reese, Doug Asmussen, Howard Faires, Aimee Griffith, Thien Nguyen, Oscar Freeman, Vicki Cowles, Burt Cropp, John Tam, Patricia Fletcher, Michael Sullivan, Bertha Marselis Jane Perry, Allison Bibb, Thomas Easley, Hazel Moraleja, Sarah Farretta, Kaylee Nelson Robert Litzkow, Noah Perry, Tom Poe, Duane Herzig, Earl Shafer, Jessica D'Arcis Scott Schneider, Robin Marnoff, Nolan Kehler, Tashi Tsatultsang, Roger Wegley Francisco Blanco-Ceja, Theresa Hutchins, Heidi Morgan, Sharon Wierschke Rosemarie Cortado, Spencer Shoemaker, Michael Coalwell, Richard Defrin, Michael Luxmore Jessica Brown, Roy Hardy, Hope Josang, Jeffrey Magnabosco, Jason Smith, Carolyn Jaques Nicholas Crawford, Jill Poe, Jim Haffner, Richard Stuart, Eric Holck, Tim Gray, Barbara Briggs Ashley Williams, Erenie Skouras, Cyndi Fay, Tyler Wolk, Thomas Vonhagel

### Construction

Our construction volunteers work on build sites and home repair projects.

Gim Quong, Jim Bulger, Richard Manhardt, Don Zagorski, Megan Lursen, Mark Wilson Nicholas Coelho, Michael Feinberg, Jennifer Berg, Earl Shafer, Amanda Robinson, Noah Perry Rina Marie, Hannah Marie

### **Committees and Board**

### Our administrative volunteers serve on the board, committees, and more.

Anthony Porter, Chris Syberg, Jayme Feijoo, Chris Kirk, Corey Preugschat, Mary Rickel, Carrie Eugene, Rob Taft, Cary Westerbeck, Bill Seufert, Brian Fyall, Christian Brewer, Gim Quong, Jan Kallshian, Ron Hopper, Sara Horn, Stephanie Lam, Steve Adolphsen, Karl Hoover, Sandy Flores, Jhoanna Whyte, Ken Allen, Sarah Whitaker, Carol Morgan, Scott Chambers, Earl Shafer, Erin Ennis, Rich Manhardt, David Jackson, Jim Chambers, Divya Kapuria, Keinan Zanck, Lisa Hill

### **Special Projects**

**Special projects volunteers engage the community through participation in local events.** Andrew Koons, Beth Malkin, Jeffrey Magnabosco, Norma Kageyama, Elizabeth Winter Michael Luxmore, Jennifer Berg, Brandee Verdusco, Patricia Fletcher, Carrie Eugene Randi Eyre, Janis Nordmeyer, Jessica Kubat, Jon Mosley



### How to get involved

### Volunteer

Our not-for-profit Habitat Stores and building programs depend on volunteers to operate. We offer opportunities for those who enjoy interacting with the public or for those who prefer to help behind the scenes. Volunteers directly impact our mission to provide and maintain housing stability in our community.

### Donate

Every donation helps Snohomish County families build strength, stability, and self-reliance through stable housing.

### **Support Financially**

Visit our website to make either a one time or recurring donation. Becoming a monthly sustainer is a great way to provide a consistent and reliable source of support for our community.

#### **Donate Goods or Building Materials**

Habitat Stores divert hundreds of tons from landfills each year, accepting items including new and used furniture, appliances, home décor, tools, and surplus building materials.

#### Stores 8 1

Our stores provide an engaging and social enviroment for those who would like to connect with our community. Volunteers of all physical abilities will find a role suited to them.

#### Builds

Our home repairs and new builds are the perfect opportunity for those who like to roll up their sleeves and get handy.

#### **Committees & Boards**

Joining a committee or board is the perfect opportunity for those who would like to use their professional skills to support our community.

#### **Donate Land**

In order to reach our community development goals, we encourage the donation of any type of real estate.

#### Workplace Giving

Find out how your company might match your gift or volunteer hours.

### **Donate a Used Vehicle**

Donating your vehicle to Habitat can help build and repair affordable homes while also helping the environment.





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Through shelter, we empower.

habitatsnohomish.org

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