



Habitat Fall Build Update:

I hope you all are well. Thank you all so much for your continued support of the ministry of Habitat. As we move closer towards our fall build, it is vital that the support from our faith partners continues to be strong. **The hope and peace that Habitat homeownership provides, changes families immediately and permanently.** Families are hard at work on their sweat equity hours and excited to start building their homes this September.

Below are some of the changes that our sponsors will notice this fall:

HEALTH AND SAFETY PRACTICES Full list of safety precautions will be emailed to all volunteers before they come out.

- Habitat is consistently re-evaluating our health and safety policies to keep everyone safe. Currently, we are allowing sign up for up to 25 volunteers each day. We may need to lower that number depending on the latest HEALTH recommendations. We will communicate with volunteers in the event we need to make changes to the number of volunteers allowed.
- **Masks are required on site.** Social distancing will be strictly enforced.
- Hand sanitizer and sanitized work gloves will be available at each house site.
- Breaks are scheduled for volunteers to visit the Hand Washing station throughout the day.
- Bottled water will be available for volunteers.

ONLINE SIGN-UP

- **A cut-off date of August 22nd will be applied to every construction volunteer slot for the entirety of the build.** After August 22nd, any additional construction volunteers that are needed will be recruited from other community supporters.
- Based on the current trend in volunteer numbers, we expect a lower number of volunteers on site. Construction will rely heavily on the numbers reported in Sign Up Genius to make needed adjustments to volunteer tasks. Because of this, we require all fall sponsors to use Sign Up Genius.
- The link to the sign-ups will be sent to all previous volunteers next week. Please get the links on your web sites, social media, in any weekly email communications and announcements from the pulpit. Please push them out every week until the August 22nd cut-off date (see below).
- Sign Up Genius now allows a view that includes tabs to go smoothly from the lunch sign up to the builders sign up.
- Every volunteer who enters a correct email address will receive a reminder eight days before they are scheduled.
- In anticipation of fewer volunteers, tasks like some painting, fencing installation and some siding installation have been shifted to be completed by contractors.

LUNCH PROVIDERS

- We are requesting that Lunch Providers plan to **provide either 15 or 30 lunches** depending on the number of volunteers allowed on site at that time. Our Volunteer Coordinator will call the Lunch Provider the week before the build to confirm the number of lunches needed.
- All lunches will be at your sponsored house. There will be no eating under a tent.



OTHER ITEMS

- We have a **new Volunteer Coordinator – Sandy**. Most of you will recognize her from working with Junior on the weekends. We're so excited she is joining us full time.
- Due to the need for more staff time and more contractors, our homes are costing more to build. *This additional cost is not being passed on to our homeowners or sponsors.* **But that leaves Habitat with a dire need for funding to complete these homes.** Please speak to your congregational leaders, mission committees and others to urge them to continue to fund this ministry. Give people as many opportunities to be as generous as possible.
- Habitat now has the ability to set up an online giving page for each sponsor group. If your congregation is interested, please let me know.
- I am available to visit your congregation for virtual worship, and I can record a video message to share the message of how Habitat providing hope in this time of crisis.
- For more information about what changes Habitat has made for the fall build and how we are building through this world health crisis, plan to attend or watch a recording of the **August 11th FIAT Zoom Webinar**. Invitations will go out next week.

Please continue to keep in contact with me. I miss seeing your faces, but know from speaking with most of you that you are taking care of your health and doing your best to encourage support for Habitat in your congregation so we can help others. Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions. We can't do this without you. Thank you!

Be Well In Faith,

Trisch Moy

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