



Greater Albuquerque
Habitat
for Humanity®

E-Newsletter

July 2024



**Making a
difference,
one home
at a time**

HOME DEDICATIONS

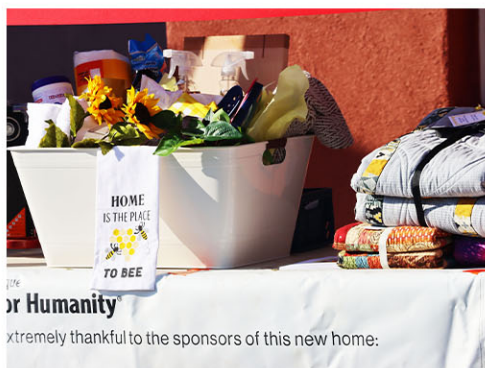
meet our new homeowners

Thanks to our exceptional new construction staff and volunteers, we held two Dedication Ceremonies, one on June 15th and the other on June 29th for two wonderful and well-deserving ladies, Keeasha or “Keke” and Naomi plus their respective families.

Keke received the keys to her new home on June 15th, 2024 at 8:00 AM. It was a lovely summer morning, as the temperature was cool and breezy. The ceremony opened with Doug Champlin, Executive Director for Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity, congratulating Keke on her new home and introducing the speakers for our Beloved House Dedication Ceremony.

Debrah Singletary from Metro Church, Church of God In Christ gave the Invocation with a heartfelt speech which touched on the importance of having a place to call home and even better, a quality home that one can be proud in which to live. She then blessed Keke’s home with holy oil and gifted her a Bible, a Habitat tradition rooted in our Christian foundation.

Keke had these kind and generous words to say, “The volunteers could have been doing something else with their time, but they chose to show up and help build our home. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity and my family and I really, really appreciate it.”



HOME DEDICATIONS

meet our new homeowners

Many of our Board Members made it to the Beloved House Dedication Ceremony, the two-hundred and first house built by Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity and sponsored by Board Member, Michael O'Dell and wife Nancy.



Two weeks later, on Saturday, June 29th, it was Naomi's turn to celebrate the completion of her new Habitat home and it was done in traditional GAHH fashion with gifts, congratulations, and of course, the ribbon cutting. Naomi's Women Build home is the two-hundred and second built by GAHH and Sponsored by Talia Freedman Co. Realty.



HOME DEDICATIONS

meet our new homeowners

Diane Saya, Board President for Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity, gave Naomi a very unique housewarming gift, a small bonsai tree which is an iconic symbol for peace, serenity and strength.

Talia Freedman, the homes' sponsor and a gracious speaker who spelled out the importance of our work very well, "We have such a terrible housing crisis, the whole country over, housing has always been an issue, but it's even more of an issue now than it ever has been before. Homeownership is such a critical piece to generational wealth and housing stability and for people to be able to get in more affordably by putting in their own sweat equity just makes all the difference in the world. My only hope is Habitat can continue to do more and more of this."

We are working on the completion of our Clifton Ave. homes and will be communicating upcoming Dedication Ceremonies as soon as the homes are ready. The support of our local Albuquerque community is essential to our mission and we invite you all to join us.



Become a Habitat Contractor

Calling All Contractors – We want You!

If you are a licensed contractor, and looking for on-going work, we invite you to partner with Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity.

Feel the satisfaction of giving back to your community by helping seniors, veterans and physically challenged folks remain in their homes. Help to provide affordable homeownership to single mothers and children and other low-income families so they can realize the pride of ownership.

You will work on both our new construction sites and our Critical Repair Projects.

Specifically, we invite these licenses:

- | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| ✓ GB98 | ✓ Electrical |
| ✓ GB2 | ✓ Plumbing |
| ✓ General | ✓ Concrete |
| ✓ HVAC | ✓ and any other specialty |

Let your customers know you are a vital partner in the creation and promotion of affordable home ownership.



For more information on partnering with Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity as a Partner Contractor, please contact toye@habitatbq.org

WE ARE HIRING!

GAHH has multiple positions open that we need to urgently fill. Some are in construction while others are administrative in nature. We welcome anyone looking for a position with a financially solid organization. If you or anyone you know is looking for work, please refer them to our website for a detailed description of each position. All positions of 30 hours or more are eligible for the full benefits package offered by GAHH to include health insurance, life insurance, vacation, sick days and more.

Positions available are:



Office Job Openings:

Special Events Coordinator

Grant Writer

Volunteer Ambassador

Construction/Repair Job Openings:

Home Repair Coordinators

Home Construction Repair Supervisor



visit: <https://habitatbq.org/who-we-are/careers/> for more information and to apply.

A Letter from a Homeowner

“I’m an 82 year-old senior and GAHH has been a real blessing to me and an answer to my prayers.

I live on a small, fixed income and could never afford a new roof or to replace the windows in my home that were so cracked and rotting.

I live alone and have no family here and receive no financial help other than Social Security, so these repairs were out of the question.

GAHH came into my life and was able to help me at just the right time. They were so wonderful in walking me through the application process, Bob Dreyer, especially, I give kudos to. He was such a help and so caring, keeping me informed every step of the way from application to project completion. He really went beyond his duties as the person in charge of the program.

Thank you to all involved in taking care of my urgent home improvement needs. My roof is solid, and my windows don’t rattle, leak and are beautiful and I have a warranty on all of the repairs. I feel so blessed and safe in my home.”

Beverly W.
P.S. God Bless you all!



The Gift that Keeps on Giving

There is no better feeling than providing the ability to significantly change someone's life. Imagine watching a family who has struggled economically, receive the keys to a new home, knowing you were instrumental in making it happen. And, if your gift can lessen your own tax burden, all the better!

Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity has MFA-approved Affordable Housing developments that may directly receive donations from the New Mexico State Tax Credit Program. Donations from individuals and businesses aid in constructing affordable housing statewide, offering a 50% state tax credit based on the donation's value. Donations made directly to Habitat for Humanity - may include land, buildings, monetary funds, or services.

Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity is finishing up a neighborhood in the Clifton/Williams neighborhood of southeast Albuquerque. This development was awarded substantial tax credit incentives as part of the 2022 New Mexico Affordable Housing Tax Credit Program. The purpose of the tax credits is to enable us to generate contributions to assist with new construction of a neighborhood for households with incomes at or below 60% of the Area Median Income. Our next developments - 62nd and 64th Streets, will also offer this incredible incentive to donors.

"The New Mexico State Tax Credit program has singularly been the most beneficial aspect of our new construction fundraising campaign," said Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity Director of Development, Liz Vincent. "It provides our donors with an incredible incentive to increase their giving while receiving benefits on their gifts, annual distributions, and planned gifts. We could not have planned or started construction on our newest neighborhood on Clifton Southeast without the program."



The Gift that Keeps on Giving

State Tax Credits

DID YOU KNOW?

You can financially support affordable housing in Albuquerque and receive a credit on your NM state taxes.

ATTENTION: Individuals and Business Owners

Through the New Mexico State Tax Program, all donations of \$1,000 or more, designated to new construction in our San Jose neighborhood will receive a credit voucher from the NM Mortgage Finance Authority for 50% of your gift amount.

Contact Liz Vincent at the Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity for more information Liz@HabitatABQ.org or call **(505) 359-2423**.

Provide low-income homeowners the keys to their new homes and receive the key to your tax savings.

GAHH Welcomes Two New Employees

One of the most important characteristics of a new employee for Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity is a person's commitment to our mission. They must have an abiding passion for helping our community and understand the vital importance of affordable home ownership.

In April and May of this year, we were so fortunate to find two such people to run our new CDBG funded Critical Repair program in Rio Rancho, Bob Dreyer and Toye Adams.

Bob joins us as the Project Manager who possesses many decades as a contractor running his own successful business. His job is to assess potential repair projects to determine if they meet the requirements and securing licensed contractors to complete the work for us. This program is open only to low-income homeowners in Rio Rancho.

Says Bob, "I retired after 40 years in the trades and running my own construction company for 16 years. Now, I get to use my skills and experience to help low-income families and seniors remain in their homes knowing they are safe and secure. It's so extremely rewarding."



Toye joins Bob as the Administrative Assistant for the Construction Department. She is working closely with both Bob and our Construction Manager, Rick Crouse, to assist homeowners to file their paperwork for the grant program and coordinating project assessments for Bob and Rick, keeping Bob and Rick organized (a hefty responsibility alone 😊).



Her excitement at being a member of the GAHH team is palpable and truly reflects her approach to life - "My role in this world is service. I go out of my way to help people because my heart grows when I can bring a smile to their face. In knowing that I have, in some way, reduced the stress in their life and provided a measure of comfort to them, is my joy. Habitat allows me to fulfill this internal desire because we do this for people."

Please be sure to welcome Bob and Toye if you see them out and about or if you come by our offices. We are thrilled to have them on our team.