

Habitat for Humanity

Riverside

Riverside·Corona·Norco·Moreno Valley·Jurupa Valley·Highgrove·Eastvale·Home Gardens·El Cerrito·Woodcrest

Passing the Keys

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On April 23, Habitat Riverside joined together with a few hundred community leaders and Habitat supporters to wish Karin Roberts the best of everything in her retirement (see page 11). This organization and this community will be forever grateful, as am I, for the leadership and love that Karin has displayed for our mission. Thank you, Karin!

As I take on this new role, I reflect on why I am drawn to this organization and our mission. A few days ago I got the perfect reminder. The Mendibles family purchased one of our

rehabbed homes in the Demeter neighborhood about three years ago. The grandmother, Delia, had taken in her daughter, the boyfriend and three granddaughters and were all living in a two bedroom "owners unit" in the Public Storage rental yard that Delia worked for as a manager. Her daughter, Yvonne, had never had a steady job and Yvonne's boyfriend, Sergio, had been in and out of trouble and had a hard time getting a job.

Since moving into their new home the granddaughters have become shining stars in school, Sergio & Yvonne got married, Yvonne completed her GED, and graduated as a certified drug & alcohol recovery counselor. She secured full time employment for the first time in her life a few weeks ago. Sergio has been working at a warehouse for about two years. Last week I got a call from him telling me that he had been made full time and promoted to a lead position. If you ask them, the turning point was moving into their Habitat home. They are now self-sufficient for the first time in their lives. The whole family is heavily involved in our Neighborhood Revitalization work in Jurupa Valley and involved in their community. Their story is just one of many that show how a safe, affordable home can be the foundation for people to change their lives. Thanks to you and so many supporters in this community, that's what Habitat Riverside does.

We have completed 57 homes in our first 25 years and have 54 homes in our development pipeline to be completed over the next 18-24 months. Your support is critical to our mission and I know that our needs will continue to grow as does the organization. I hope we can count on your continued support as well.

God Bless,

Kathy Michalak,

Executive Director

In Progress...

Habitat

Heroes

for

Veteran Enriched Neighborhoods



Habitat

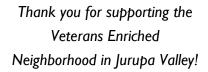
for Humanity®

Our promise is to build EnergySTAR efficient homes in a Veteran Enriched Neighborhood ™ to address the veteran housing crisis and support them through training and services needed to move forward with their reintegration into civilian communities.

Jurupa Valley

This community is made possible with a five acre land donation by **County of Riverside Economic Development Agency**. The **City of Jurupa Valley**, gave only positive remarks after Executive Director,

Kathy Michalak, presented the Veteran Enriched Neighborhood at the April 17 City Council meeting, and their support in navigating the permitting process has been exceptional. The site is on Mission Blvd. near Pedley Rd. and will consist of 26 single family homes. The design reflects the mission villa style of the surrounding community and will have common areas to encourage families to engage. As part of our family selection process, the veteran families are being interviewed to make sure the common spaces will include amenities that work for the homeowners. We may find they want a community garden, a play area for the children or possibly a park-like setting for the neighborhood to gather.



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Riverside



Thank you for supporting the Veterans Enriched Neighborhood in Riverside!





For our second veteran project, the **City of Riverside** identified land near Magnolia Ave. and Myers St. for 12 EnergySTAR efficient townhomes and ample green space for a veteran community.

On April 3 Habitat Riverside and the City of Riverside held a community meeting at the Arlington Library for input from the residents in the area. Our architect worked diligently to make these homes fit the style of the existing neighborhood and personally sat down with the neighbor directly next door to the community, who is a veteran himself. The residents had very positive views of the plans and overall they liked the idea that the long empty lot would be developed into home ownership opportunities rather than an apartment building.



IIth and Ottawa

Habitat for Humanity Riverside is committed to sustainable building and all three homes on 11th and Ottawa in the City of Riverside will be EnergySTAR rated homes. These green features include: tank less water heaters, fluorescent recessed light cans, Leviton motion sensing switches, carbon sensors/heat sensors, solar skylight tubes, radiant barrier roofs, R-38 insulation/ R-15 wall insulation, 5/8" drywall, low-flow toilets, low-flow shower heads, energy efficient ceiling fans, Energy Star windows, Energy Star appliances, water wise drought tolerant landscape & fruit trees, water wise drip irrigation, 3 ton–14SER A/C unit, exterior fluorescent lighting on photo cells.

Thank you for supporting the 11th and Ottawa project!







City of Arts & Innovation



Big toys on site! A lot of dirt is being moved around in order to prepare for houses!

Meet the Lazaro Family

Meet the Reynolds Family



Casey Reynolds and her eight year old daughter, Aubriana, will soon become neighbors with the Mobley and Ferguson families at the three homes to be built at 11th and Ottawa in Riverside.

Casey is a single mother and for the past three years she and Aubriana have shared a small room at a women's shelter in Riverside. About a year and a half ago she was hired full time at a local, faith based domestic violence shelter.

Casey is excited to be moving into her own home and to have a place where her adult son can come to visit, something he cannot do at the shelter. Aubriana is most looking forward to being able to make new friends with the Mobley and Ferguson children. Welcome to the Habitat Family, Reynolds's!

Maria Lazaro and her nine year old son, Miguel, are our newest Habitat partner family. She received the keys to her home in February and was greeted by her neighbors and Habitat. Maria, a single mother, works as at Wal-Mart in the electronics department where she has been employed for over eight years. She and Miguel had previously rented a small room in her parents' home. Now they have purchased a two bedroom, two bathroom home in Jurupa Valley and can each have their own room. They are both grateful for the opportunity to live in a quiet, safe neighborhood.

Maria and her family members that live in the area have been very eager to help complete Maria's "sweat equity" hours on all sorts of projects. Maria, while busy with work, raising her son and completing her "sweat equity" hours, still makes time to be a full time student at RCC where she is finishing up her general courses and wishes to pursue further education to become a registered nurse. Welcome to the Habitat Family, Lazaro's!



In Progress...



Lowe's Women's Build

More than 13,000 volunteers partnered with 300 Habitat for Humanity affiliates across the country to help build affordable housing in their local communities in recognition of National Women Build Week. In its 7th year, National Women Build Week challenges women to devote one day to the effort to eliminate poverty housing. Each year **Lowe's** provides the support of **Lowe's Heroes** employee volunteers and conducts how-to clinics at stores to teach volunteers construction skills.



In Jurupa Valley, Lowe's volunteers cleared debris, repaired stucco and



deconstructed the kitchen. For her 3rd year in a row, **Council Member Laura Roughton** joined the **Lowe's Women Build team**! Also joining the Women Build team was Maria Lazaro, a Habitat partner family who bought a home one



WELLS

FARGO

block away and still enjoys volunteering her time to revitalize her neighborhood. Thank you to Lowe's and the amazing women volunteers!

Wells Fargo UrbanLIFT Check Presentation

On March 7, Habitat for Humanity Riverside hosted a media event to showcase the awarding of **Wells Fargo's UrbanLIFT Community Grant Program** to HFHR and **Neighborhood Partnership Housing Services** totaling \$458,600. Each organization received \$229,300.



Robin Hought, Community Affairs Officer, Inland Empire Market, Wells Fargo, Karin Roberts, Executive Director emeritus Habitat for Humanity Riverside, their neighborhoods. Clemente Mojica, CEO Neighborhood Partnership Housing Services, Jack Olree, Community Development Officer, Inland Empire Market, Wells Fargo

Habitat Riverside will further the effort of the Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative in Jurupa Valley, which empowers residents to revive their neighborhoods. Habitat Riverside is rehabilitating a two bedroom, two bathroom home on Sexton Ln. in Jurupa Valley (see Lowe's Women's Build above). This home will be our 29th home in the City of Jurupa Valley. By building and rehabilitating so many homes in such a concentrated area we are instilling a community with proud, responsible homeowners who will continue to work toward improving their neighborhoods.

Olree, Community Development Officer, Inland Empire Market, Wells Fargo Celia Lanning, Wells Fargo's Inland Empire area president said that "these grants will help advance community stabilization in cities that were significantly impacted by the housing downturn [and] we look forward to seeing how the projects, funded by the UrbanLIFT Community Grant Program, help create safer and sustainable neighborhoods."

A Brush with Kindness



Habitat for Humanity®

Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative

Habitat for Humanity Riverside's A Brush with Kindness (ABWK) is an exterior home preservation service that offers painting, landscaping, weather stripping and minor repair services for homeowners in need. ABWK helps low-income homeowners impacted by age, disability and financial circumstances, who struggle to maintain the exterior of their homes, reclaim their homes with pride and dignity. ABWK is made possible by CDBG funding from the Cities of Riverside, Corona and Moreno Valley and CSBG funding from Community Action Partnership.

Veteran Inspires 5 Partners

Habitat Riverside got a call from **Riverside County Supervisor Tavaglione's** office about Larry, a 82 year old Korean War veteran who lives in the Old Plantation Mobile Home Park in Jurupa Valley. Crazy winds whipped through the area and the awning that covered Larry's entry deck was pulled from its anchors, flopped over the top of his home and damaged his roof. Larry's roof needed to be repaired to eliminate the leaking into his home, and the awning needed to be replaced, but could not afford to have the repair completed. He was facing the possibility of citations and fines, and he was worried about facing eviction from his home of 35 years if he could not complete the repairs as required by the park regulations. During inspection, we also discovered almost every support was rotted out on his entry deck and his steps were weak.

Thrivent has been a great partner for these critical home repair projects and they immediately agreed to help. In addition, **Neighborhood Partnership Housing Services** stepped in with a Senior Home Repair Grant that covered the repairs to the roof and materials cost for the awning. We reached out to **KM Patio Covers** who generously donated their labor to do the installation. Habitat staff, with Thrivent's support, built a new entry deck, steps and railings that will last for a long time and volunteers helped with the installation.

On the final volunteer day the Thrivent crew was joined by the **UCR Women's Rugby Team** to paint Larry's home. Larry can relax a bit and enjoy his home and have peace of mind thanks to the efforts of so many people. We are in awe of the willingness of so many of our partners to come on board to help Larry out.





The steps were a huge safety issue for Larry.

The UCR Women's Rugby Team finished the project off with a new coat of paint.

The transformation was remarkable! The entry deck and steps are now secure, covered by the new awning and the paint makes it look brand new!



Thank you for partnering on the Old Plantation project!





Partnerships

Community Action Partnership

Funds for this program provided by the Community Action Partnership of Riverside Count

Introducing our Veteran Build Team



We introduced you to Lee Crisp III, a 20 year veteran of the US Marine Corps, last December, shortly after he came on board with Habitat Riverside through the **CAP Veteran Employment Training program** and we are pleased to be able to offer him a full time position through a

CAP grant. Lee will now be responsible for our Veteran Build outreach efforts. He is out in the community informing people of the opportunities we have with our Veteran Enriched Neighborhoods as well as helping veteran families navigate the application process to become qualified partner families. His recent experience of transitioning to civilian life enables him to fully understand the necessary support these veteran families need. He does a wonderful job at connecting them to the services and benefits that many veterans do not know are available to them. John Wartinger joined us in May as the final member of our Veteran Build team, a **CAP** funded position. With two veteran developments projected to provide about 40 homes over the next two years, John will be teaming up with Lee Crisp to reach out to the community to identify the



veteran families for these homes and support them in their journey to first time home ownership. You'll see him in the community at events, on the build sites and in the office meeting with families. John will also be involved on the actual build site helping to coordinate the large numbers of volunteer groups as well as providing support to the veteran families as they work on their sweat equity requirements. John, a Vietnam veteran, has many years of experience managing people and projects at various newspaper companies all over the United States.

Introducing our new Construction Project Manager

We currently have eight different construction sites in various stages of development and Trevor Bailey will be the one that keeps us on track a n d o n schedule. Trevor will not actually be hands on with construction, but rather managing the relationships with our architects, engineers, and the trades that actually make sure these projects are completed on time and on budget. He will also oversee the A Brush With Kindness and Critical Home Repair programs. Trevor has a great background in project **6** management in both the IT and non-profit world. He

has stepped into the role without missing a beat, jumping right into the middle of our rehabilitation of the 11th Street home.

He is a life-long resident of Riverside and officiates basketball games in his spare time. In fact, Trevor spent a year on the road with the World Famous Harlem Globetrotters as one of their referees. Welcome aboard Trevor and



Campus Chapters



Ramona Habitat Chapter Raises \$3,000

On March 22 **Ramona High School** students were on the track bright and early (and by choice!), setting up for their 2nd annual Lap-A-Thon. The **Ramona Habitat for Humanity Campus Chapter** organized the event to raise funds for Habitat Riverside's A Brush with Kindness program which helps low-income seniors, veterans, and disabled homeowners make minor repairs to the exterior of their homes. In the weeks prior to the event, students were encouraged to sign up and compete to see who could raise the most money through pledges from family and friends. Pledges could be for a lump sum or a set amount per lap completed. Sponsorships ranged anywhere from \$.50 a lap to \$5.00 a lap.

Along the track, students had hung posters "Keep H4H Running" and "You're Running for a Cause #homesforall" to keep the participants motivated. There were over 80 runners, joggers and walkers who participated. Another huge motivator was the Habitat partner families in the bleachers dancing, and cheering for everyone to "go that extra mile"... literally. Their enthusiasm worked, as 1,038 laps were completed that day; 788 laps by the students and teachers and 250 by the Habitat partner families. They raised \$3,000 which will be used in the local area.

The Ramona Habitat Chapter exceeded everyone's expectations for enthusiasm, energy, excitement and results.



Habitat for Humanity Riverside Staff, Ramona High School students, Campus Chapter members and Habitat partner families all came out to run laps.

UCR Habitat Chapter in Action!

The **UCR Habitat Chapter** is in action! Under the leadership of their President, Jahazad Hanif, (who is a member of our Board of Directors) the chapter has been busy participating in many A Brush With Kindness volunteer days. They have been working on ideas and plans for raising funds and they get pretty creative! Some of their events include a partnership with a café on campus that will make a donation to Habitat Riverside for any purchase if the flyer is presented, creating duct tape flowers for Valentine's Day, a Brunswick bowling day and their upcoming Walk-a-thon to be held on May 24 from 1:30pm-4:30pm on UCR's track.

They invited our Veteran Outreach Coordinator, Lee Crisp, to inform them about the upcoming Veteran Enriched Neighborhood in Jurupa Valley and how they



can help out. Also at this meeting, one of our newer partner families, Denise Garcia, came and shared her story with the UCR students. This was a great way to keep the students motivated and let them know that the work they are doing is very important and meaningful to so many families.

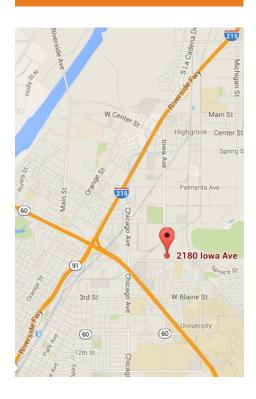
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The Riverside ReStore is a nonprofit home improvement outlet that sells donated products and goods to support Habitat for Humanity.



Hours

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William Chamberlain

Lois Carson

Patricia Chavez

Karen Christensen

Church, Riverside

Fond Farewells

The success of this program is because of **you**.



Karin's Surprise Sendoff

Friends, colleagues, partners, and staff gathered at the Riverside Art Museum on April 23 to send retiring Executive Director, Karin Roberts, off in style. Karin says she was completely surprised when she walked through the doors to the museum and was greeted by applause from friends she had made during her eight years with Habitat for Humanity Riverside. A few guests had a special surprise of their own...





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JIM ALMGREN PATRICIA CHAVEZ JAHAZAD HANIF ROBIN HOUGHT SPENCER MACDOUGALL DR. GAIL ZWART Supervisor John Tavaglione

who delivered Karin a proclamation recognizing and honoring her dedication to the lives of families and in the community.

Vice President of Habitat for Humanity Riverside's Board of Directors, **Ken Gutierrez**, presented Karin with a Board resolution bestowing on her the title, "Executive Director, Emeritus."



AndJohnTerell,CityofMorenoValley'sCommunityandEconomicDevelopmentDirector, announced

Habitat's 8 homes will be built on "Karin Roberts Way".

Thanks to our Board of Directors for sponsoring such a wonderful event and to the **Riverside Art Museum** for hosting us in their lovely space. We appreciate all of those who came to make this night special for Karin. She said, "it was really the highlight of my career."

Board Members Say Goodbye

We would like to recognize the retirement of a valued member of Habitat for Humanity Riverside's Board of Directors, Debi Bagley. Debi has served as an Executive Board Member for over 10 years and will be missed, but she has already agreed to serve on our new



Advisory Council to continue to support Habitat Riverside.

Habitat Riverside said goodbye to Gladys Walker and Amy Aldana. Thank you for your service on our Board of Directors.

HABITAT STAFF

KATHY MICHALAK, Executive Director SIM MAI, Operations Manager CHRISTINE MORGANDO, NRI Manager TREVOR BAILEY, Construction Project Manager DAVE PEDALINE, ABWK Project Coordinator JOE MICHALAK, Construction Project Coordinator LUIS MUNOZ, Family Relations/Volunteer Coordinator CHERYL CREAMER, IT/Webmaster DARRELL ZELLER, Mortgage Account Manager ANITA HERNANDEZ, Administrative Assistant LEE CRISP III, Veteran Outreach Coordinator JOHN WARTINGER, Veteran Build Coordinator DANIEL ANCHONDO, AmeriCorps National Member JENNA HOLMES, AmeriCorps VISTA Member AZHAR KHAN, AmeriCorps National Member JENINE GARCIA, UCR Federal Work Study Intern AMANDA FREGOSO, UCR Federal Work Study Intern KAY ROLAND, Volunteer Financial Analyst

ReSTORE STAFF

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