



ANNUAL REPORT 2025

OCTOBER 1, 2024- SEPTEMBER 30, 2025





FROM THE DESK

October 2024 to September 2025 brought powerful moments for Habitat in Columbus. Our returning friends from Michigan helped lead the construction of House 18, sharing their skills and becoming a treasured part of our community. We also celebrated a new beginning for Catalina, Eviana, and their children as they moved into their new homes that brings them comfort, stability, and hope.

Our Board of Directors and dedicated committee members worked faithfully to bring people together to build homes and strengthen communities. More than fifty people have been directly supported by this mission, and our community continues to benefit from stronger families, more confident students, and healthier living.

A highlight of the year was our first Paint it Pink women's event which was a full house and an unforgettable experience. Another major achievement was expanding our partnership with Lakeview Community Schools, supported by local banks that make a yearly Habitat build possible.

Since 2010, we have rehabbed one home, built eighteen new homes in Columbus and one in Schuyler, and prepared two tracts of land for future builds. Our Veteran Committee completed several important repairs, including major and minor home projects, an HVAC system, and the first Corning Deployment roof.

We also continued offering space and support for community gardens, helping groups learn, grow, and enjoy the harvest.

With God's grace guiding us, the impact of this year will continue blessing families across our community.

LORI PETERS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Lori Peters

A YEAR IN THE REARVIEW

OCTOBER 2024	NOVEMBER 2024	DECEMBER 2024
Certificate of Occupancies for Houses 15 and 16 Build 2024 (two houses, large veteran repair) 428 total volunteers 2,390 hours \$80,041 donated labor Successful loan pool collaboration purchase 38 Homeowner applications distributed	Restore Feasibility Study Completed second tool trailer House 17 enclosed 	Celebrated the birth of our Savior! 
JANUARY 2025	FEBRUARY 2025	MARCH 2025
Purchased New Hope 3 property Celebrating year 15! 	Served area veterans through VFW Fish Fries 	PAINT IT PINK <i>Brews & Blush</i> <i>\$17,000 raised</i> 
APRIL 2025	MAY 2025	JUNE 2025
Blitz Build 	Awarded college scholarship to a Lakeview student who helped build House 18 	3RD ANNUAL GOLF <i>-Outing-</i> \$43,000 raised! 
JULY 2025	AUGUST 2025	SEPTEMBER 2025
	Received donation of lot in Central City Houses 17 & 18 completed and sold 465 individuals 2431 volunteer hours \$85,000 value of donated labor value House 19 Ground broken	Completed Veteran Repair Projects x2; Corning Deployment Loan Pool Collaborative for House 17 Completed 

*Every home is a
building block*

HOME BUYING PROGRAM



\$1,239,158

Current total value of mortgages
held by Habitat of Columbus



\$45,000+

Mortgage payments received
in FY25



18

Homes built to date

House 17 (Lakeview 2 - 2025)



\$225,000

total appraised value

\$82,805

worth of donated materials
and labor



House 18



\$255,000

total appraised value

\$92,923

worth of donated materials
and labor



12

Mortgages held for homes in
Columbus

0

homes sold on the open market
in 2025

100%

Mortgage accounts current



FAMILY SUPPORT COMMITTEE RECAP

The Family Support Committee is a committee approved by the Board of Directors to support affiliate families as a partner and be an information source during the home building process.

- Established a schedule for the affiliate family to follow through the build process, including hosting an orientation for the affiliate family, budgeting and financial classes, NeighborWorks home ownership class, and Thrivent Money Canvas savings program.

- Provided savings class for the children of Habitat families. FNBO generously donated funds for each child to open an account.

- Continued to appoint two Family Partners who were matched with an affiliate family to build rapport and provide support during the build process, assist with sweat equity concerns, house plan options, media interviews, and involve the affiliate family in building community and connecting with community resources, to name a few. Provide binder with appliance warranty information and home maintenance schedule information for future use in caring for their home. The Family Partner serves as a source of support to the affiliate family for one year following the completion of the home.

- Hosted the Home Dedication meal celebrating the completion and purchase of the Habitat houses.

- Provided support and collaboration to the Resource Committee in the inaugural Paint it Pink.

Renee Held

RENEE HELD

FAMILY SUPPORT COMMITTEE



VOLUNTEERS

Volunteerism is an essential component of Habitat for Humanity of Columbus and makes a lasting impact in our community. It takes a legion of volunteers to make Habitat's program successful, and we appreciate them all for their support of building strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter.

400+

Individual volunteers

2,400

Volunteer hours contributed

\$80,376

Volunteer labor value

GOLDEN HAMMER AWARD 2025



JAMIE SNYDER



KEVIN JOHNSON

The Volunteer Ladder is a way to recognize the selfless commitment and effort of the individuals to the hands-on portion of the annual house building program. Levels of recognition are based on cumulative volunteer sign in hours on actual Build Days.

5TH RUNG 100 HOURS (12 DAYS)

Kerry Burns	Steve Otten
Chuck Kinnison	Catalina Pablo
Jean Kurtenbach	Bryce Sands
Jordan Lippstreu	Eviana Saunders
Jim McCutcheon	Tom Thompson
Scot Norris	Aaron Wilson

4TH RUNG 50 HOURS (8 DAYS)

Renee Held	John Sonntag
Nazario Martin	Angie Houser
Michelle Pablo	Bridgitte Pablo
Lori Peters	

3RD RUNG 30 HOURS (6 DAYS)

Dennis Kinkaid	Clayton Pelster
Tom Paitz	Lisa Saenz

2ND RUNG 20 HOURS (4 DAYS)

Maddy Brewer	Linda McCutcheon
Tom Duplantis	Dane Pederson
Jim Hake	bob Severson
Jeff Kohl	Chuck Sindelar

1ST RUNG 10 HOURS (2+ DAYS)

Joaquin Aguilar	Jared Martin
Ron Ernst	Dave Merrill
Cole Horejsi	Joshua Pacas
Chuck Keep	Doug Peters
Nehemiah Peters	Rocky Plettner
Vaughn Korgie	Angie Wood
Lynda Lemp	Tony Zakrzewski

PAINT IT PINK

\$17,000

GROSS INCOME

220

ATTENDEES

10

VOLUNTEERS



COLUMBUS
COMMUNITY HOSPITAL



Rustic Lux Designs

Crissy's Desk



thrivent

Empower Financial Group



Donor Sponsors

#KatyCooks
Ace Hardware
AmWay, Pamela Schafer
Artzy Haven
Barbara Jeans
Big 10
Eagles Auxiliary
Fabulous Forever

Goc's Creative Images
Grace Jewelry
HyVee
Kay's Place of Massage Therapy
Lila Rose, Amanda Clay
Linn Chiropractic
Lorii Williams
Maximus Restaurant & Sports Bar
McChristy Jewelers

Micek's Shangrila
My 15 City
Pillen Family Farms/DNA Genetics
Red Door Designs
Renee Held
Ski's Pawn Shop
Special Tee
STAR Escape Room
Tooley's

Table Sponsors

Audrey Blaser
Sandy Chavez
Kristi Curren - kwElite
Ron and Ann Ernst

Mary Lippstreu
Karla Porter
Shae Spitz - eXp Realty

HABITAT FORE! HUMANITY

\$43,000
GROSS INCOME

104
GOLFERS

30
VOLUNTEERS

PARTNER SPONSOR

Columbus Community Hospital

PAR 3 SPONSOR

Ferguson Properties · Cargill · Gregg Young Auto Group · TKO Plumbing

CART SPONSOR

GPS Banks

SPLIT THE PUTT SPONSOR

Mead Lumber

RAFFLE SPONSOR

Mueller & Honcik PC

HECKLER SPONSOR

Black Hills Energy

DRINK SPONSOR

Great Plains Building Supply

HOLE SPONSOR

RusticLux Designs · First Nebraska Bank
Tri-County Title & Escrow · Kurt & Morgan Kapels
American Family Insurance · Board of Realtors · CharterWest ·
Commonwealth Electric · Lisa Saenz, exp Realty
Pinnacle Bank · FNBO
Sipple, Hansen, Emerson, Schumacher, Klutzman & Valorz, LLC
Applied Connective

AFTER PARTY SPONSOR

OneNebraska Federal Credit Union

LUNCH SPONSOR

Union Bank & Trust

DRIVING RANGE SPONSOR

Ron and Ann Ernst

FOOD SPONSOR

HyVee

DONOR SPONSORS

Bo's West
Chuck and Becky Keep
Clocktower Auto Mall
Columbus Credit Services
Columbs Massage Therapy
Created by Mel
Doug and Lori Peters
Elks Country Club
Eye Physicians
Golf Status
Henry Doorly Zoo
Hometown Nutrition

JK Med Spa
Keith and Amanda Luedders
Lincoln Children's Zoo
Malini's Cakes
Miki Naylor
Neighborhood Sanctuary - Shae and Adam Spitz
Nicole Lindhorst, BeYOUtiful Wellness Studio
One Nebraska Credit Union
Oxbows Furniture
Pacific Tint, LLC

Petya McCullough Photography
Pillen Family Farm & DNA Genetics
Pizza Ranch
Q Sisters Bounce, LLC
Renee Held
Scott and Celeste Ditter
Steve DeWald
Sue Opplinger
Super Saver
Sweet Harvest Popcorn
Tropical Café





RESOURCE COMMITTEE RECAP

The resource committee has 6-10 members and meets regularly throughout the year. The primary focus of the resource committee include creating and assessing fundraising strategies, identifying and fostering community partnerships, and committee recruitment and growth.

Throughout the past year, committee members have been working on new fundraising events, promoting and hosting new and established fundraising events, and continuing to promote Club 82 and grow its membership.

In March, Habitat held its first annual Paint it Pink event at the Friedhof Building in Columbus. We have a lot of vendors participate and about 225 ladies participated. The event generated about \$20,000 and we are excited to see how this event will continue to grow and evolve in the future.

In June, Habitat held its third annual golf tournament at Elk's Country Club, and it was another very successful event. 28 out of 36 teams participated and the event generated \$43,000 in profit this year.

Giving Tuesday is scheduled for December 2nd, 2025 and we are excited to how much the Club grows past the 175 current members.

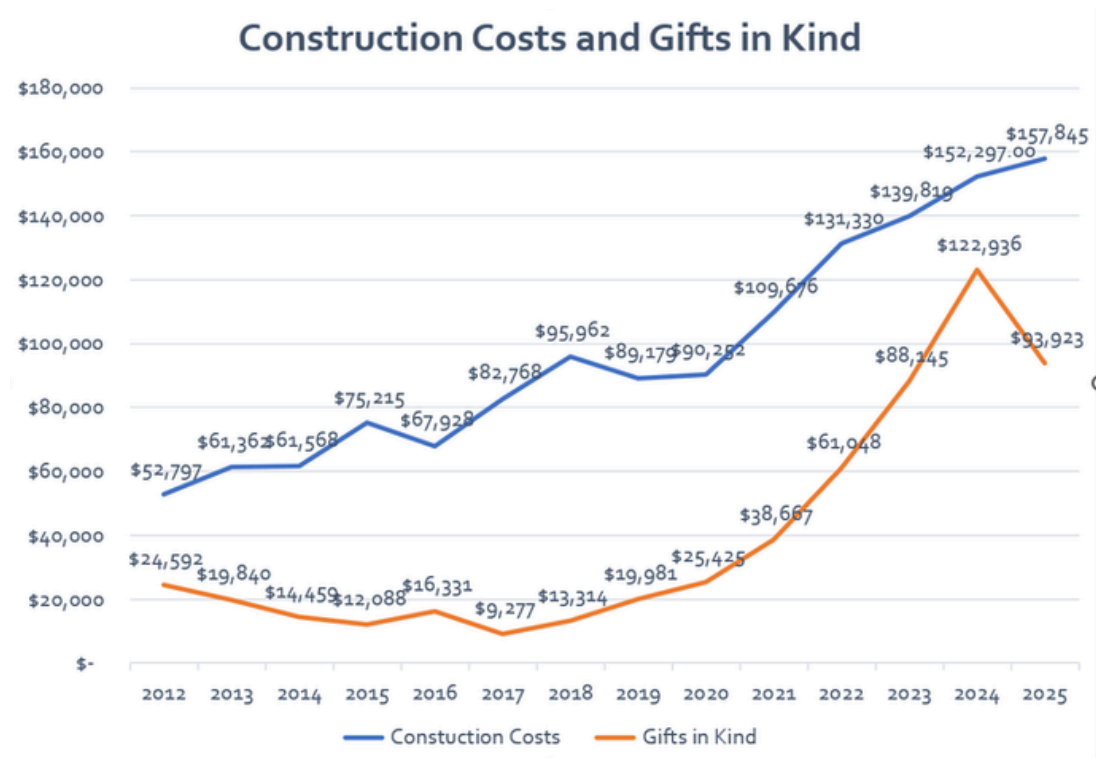
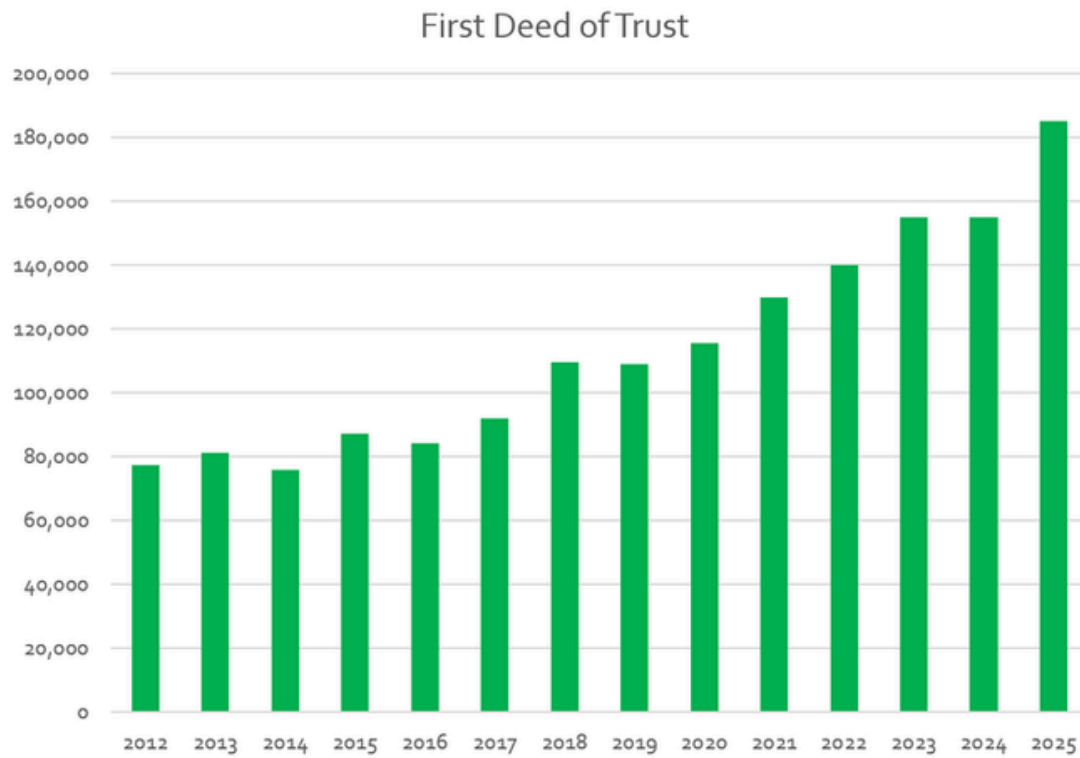
Scott Ditter

SCOTT DITTER

RESOURCE COMMITTEE

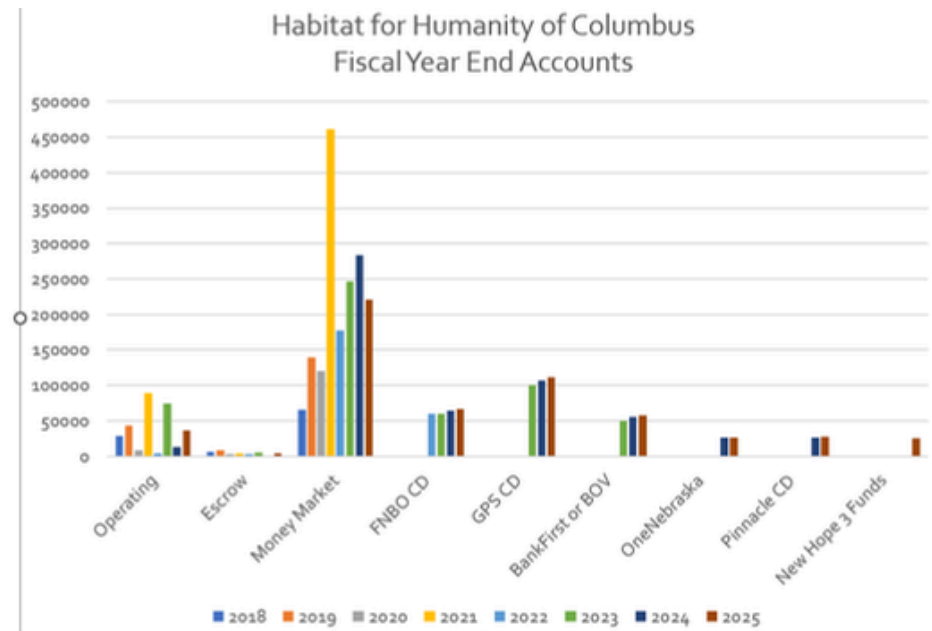


2025 FINANCIAL REPORTS

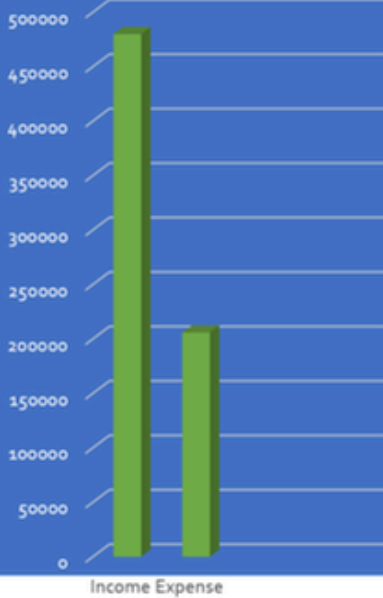


2025 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Monetary Assets



Financials



Revenue Sources



Fundraising Activities



Operating Expenses





VETERANS COMMITTEE RECAP

The Veterans Committee experienced a transition in leadership this year, with Derek Westring stepping forward to guide the team with energy and vision. Under his leadership, the committee has strengthened its efforts to expand programs that serve area veterans.

Our dedicated members continued their tradition of service by volunteering at the VFW Fish Fries during Lent 2025, a meaningful way to connect with and support local veterans.

The committee's primary project this year was the replacement of a full home furnace and air conditioning system for a veteran family in need. This interest-free loan came at a critical time in August, when extreme heat made their home nearly unbearable. Providing this essential upgrade ensured the family's comfort and stability, and we were honored to assist them.

We are also proud to share that the Veterans Program has been awarded a Nebraska Presbyterian Foundation grant, which will allow us to expand our reach and deepen our impact in the community.



CORPORATE RECOGNITION



OTHER CORPORATE INVESTORS

- Andersen Windows
- Caesar's Foundation
- Columbus Women's Club
- Columbus Noon Lions Club
- Eagles
- Federated Church
- First United Methodist Church GROW Men
- FLEXcon
- Immanuel Lutheran School
- JC Lock and Key
- Mead Lumber
- OneNebraska Credit Union
- Vishay

GRANTS GENEROUSLY PROVIDED BY:





GIFT IN KIND CONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS

- 3E
- 3TEN Buildings
- A & H Building Supply
- Aaron Wilson Construction
- AMGL, PC
- Appraisal Advantage
- B-D Construction
- Black Hills Energy
- Blum's Quality Flooring
- Bomgaars
- Callaway Rolloff
- Central Sand & Gravel
- Columbus Steel Supply
- Craig Person
- DiStar Industries
- Earl May
- Gehring Construction & Ready-Mix
- Grace's Coffee Shop
- Great Plains Building Supply
- Hagerbaumer Drywall
- I.E.N. Construction
- KLIR - Alphamedia
- Kerry Burns
- Korth Roofing
- Kwikset
- Lakeview Community Schools
- Lakeview Small Engines
- Loup Power District
- Lynda Lemp, Thrivent
- M & O Door Products
- Mead Lumber
- Obrist Plumbing
- Pella Windows
- Petya McCullough Photography
- Platte Valley Precast
- RMRZ Construction
- Reardon Lawn & Garden
- Reece Industries
- Red Door Designs
- Reliable Seamless Gutters
- Riverside Portables
- Roger's Sod Company
- Schieffer Signs
- Schneider Electric
- Sherwin Williams
- Speicher Electric
- Steve Otten
- Van Diest Heating & Cooling
- Walker Foundations
- Whirlpool
- Wilke Landscape

CLUB 82 DONORS

- Jill Anding
- Kipton and Deborah Anderson
- Tamera & David Bichlmeier
- Cameron & Nicole Brumbaugh
- Joe Chin
- Richard Cimpl
- Dee Condon
- Jeff Droge
- Alan Danforth
- Ron and Ann Ernst
- Tricia and Cory Faust
- James and Susan Ferguson
- FUMC Men Grow Men and
- Jim & Karen Hake
- Steve Heinisch
- Renee Held
- Douglas and Sandra Johnson
- Wendy Jackson
- Doug & Anne Kallesen
- Kurt & Morgan Kapels
- Gordon and Shelly Kosch
- Jean Kurtenbach
- Rick & Lynda Lemp
- Nicole Lindhorst
- Doug and Diana Lippstreu
- Gary Luchsinger
- Mark or Susan Maass
- David and Amy Mazankowski
- Duane Matson
- Dianna McElfresh
- Doug and Michelle Moore
- Jerry & Sharon Nauenburg
- Scot Norris
- Barb Olson
- Diane Oppliger
- Fred and Mary Peach
- Joyce Peterson
- Dianne and Rich Peters
- Doug & Lori Peters
- Rocky and Mary Plettner
- John and Joan Price
- Douglas and Karin Rieger
- Jeff and Jayne Schneider
- Shelly Steffensmeier
- Chrstine and Robert Steinke
- Neal & Jo Suess
- Karol Swan
- Jill Tate
- George (Tom) Thompson
- Trent and Kristin Tobiason
- Larry & Janet Zulkoski

IN MEMORY OF...

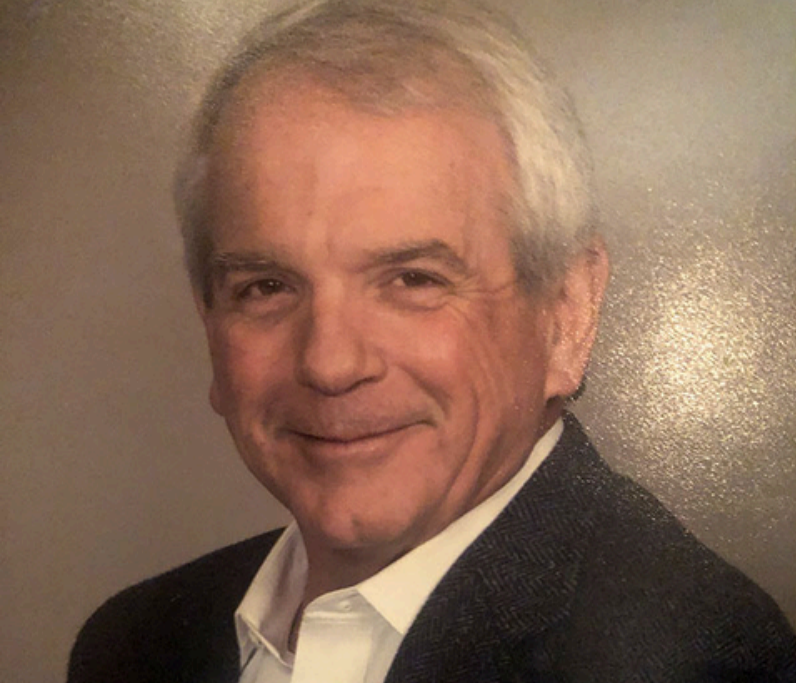
Jerry Thelen in memory of Thomas Boal
Mike Sullivan by a friend





LOAN POOL PARTICIPANTS





FAMILY SELECTION COMMITTEE

In the Fall 2025, the Committee had two orientation sessions for the 2026 house. In 2026 there will only be the Lakeview home completed with 2 additional homes starting in the Fall of 2026. As in previous years: flyers were distributed to local health and human service organizations, churches and posted at several businesses. Extra efforts included a month-long banner displayed on the corner of First Nebraska Bank and an information center board being added at the New Hope Community Garden. The sessions were also advertised through radio ads, the Columbus Telegram, and on Facebook. The two sessions had excellent attendance numbers with approximately 31 families. Eleven applications were received, which led to 4 home visits being conducted.



The committee met multiple times to review the applications and narrow down the applicants to give a recommendation at the November board meeting. We approved three families to join our new group "Future Home Buyers" to start education classes in January.

The committee has also reviewed and updated the committee information and policies for the Affiliate Operating Manual. We are planning on further discussions regarding accepting year-round applications to join the Future Home Buyers pool.

Ron Ernst *Angie Houser*

RON ERNST

ANGIE HOUSER

FAMILY SELECTION COMMITTEE FAMILY SELECTION COMMITTEE

Kevin Johnson

KEVIN JOHNSON

FAMILY SELECTION COMMITTEE



FAITH RELATIONS COMMITTEE RECAP

The Faith Relations Committee is looking for a champion that will embrace the leadership needed for the role of the committee within the Habitat organization and keeping everything Christ focused and building relationships with our local Christian churches.

Until that time, the Executive Director works on keeping our churches informed of our activities and any opportunities for members to live out their faith and help care for God's people.

One of the important events is the Giving Trees hosted by the local Catholic parishes. This project was put on hold due to new priests in the area. Each year, a tree with different giving opportunities is displayed in the churches. These trees are an important part of our fundraising efforts and involvement from those churches.

We also work on involving churches with our annual build program. Many churches provide build days, food and other support.

Thrivent Action Teams also provide a lot of financial assistance to these programs.





STRATEGIC PLAN: 2026

- More to come!

