



February 2019

# NEWSLINK

We build affordable homes on the foundation of Christian love, where families are provided a secure environment and together a community is established.

## Did You Know...?

**Habitat for Humanity proclaims that every house we build is a sermon of God's love.**

A Habitat home is a significant change in the lives of families who have been living in substandard housing. It is a change that will resonate through the years as their children grow up in safe, healthy, energy efficient homes. Studies have shown that children of homeowners are more likely to graduate from high school and go on to further their education, compared to children of families who rent. A survey of Habitat for Humanity homeowners around the country indicated a significant increase in homeowners' self-esteem, well-being, overall family health and neighborhood pride.



**Thermal Belt Habitat was one of the earliest national affiliates of Habitat International.**

Thermal Belt Habitat had their first home project in 1983 and since then has built homes with more than 66 Habitat partner families. In 2017, Thermal Belt Habitat merged with Henderson County Habitat because they found they needed expanded administrative services to deal with new mortgage laws. Henderson County now provides administrative support for Thermal Belt Habitat, but Thermal Belt Habitat retains its identity and **donations from the Thermal Belt area (Polk County and Landrum) are designated for use by Thermal Belt Habitat exclusively.**

### 2018

In 2018, Thermal Belt Habitat completed a home in Tryon with one family and refurbished a home in Shamrock Park, Landrum, so a new Habitat family could move in. Habitat's Home Preservation Program made repairs to two homes, one in Landrum and one in Mill Spring, making it possible for the elderly homeowners to remain in the homes they've lived in for many years. Also last year, Habitat's Deconstruction Crew removed kitchen cabinets donated from a home in Saluda that were sold at the Habitat ReStore.

### This Year

So far this year, two homes are in the process of being built with Habitat families in Tryon, at 72 Thorne Avenue and 810 Markham Road. More homes are planned.

## Habitat for Humanity offers opportunities for your congregation to serve...

### Volunteers to Help Build & Repair Homes

Habitat needs volunteers to help build & repair homes.

#### Group Builds

A team from your church can have a build day when you all build together!

#### Feed Your Building Team

People who don't want to build can prepare food to feed your building team or another building team.

#### Help Fund Habitat Homes and Programs

Your church or church group can donate funds to help purchase building supplies for new homes or repairs.

Visit [www.thermalbelthabitat.org](http://www.thermalbelthabitat.org)  
or call 828 694-0340

Since Habitat's beginning in 1976, Habitat for Humanity has been built on a foundation of faith. The mission of Habitat is to build safe, affordable housing and that comes from a desire to put God's love into action. We are God's hands and feet, here to serve others and show them His love.

We would love to visit your church to talk about Thermal Belt Habitat for Humanity and answer any questions you might have. Please call us to arrange a visit from our church liaison, Angie Hunter, (828) 694-0340.

### **Habitat Homeowners**

Habitat for Humanity homeowners are selected locally. They must be income eligible, have a need for decent housing, be working and able to pay an affordable, no-interest mortgage, and be willing to partner with Habitat to spend "sweat equity" hours helping build their home. They also must take classes, including managing money, home maintenance and repair, and living in community.

Thermal Belt area residents who are interested in becoming a Habitat homeowner can apply at the Habitat office in Hendersonville (1111 Keith Street) or call (828) 694-0340 for more information.



The Habitat ReStore in Landrum, SC, was among the very first Habitat ReStores in the country.

The ReStore at 132 North Trade Avenue in Landrum supports Thermal Belt Habitat for Humanity. You will find home furnishings, books and other treasures as well as recycled building supplies and materials at the ReStore. You can bring your donations of gently used household items to the ReStore, or call for a pick up for donations of furniture, and appliances in good working order (864) 457-2666. The ReStore does NOT take clothing.)

You can call and arrange for a volunteer team to remove your kitchen cabinets and bathroom vanities, sinks, etc. when you are remodeling. These items will be sold at the ReStore and your donation is tax-deductible. You can even volunteer at the ReStore. Find out how to become a Habitat volunteer by visiting [www.thermalbelthabitat.org](http://www.thermalbelthabitat.org) or call our Volunteer Coordinator at (828) 694-0340.