



New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity Impact Report

NOVEMBER 2015

Dear Friends,

You have made this an incredible year, and we cannot thank you enough. With your help, we have completed the largest blitz build our affiliate has ever undertaken, forged new partnerships and initiated new programs to expand our impact, and continued our core programs in the fight against poverty housing.

Our ongoing recognition of the ten years of resilience and recovery since Hurricane Katrina started with the 2015 AmeriCorps Build-A-Thon, a ten-day, ten-home blitz build on America St. in New Orleans East and culminated the week of the anniversary with a series of events, including our Songs From the Heart concert series and our participation in the Citywide Day of Service. Thousands of people came together to support our city, joining us to honor both the losses and the progress of the last decade, sharing the hope that our continued efforts will build a greater city than before the storm.

We are especially excited that we raised the walls on the first of six rental units that we are building with Covenant House. These units will allow at-risk youth (including those who are aging out of foster care) and families in Covenant House's programs to find affordable rentals while they transition into a better life. By offering a stable environment for young



Jim Pate

people to live in, NOAHH and Covenant House provide them with the time and resources to acclimate to a life outside of foster care or other support programs. NOAHH and Covenant House have long been friends and partners, and this new program will be the start of a long-term collaboration that will allow us to provide safe, affordable housing to even more hard working New Orleanians.

This program is only one small way in which NOAHH is expanding our fight against poverty housing. Because everyone deserves a decent place to live, and because not everyone is willing or able to own a home, it is imperative that



CORE VOLUNTEER PROFILE: Chuck Crabtree

What sparked your interest in volunteering with us?

After moving to Louisiana, I was interested in getting involved in post-Katrina recovery. Many worthy efforts were already underway, but volunteering with NOAHH was a natural choice.

What's your favorite thing about volunteering?

I enjoy working with so many great people on projects that make a tangible difference to families and communities. It's inspiring to work with volunteers and partner families who cheerfully give their time and effort, and there's always something new to learn, especially from other core volunteers and staff. Seeing the team's progress as a house takes shape is always fun, too.

What's challenging about it?

Roofing in August. Seriously, some tasks are physically demanding and most of us usually go home tired at the end of the workday, but it's a "good kind of tired."

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Could you tell me just a bit about your relationship with other core volunteers? Have you gotten to know others as you work with them?

Yes. I've enjoyed working with several of our core volunteers. It's always a pleasure building with them, learning from them and catching up when we converge on a worksite (or a place for lunch!). They're all motivated to make things better for families. "Uncle" Andy brings a great deal of building expertise and guidance, while always keeping it light with humor. Dennis and Temple provide leadership too; as well as thought-provoking banter—always a must when hoisting trusses! John's energy and commitment to getting the details right has inspired us all.

Has anything about the experience surprised you? Anything you hadn't expected going into it?

Recently, I saw an online map showing NOAHH worksites all over New Orleans. It was surprising to see the extent of our impact. It helped me see our efforts in a new light.

Anything else you'd like to share?

For anyone who has considered volunteering with NOAHH but hasn't yet, I recommend it. You'll be glad you did!



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Volunteers from VMware raise the walls at a home on America Street.

affordable, safe rentals be a part of our mission. Nationwide, the number of affordable rentals is in decline, and the effects of the flooding ten years ago only made them more scarce locally. To address that need, NOAHH will be including rental properties along with our usual inner city infill, with a future focus on the Lower Ninth Ward, and our A Brush With Kindness, Attack the Block, and Habitat Urban Garden programs will continue to help us achieve a greater impact on the communities where we build.

That impact was made evident as we commemorated the tenth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina alongside thousands throughout the city, and even more evident was the fact that without volunteers, donors, and other supporters—especially our partner families—joining us over these last ten years, none of this progress would have been possible. With your help, we will win the fight against poverty housing in the New Orleans area.

Thank you,

Jim Pate
Executive Director
New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity



Building More Than Houses

IT'S A SIMPLE IDEA: WE ARE BETTER WORKING TOGETHER THAN ALONE.

This is true for our volunteers, and it's true for our city. Building a house alone is theoretically possible, but building a house with several hundred people is much easier. Moreover, as the house is built, if some of those hundred people have diverse skill sets—an electrician, a carpenter, and a plumber, for instance—building the house becomes even easier. On a larger scale, when addressing major issues like poverty housing, crime, or blight across the New Orleans area, it's clear that no single person can solve these problems, and studies suggest that no single demographic can be responsible for solving them either. We must all work together across social, economic, racial, and other lines.

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Meet Our Partner Families

Amy and Joseph Washington

Amy and Joseph Washington met in Winn Dixie. It was March of 2013. He was a cashier, and she was a shopper. What began as a friendship quickly blossomed into love, and they tied the knot in December of 2014, on 12/13/14—an anniversary, Amy jokes, Joe should never forget. She says they've gone through their share of hard times, but it has only made them stronger as a couple.

The newlyweds settled into a one-bedroom apartment early in 2015, but soon learned that their family was about to grow. With their first child on the way, the Washingtons decided it was time for a home of their own, and Amy's mother suggested they look into NOAHH's homeownership program. After being approved as partners, Amy and Joe completed their first hundred hours of sweat equity and chose their lot in New



Amy & Joseph

Orleans East right around the time they welcomed their son, Joseph Matthew Washington II, into the world. They've got quite a year ahead—adjusting to parenthood and working toward home ownership—but they know the work is worth it. When they move into their new home they will join the ranks of an already-sizeable community of NOAHH partner families on America Street.

Amy says, "The process was quick and easy for us. Habitat does more than building houses. It teaches us how to work with others and build a safe community. This was the best decision we made for our family."

Kim Landry

For Kim Landry, the idea of staying put is a new one. Ever since she graduated from St. Bernard High School in 2000, she's been on the road more often than she's been off it. She and her sons Zyon (13) and Zen (11) have lived in apartments, on a bus, in a van, on couches. Wherever she wandered, though, New Orleans always called her home.

In the past Kim supported herself as a waitress and by making handmade soaps and jewelry, but in 2009 she found her calling as a doula. She has owned her own doula business, Full Moon Rising Birthing Services, since 2010 and is working toward becoming a practicing homebirth midwife.

Work on Kim's home is well underway, the walls having been raised by Gap volunteers in October. She chose a quiet, tree-lined lot tucked away in the St. Roch neighborhood. According to Kim, both boys are really excited to have their own rooms.

In speaking of her experience as a partner, Kim says, "I can't thank NOAHH enough for this opportunity to be a homeowner. I certainly did not see this in my future 13 years ago. It's a good feeling to know that I will be able to extend my roots to my children and my future grandchildren in the city that I love."



Kim Landry

ReStore at a Glance

Since its 2003 debut on the corner of Press and Royal Streets in the Marigny, NOAHH's ReStore has seen amazing growth, particularly with its move to the more visible Elysian Fields location in 2013. What began as a fairly small operation is projected to earn around \$1,000,000 in revenue.

We accept furniture, appliances, building materials and more!

Free pickup! (504) 943-2240

- Donations are processed & sold at discounted rates.
- Volunteers help us keep costs down & allow more proceeds to go to our mission.
- Partner families serve their first 100 sweat equity hours in the Restore.
- Our ReStore annually diverts over 1 million pounds of usable materials from landfills.
- We partner with Net Charter School, Louisiana Green Corps, & ReEmployAbility as an outlet for skill building.
- Local conventions are instrumental to our growth. This fall, the Orgill Dealer's Market donated 13 truckloads of new products.
- We are currently looking to open a second store in Kenner.

Interested in donating?

Contact Kieran

kieranb@habitat-nola.org



Core Volunteers are individuals who help NOAHH on the build site or in the ReStore at least twice a month. To join, call Avery at 504-609-3349

Service Learning by the Numbers

NOAHH's Service Learning program connects classroom content to real-world experience through A Brush with Kindness projects. Partnering teachers present students with material relevant to NOAHH's mission, and NOAHH staff lead students in on-site reflection throughout their day of service.

3 NOAHH programs students will serve within: New Home Construction, A Brush with Kindness, Attack the Block.

4 Partner schools for this year: Louise S. McGehee, Metairie Park Country Day, Mount Carmel, and St. Martin's Episcopal.

5 Subjects partner schools will use to integrate service into classroom instruction: U.S. Government, English, Social Justice, American Literature, and Character Education.

19 Years Mt. Carmel Academy has partnered with NOAHH.

450

Students participating in service learning program each year.

2,450

Total hours of service those students will perform this year.



A generous grant from the Brown Foundation makes this important program possible. To learn more, contact Amy at 504-609-3351.

The data on these divides can be discouraging. A snapshot of the socioeconomic situation in New Orleans suggests growing gaps between black and white citizens on many factors, including household income, employment rates, incarceration rates, and more. As The Data Center points out, these demographic lines are invisibly drawn in our community, and they threaten the city's ability not just to address major issues but to continue the progress made since Hurricane Katrina.

An often overlooked part of NOAHH's mission is making affordable housing a matter of conscience. This part of the mission is addressed through the sweat equity and volunteering programs. As partner families put in their hours, they form bonds with staff and volunteers, and vice versa. As volunteers from different backgrounds work together, they bridge the gaps between those backgrounds. And as these bonds are formed, they attain a greater understanding of the universal qualities that make us human, and thus, an understanding of the idea that everyone, no matter who they are, deserves a safe, decent place to live. This process, repeated by over 150,000 volunteers with 500 partner families, has a palpable impact on the city of New Orleans.

Below are a selection of stories when NOAHH saw groups unite despite social, economic, racial, or other differences, bonding over commonalities in mission, culture, or simply their experience on the build site:



STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

Dennis Kehoe, a former NOAHH board member and current Core Volunteer, is a Classics professor at Tulane University who requires that his students volunteer with NOAHH as part of the Tulane Interdisciplinary Experience Seminars. He recounted an incident when a group of his students were working on a secluded street in a part of town that had not yet recovered significantly from the storm. The students, most of whom came from middle class backgrounds, were nervous about the area, carrying preconceived notions of what it meant for their safety. Instead of being met with violence, however, they were welcomed with a more traditional New Orleans gesture: food. Women from nearby houses brought popsicles, an especially welcome gift in the New Orleans heat. What Kehoe said his students reported of the incident was that it changed their perspective of the neighborhood itself, making them feel welcome and dispelling their assumptions of hostility. The incident was remarkable, but even when the volunteer day is not interrupted by random acts of kindness, his student volunteers typically report leaving with a better understanding of the people they have worked with, especially when they have the chance to work with a partner family.

unCommon Construction

We've been building houses for a while now, and we've learned a lot in the process. This fall we've decided to pass some of that knowledge along by embarking on a partnership with the newly-established unCommon Construction (uCC). Led by former NOAHH site leader Aaron Frumin, unCommon Construction is a nonprofit that uses paid residential construction apprenticeships to empower hard-working high school students.



It's not only when volunteers meet partner families that bridges are built. Aaron Frumin, founder of unCommon Construction (uCC), worked as a staff member at NOAHH for several years, and he witnessed (and experienced) many shifts in perspective during that time. When he founded his organization, he intentionally designed it to bring students from different parts of the city, and from different schools, together. He specifically cites times when his student-interns worked alongside students from Xavier University, saying the experience allowed them to ask questions and learn from those they might not have otherwise met.

"It demystifies people, makes them less of an abstraction." Frumin said, "You share work, your project, and your common mission, so it's a tool to understand yourselves, people, and the community in which we live."

Keep your eye on uCC; we're pretty sure they've got a big future ahead of them. We're excited to partner with them at the beginning of this journey!



THE FAITH BUILD

Both Household of Faith and Trinity Episcopal Church have worked with NOAHH in the past, separately, and their experiences building homes had already shown them that it was a great environment for building bridges across racial divides. This fall, for the first time in their long histories of community service, the churches worked together to fund and build a home in ten days, and the end result was more than just building a house in ten days. At the home dedication, Trinity Episcopal revealed that their governing body officially challenged Household of Faith to extend the partnership into a covenant partnership, while Household of Faith affirmed that they planned to not only keep working together, but to commit to major projects like the blitz build they had just completed.

"There's so much challenge I see when it comes to racial reconciliation," said Reverend Antoine Barriere of Household of Faith. "I found out it's really not as much a challenge if you just intentionally work together."

The Faith Build, a one-home blitz in the Hollygrove area, was inspired by the Episcopal Diocese's Year of Racial Reconciliation, which saw them reaching out to Household of Faith to jointly address a topic of significant concern for both. Inspired by the impact of their hard work, the churches have now forged a lasting partnership.



Reverend Henry Hudson and Pastor Antoine M. Barriere with homeowner Ashley Kottemann and her son Gabriel.

photo by Erika Goldring

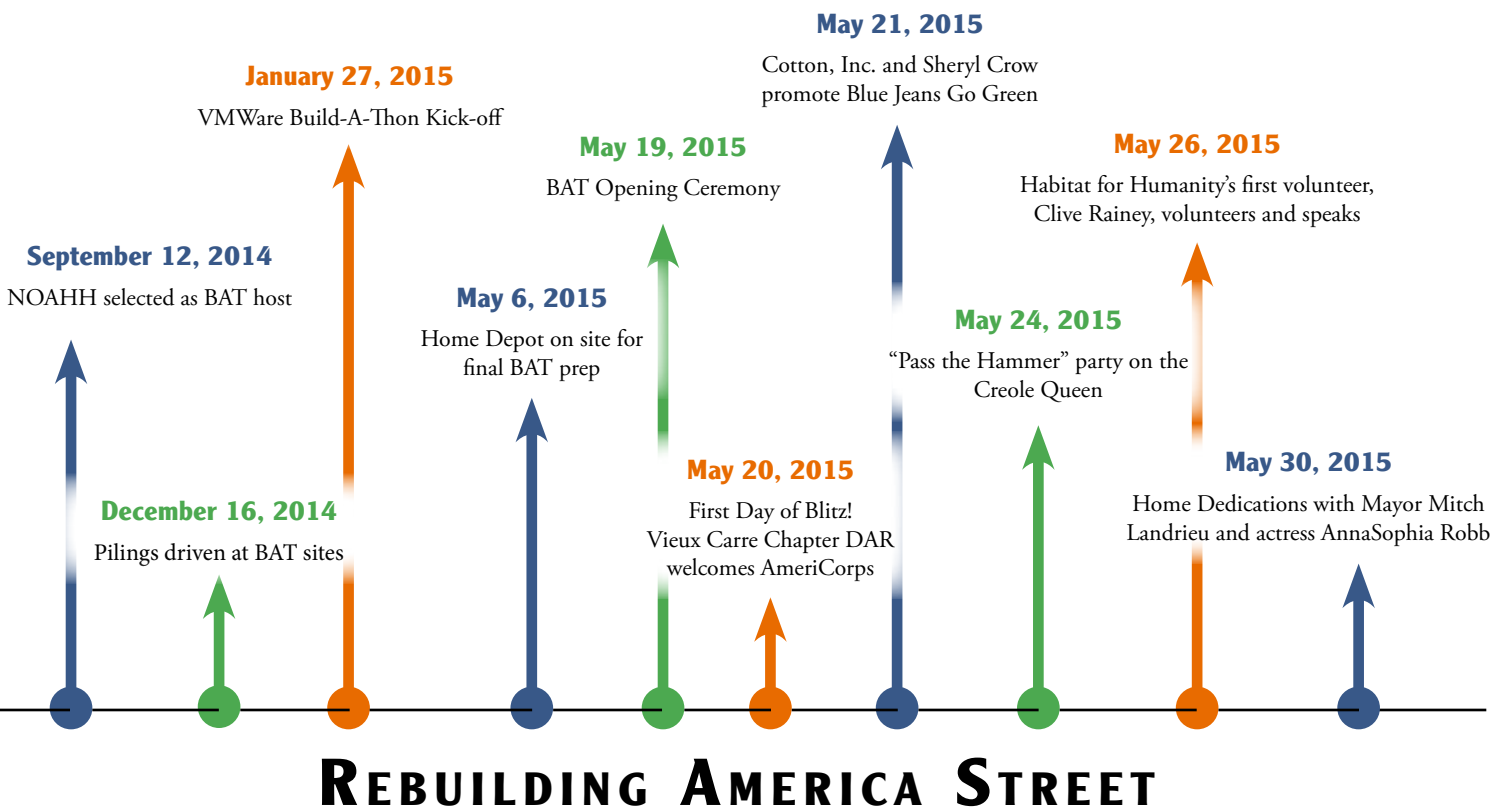
The 2015 Habitat AmeriCorps Build-A-Thon

From conception to closing, the 2015 AmeriCorps Build-A-Thon (BAT) Rebuilding America Street took about nine months to complete. Plans were drawn up, families selected, and sponsors and volunteers recruited months in advance, and site prep on the ten lots began in December 2014. With over 600 volunteers on site, Build-A-Thon was the largest blitz build NOAHH has ever undertaken. Making it possible took the dedication, teamwork, and coordination of dozens of NOAHH and HFHI staff, partner families, volunteers, sponsors, and donors.

Since Hurricane Katrina, thousands of AmeriCorps have served along the Gulf Coast. Their presence has brought hope, relief, and comfort to New Orleanians whose homes were lost to the storms. Over the last ten years, AmeriCorps members have been instrumental not just in recovery programs but in creating programs that will continue contributing to the area long after recovery is complete. Build-A-Thon served as a celebration of the resilience of New Orleans and the impact of AmeriCorps by furthering that impact. It served as a celebration, too, of the contributions of every volunteer, donor, and partner of the last ten years by providing a statement of commitment to the area and by celebrating those who had made so many lasting contributions.



Sheryl Crow, Jim Pate, and AmeriCorps NCCC Brenton Lowe on site at Build-A-Thon.



10 Years After Katrina

For those of us who were here ten years ago, for those of us who called New Orleans home at any point before the storms of 2005, there is a strange mix of both distance and currency to Hurricane Katrina. It can seem like only yesterday, or it can seem like it was a hundred years ago. It's tempting to focus on the progress we've made; it's difficult not to focus on what (and who) hasn't returned. The narrative of resilience is dear to us because it shows that our hard work is paying off and because it tells us we have the strength to keep working. That many of those speaking of resilience, recovery, and rebirth are not from New Orleans tells us someone is paying attention, and that gives us hope that the care and support from around the world will continue.



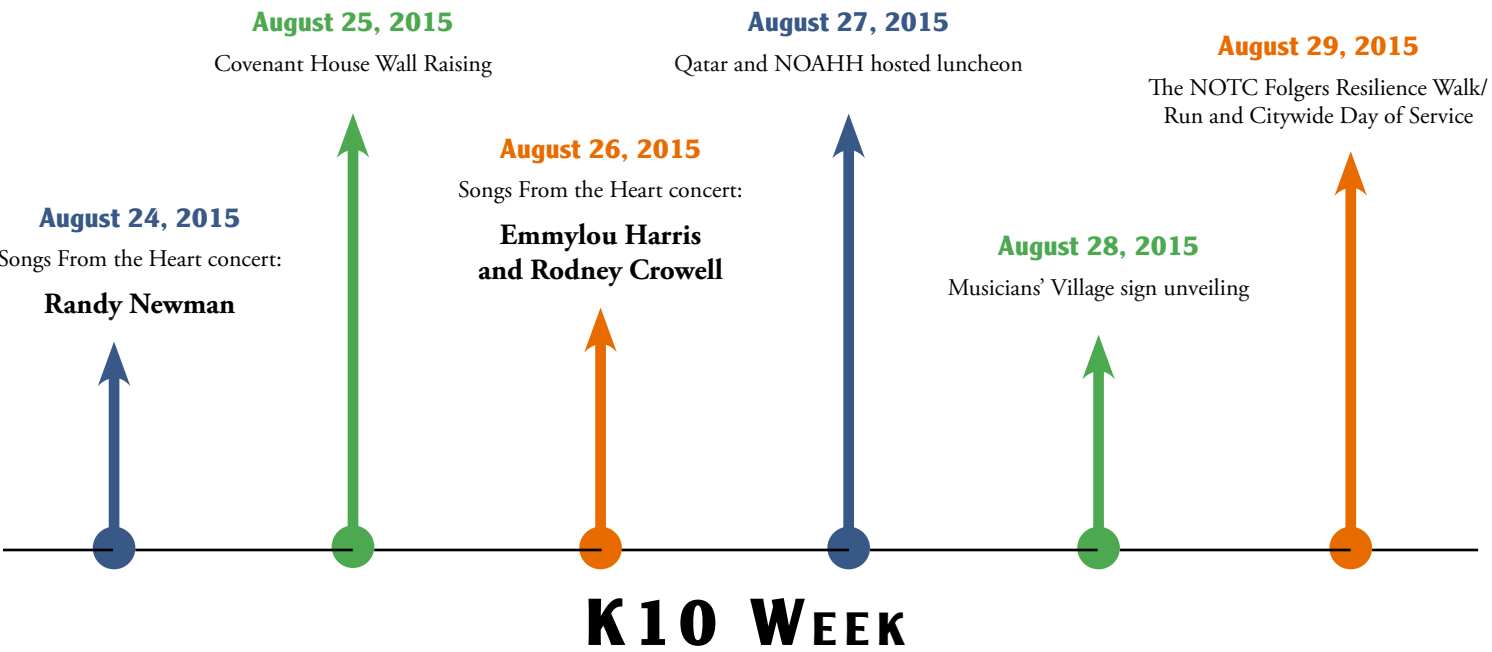
H.E. Ambassador Al-Kuwari with Jim Pate, Elizabeth Lisle, partner family Chip Wilson, and Andrew Crosby of Baptist Crossroads at the sign unveiling in Musicians' Village.



Emmylou Harris and Rodney Crowell perform at the second Songs From the Heart concert.

At NOAHH, we commemorate the storms because we are proud that in the aftermath, so many chose to give time and resources to help with rebuilding, and that we could be a part of that. We commemorate the storms because they were a defining event in the 30-year history of our affiliate, and we wish to honor those who helped us, those who worked with us, and those who were lost to us. In the personal stories our partner families tell, you will find few that don't have some reference to Katrina. So many of our staff and volunteers came to NOAHH because of the storm, and so many of our donors gave in response to the storms. We could not have built 450 homes in the last ten years if not for the storms. We commemorate the storms because they changed our lives.

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Diana Likely volunteered with NOAHH through Rebuilding Hope in New Orleans, a ministry of the St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church, helping to build homes on Ferry Place in the Carrollton area. She worked alongside many partner families as the 14-home project continued over several years, but the first partner she met, Jenika Sly, had the most notable impact:

“She had a beautiful, shy smile, and silently slipped into our group, sat with us and watched the first day we were there.” Likely said, “She looked so young that I never imagined she was a partner... Over the next few days I learned that she was a single mother of a young son, she worked for UPS, and that one of the first two houses under construction on Ferry Place was hers. I felt a special bond with her as we got to know each other, and I looked forward to returning the next year to find her in her completed home.”



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THE SAD TRUTH IS, however, those 450 homes are only the start of what is needed. Affordable housing has always been an issue in New Orleans; the storms only made the problems worse. Many people want to forget Hurricane Katrina and the painful months and years that followed, but the truth is that the damage done by the storm is not gone—it’s only harder to see. Homes have been rebuilt, neighborhoods have begun to flourish, and improvements have been made throughout the city. Much of New Orleans is better now than it was ten years ago. But rental prices continue to rise, and the loss of housing during the storms exacerbated that problem significantly. Our mission to fight substandard housing has always been in response to a crisis; Hurricane Katrina just made that crisis visible. Now, as we look forward, it is our hope that the cause of affordable housing does not fade from the hearts and minds of our supporters, because we know we have more work to do, and we know that our work is making a real difference in this community.

We have recently announced a new partnership that will help NOAHH build homes in the Lower Ninth Ward, and with hard work and support, it is our hope that this partnership will yield a development to rival the crown jewel of our post-Katrina work, the Musicians’ Village. We understand that to make affordable housing available for everyone, we must do more than build homes, and with that in mind, we will be joining with organizations throughout the city to find new ways to address the many issues surrounding housing matters, from blight to crime to economic opportunity, as part of our work in the Lower Ninth Ward and everywhere in the New Orleans area. We’ve started work on the first rental units being built with Covenant House, and we continue to expand our existing programs, from A Brush With Kindness repair projects to Habitat Urban Gardens to our ReStore. Our home-building program, the core of our mission, remains strong.

WE HAVE HOPE AND FAITH THAT ONE DAY POVERTY HOUSING WILL BE A THING OF THE PAST in the New Orleans area, and the progress we’ve made since the storms is a powerful sign of that. The last ten years have been the most productive years this affiliate has ever had (in response to the most significant need and the most humbling influx of support), and as we move forward, we hope to live up to the unspoken promise of our continued recovery: to come back better, wiser, more beautiful, and more vibrant. The last ten years would have been impossible without the support of hundreds of thousands of people (to whom we cannot possibly extend enough gratitude), and the end of poverty housing in New Orleans will be a work of equal or greater challenge. But as we look back over what has been accomplished, we see the resilience that has been so often spoken of these last few months, and we know that with your support, that end is possible.

Gap Community Corps

Gap Inc.’s co-founders inspired generations of Gap employees with a simple aspiration to do more than sell clothes. Gap’s promise is not only monetary assistance to communities the world over but also a commitment to provide thousands of manpower hours by encouraging its 130,000 employees to volunteer to meet long-term community needs.

The Gap Community Corps has sent volunteers to work with NOAHH every year between 2007 and 2015. In that short period of time, they have worked on **16 DIFFERENT HOMES IN FIVE DIFFERENT NEIGHBORHOODS**. Collectively, their efforts have helped to fund seven homes.

Noel Simpkin and Melina Wyatt, team leaders for Gap Community Corps, describe the volunteer selection process as intensely rigorous. Hundreds of Gap employees the world over submit applications describing their volunteer efforts in their local communities. Only 25 are chosen. According to Melina, “Applicants must demonstrate that their efforts have made a significant impact on their local communities.”

Debbie Edwards, the Executive Sponsor and a Vice President came with the volunteers. She shared that her participation highlights just how important volunteerism is to her company and how deeply embedded it is in the company’s culture.

DEBBIE SAID, “IT IS A TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCE TO BE IN NEW ORLEANS TO MARK THE 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF HURRICANE KATRINA BECAUSE GAP EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEERS STARTING COMING HERE WHEN THE CITY WAS AT ITS WORST, RIGHT AFTER THE STORM HIT.”

In return, the Gap volunteers share a unique experience from which they grow their business skills. Volunteers Biba Hunjan from London and Grace Wang from Shanghai talked about how their efforts here help their communication, leadership, team building, and productivity skills. The long days require they work together, creating a sense of fellowship with their fellow volunteers.

For Gap volunteer Cristi Campbell, the volunteer experience was personal. Born, raised and living in New Orleans with the rest of her family in August 2005, they evacuated just hours before Hurricane Katrina dealt the city its devastating punch. Cristi’s family lost everything. While Cristi now lives and works in Athens, she still calls New Orleans “home.”

Gap Community Corps is focused on community outreach. Wherever the employees are located around the world, they are bound together by the Gap promise to help NOAHH, to connect to the New Orleans community, and to fulfill their mission to do more than sell clothes.



With many partner families, the story is similar. Working alongside volunteers shows them that someone cares—a sentiment that had profound impact after the storms. Diane Norman’s home suffered severe damage during Hurricane Katrina and the subsequent levee failures, filling with over ten feet of water. Though she and her mother were able to return to her home after two years, major damage remained until this fall, when she signed up for the A Brush With Kindness repair program at NOAHH. For a week, volunteers worked on the exterior of her home, and each day, Diane and her sister cooked them lunch. Sharing a table, Diane and the volunteers quickly formed a bond. By the end of the week, Norman and the volunteers were so close that she was reluctant to let them go.

“Most of them were as old as me,” Norman said, with surprise. “To give so freely, that’s a blessing, to get out here and want to come. They told me ‘we’ve been blessed in life and giving back.’ You’ve got to be able to walk in somebody’s shoes in order to see why they’re out here doing the things they’re doing. That’s a wonderful moment.”



Fidelity Bank provides NOAHH with mortgage servicing for our partner families. Monthly payments are remitted to Fidelity Bank, who handles the record keeping, escrow analysis, and other aspects of mortgage servicing. This generous donation of their expertise allows us to focus attention on providing safe, decent housing to partner families.

MEMBER FDIC

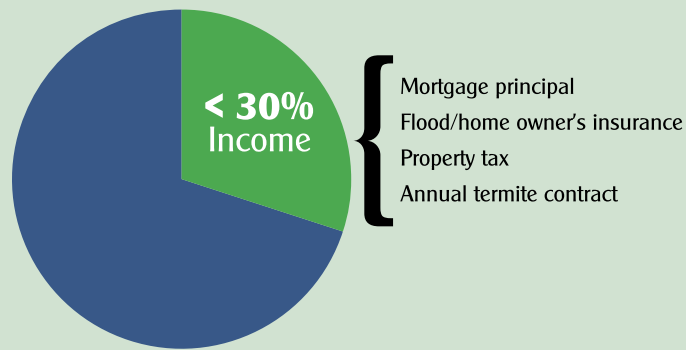


NOAHH thanks Fidelity for their many years of commitment and partnership.

The Home Financing Process

The process of financing a Habitat home begins with you. Your gift to NOAHH through donations or volunteering contributes to the special financing process used to make home ownership affordable by funding the materials, staff, and administrative costs that go into the building of a home.

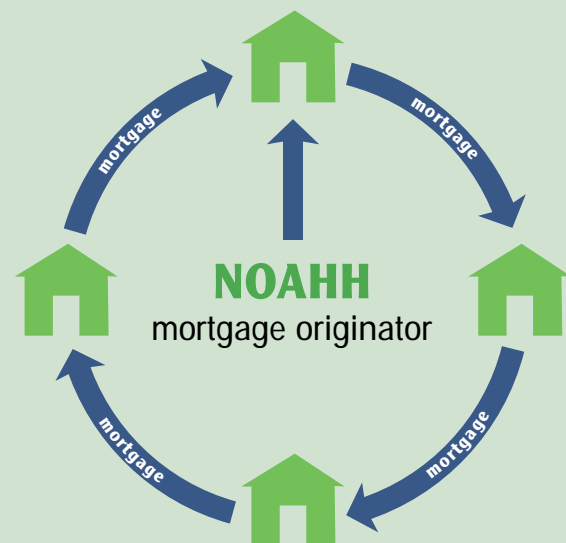
Monthly Payments



NOAHH recruits partner families who serve 350 hours of volunteer time in the ReStore and on the build site in lieu of a down payment on their homes. The sweat equity process, including the classes and volunteering hours, gives partner families the tools and information they need to maintain their home and keep to a budget that will help them pay for it.

- Monthly payments are determined on a sliding scale and are never more than 30% of household income.
- The mortgage has 0% interest.
- Partner families gain instant equity, but NOAHH holds a soft second mortgage representing the difference between the construction cost and the assessed value that is forgiven over 20 years.

NOAHH serves as the mortgage originator, loaning the money to the partner family, and all of the money paid back to NOAHH on the mortgages is recycled into our home ownership program, meaning that every partner family we serve helps serve other partner families.



The Covenant House Partnership

Knowing both the burden of housing costs and the challenges of youth coming from poverty, Covenant House New Orleans has established a practice of working closely with a small pool of landlords to place at-risk youth in decent, affordable housing and then ease them into full rent payments while they receive continued career, physical health, and mental health support. NOAHH is very excited to announce our participation in this practice through a pilot rental program.

According to a recent report from The Data Center, **39% of New Orleans children live in poverty**, a rate 17% higher than the national average. The report finds that children raised in poverty are “much more likely to experience exposure to violence, chronic neglect, and the accumulated burdens of economic hardship,” and that this early exposure to chronic stress can lead to “lifelong difficulties in learning, memory, and self-regulation.”

Imagine a young adult raised in such an environment, but ready to take her life in a new, positive direction. She faces the prospect of living independently in the wake of this trauma and without the wisdom, as well as the emotional and financial support, of a stable family unit—no help with rent when money’s tight, no one to give advice about budgeting for the unexpected, or to provide guidance on how to interact with a landlord. Now imagine this young woman searching for housing in New Orleans, a city where, as of 2013, 51% of renters and 27% of homeowners paid unaffordable housing costs. This can be a recipe for failure, and all too often the combination of no support network and a limited stock of affordable housing leads to homelessness for at-risk youth.

“Jim Pate had a desire to make sure Habitat was providing housing to all low-income and vulnerable families and residents of the city. He has a real heart for troubled youth. He saw this as a great opportunity for us to partner on providing safe, decent housing for young men and women of New Orleans,” said Jim Kelly, Executive Director of Covenant House. “I have been blessed over the years to partner with NOAHH in housing ministry. They have always been wonderful supporters, and hopefully, I’ve been able to equally applaud their efforts in our post-Katrina world.”

FRIENDLY NEIGHBORS

In this partnership NOAHH staff and volunteers will construct a series of duplexes. Each duplex will house a non-Covenant tenant in one side and a Covenant House youth in the other side, with NOAHH acting as landlord in both instances. This setup will provide opportunities for the Covenant resident to build positive relationships with and learn from those around her. This tenant will be integrated into a community while receiving ongoing support from Covenant House. For these residents this housing will serve as a stepping stone on the path to independence and stability.

In addition to this support, residents who are interested in becoming homeowners will have the opportunity to become a part of NOAHH’s incubator program. Within this program NOAHH’s Family Services works closely with prospective homeowners on improving credit and setting aside savings so that they are in a position to become Habitat partner families.

“It’s inspiring to work with Covenant House,” said Jim Pate. “We’re honored to be partnering with such an amazing group to help them expand their already considerable impact.”



NOAHH Executive Director Jim Pate with Mariott volunteers, Mary and Madeleine Landrieu, and Jim Kelly.

SNAP by the Numbers

2

FHLB offers grant funding in January and August

1

First-come, first-serve basis

60,000

Members may receive up to \$60,000 in SNAP funds

90

Within the first 90 minutes, funds are exhausted

16

NOAHH awarded 16 SNAP Grants

5,000

The SNAP award is \$5,000 per household unless the member bank contributes \$350, increasing the maximum to \$6000

Expanding Home Repair With SNAP

Aurlisa Isom's porches were in a deplorable, unstable state. The railing was not properly braced, the vertical posts were spaced too far apart, and the steps were not wide enough. Katherine Randall, NOAHH A Brush With Kindness project manager, said "the porches were simply not up to code." Angeline Ord's home needed serious roofing repairs and new drywall needed to be installed and painted in several rooms throughout the house due to damage caused by the leaky roof.

Through its Special Needs Assistance Program (SNAP), the Federal Home Loan Bank in Dallas (FHLB) offers grant funding for the repair of owner-occupied housing of eligible individuals. SNAP funds assist homeowners with necessary home repairs. In addition, funding is focused on health and safety repairs, not cosmetic renovations.



Funding is made through a member partner bank. NOAHH's current member partner bank is Gulf Coast Bank & Trust. Because SNAP funding allows for repairs and renovations that are generally not covered by other grants, NOAHH is able to fund projects such as removal for safety reasons, termite treatments, remodeling of kitchen cabinets and countertops and plumbing repairs. This partnership between Gulf Coast Bank & Trust and NOAHH is helping to revitalize the city

At Angeline's home, SNAP Funds helped NOAHH repair and seal windows and apply the roofing and sheetrock fixes she needed. She said, "Everything looks fantastic, just wonderful." She also remarked that "the workmen were very neat and cleaned up after they finished the work!"

When the work was completed at Aurlisa's house, she expressed her appreciation, "What a great job! The porches are now sturdy and safe to use."

NOAHH extends special thanks to Gulf Coast Bank & Trust for all of their help making this possible.

Contact Us (504) 861-2077 www.habitat-nola.org