



Winter 2022-23

President's Corner

Dear Friends of Wolf River Habitat for Humanity,

We are at the close of another strong year for our organization, and once again I am humbled by the generosity of our donors, and the countless hours of time and talent of our volunteers and dedicated board members. Simply put, we would not exist without the support of all the neighboring communities and the efforts of our volunteers.

Wolf River Habitat for Humanity, Inc. is celebrating our 25-year anniversary this month! Looking back at the humble beginnings and relentless dedication of our founding members, I feel very blessed to have been a part of this organization for a mere 4½ years. I would like to give a heartfelt thank you to retiring board member Dorothy Foster and her husband, Ted. Dorothy and Ted were a part of the founding members and have fiercely advocated for WRHFH with a passion equal to none! We all wish Dorothy and Ted the best of everything and the continued blessings of God upon all their comings and goings.

I would also like to recognize our two primary employees, Mark Flunker (Executive Director & Building Site Manager) and Laurie Wilkinson (ReSale Store Manager). We are very fortunate to have these hard-working people on our staff. Not only do Mark and Laurie work within their job descriptions, but they are also volunteering their time and talents beyond their weekly job duties.

Moving ahead into 2023 our volunteer Board of Directors will focus on filling the board seats of Dorothy, as well as multi-term directors who recently retired from our board: Steve Thompson, John Newton and Al Boyd. We have had many dedicated multi-term board members over the past 25 years, and they have all played an integral part in fulfilling Habitat's vision and mission. We will be focusing on diversifying board member skill sets in which to meet the needs of our organization, the communities that we serve, and continue to operate in a manner that fulfills our mission: ***Seeking to put God's love into action, WRHFH brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope.***

I encourage anyone with a little extra time to join our dynamic family of volunteers and share in the camaraderie. We welcome any level of support! Anyone interested in helping guide this organization as a volunteer board member can email info@wrhabitat.org, and we can provide you with additional information and an application!

God bless you and yours!
Darci Kotter

www.wrhabitat.org



Construction Updates

It has been a busy year for Habitat construction. Despite supply chain issues and high prices for building materials, we were able to finish our 18th home in May.

We have held off on a new home build this summer due to the high and fluctuating prices of materials; however, we have been working on rehabbing two homes in Shawano, as we recruit families to partner with for these. One of the houses needed a single stall garage, which we were able to complete with the help of Shawano High School teacher Greg Brown and his building & trades class. We also finished off the basement to make another bedroom.

We have also been working on making the store and warehouse more energy efficient.

I would like to thank my steady volunteers, including Randy, Dave, Rich, Mike and Dick.

If you or someone you know would like to volunteer, please fill out the application at wrhabitat.org or call 715-524-3007 and leave a message.

In Faith,
Mark Flunker
Executive Director/
Construction Site Supervisor

PO Box 532, 320 E. Richmond St, Shawano WI 54166
(715) 524-3007

What's happening at the Store?

Let's begin with the important stuff! **THANK YOU!!!**

- The store continues to be blessed beyond measure by volunteers who so unselfishly contribute their time and energy.
- And by so many amazing people who generously donate money, items and services.
- And finally, to our shoppers – your purchases make our home building efforts possible. With each purchase you make at the store, we are able to give life to our mission:



“Seeking to put God’s love into action, Wolf River Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.”

We have had a whirlwind year! At the end of 2021, we were finally able to purchase the building at 414 E. Elizabeth Street in Shawano and some renovation work began almost immediately (much of it behind the scenes in the warehouse area which will eventually house our construction equipment, materials and allow for more home building preparatory work).

We continue to attract new shoppers each week as well as our tried and true regulars, mostly because, ***“You never know what you might find at the Habitat store!”***

This year marks the 11th year of the store’s operation, and we continue to give thanks to all those who had the vision of this fundraising arm of the organization. It is bringing people to the community from far and wide – we have even had shoppers from out of state seeking items posted to one of our social media sites.

At the time of our spring newsletter, we were pouring the foundation for our Medicine Hat Trail home, and now we have completed the dry wall and mudding and are on to painting! We and our partner family couldn’t have made it this far without the help of our many volunteers. Thank you for your contributions!

But as with most non-profit organizations, we do have our wish list! Please make sure to check out the list and see if you might be able to help out. And... we can always use a few more hands to make light the work. So, if you would like to explore what volunteering at Wolf River Habitat might offer, please contact us. This year we hope to expand our church and organization partnerships and provide group volunteer experiences.

The store does offer so much – but most of all, it offers hope...

- To the young couple looking for a dining room table and chair set for their new family, one that expands to a size big enough to be able to host both their families during the holidays.
- To the woman who received a full measure of joy knowing her donation would generate new family memories.
- To people starting out or starting over, the ability to purchase items at very reasonable prices and make a new start.

So many stories – so much good being done! As the year draws to a close, please know that your support of Wolf River Habitat for Humanity is making a difference.

And I give thanks to God for all you do and for your help and support of this vital organization.

God bless you this day and always!
Laurie Wilkinson,
Store Manager

*What if ...
you woke up today
with only the things
you thanked God for
yesterday?*