



Greater Albuquerque  
**Habitat**  
for Humanity®

# E-Newsletter

February 2025



**every  
home**

is a building block.



# GAHH Calendar Year End Roundup – How Did We Do?

As a nonprofit, year end giving is always a vitally crucial time of year for creating financial support for our programming and operations.

The time between Giving Tuesday and our year end appeal determines the financial health of the mission as we lay the foundation for not just the final half of this fiscal year, but also the new fiscal year, which starts every July 1st.

We always promise our supporters fiscal transparency so you can rest assured, your gifts are well-stewarded. Here we will recap exactly how your support impacted our organization and how much we raised thanks to friends like you.

## **Giving Tuesday:**

Giving Tuesday was celebrated later in 2024, on December 3rd. This is a national day of giving in which most nonprofits appeal to their constituencies in campaigns meant to trigger a sense of unity for a multitude of special missions nationally.

This year, GAHH had a goal to raise \$50,000 in gifts earmarked for our two program areas (new Construction and Home Preservation), though many donors designated their gifts as “where needed most.” We raised a total of \$56,010.55, exceeding our goal by 112%! We are so thrilled with this result and can’t thank all our supporters enough.

## **Year End Appeal:**

Beginning on December 4th, we reached out to you to ask for your help in providing a home for a family or home repairs to low-income seniors, veterans, and those with physical and financial challenges.

Again, we had a goal to raise \$50,000 in this campaign. When all gifts were tallied after the first of the new year, we raised \$120,685.76, exceeding this goal by 240%! Phenomenal!

In fact, these two campaigns were so successful, we opened a brand-new program, Critical System Replacement, filling a much-overlooked need of low-income seniors, families and veterans in both Bernalillo and Sandoval counties.

This program is designed to provide homeowners assistance with roof, HVAC, windows, water tanks, and other “critical systems” in their homes to keep them safe, secure and able to remain in their homes.

It is so gratifying to know that our donors always step up when we appeal to them. That is why we take a different approach than many nonprofits and do not inundate our friends with monthly appeals during the year. We want you to know that we are sensitive to your financial capabilities, that many of you support other valuable missions and that our primary responsibility is always to your fiscal stewardship and transparency.

As we close the books on another successful year end campaign, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all of you who support us throughout the year, in myriad ways. We are beholden to you as you are the reason we continue to not only build new homes but provide free repairs on older homes for low-income families, seniors, veterans, and those with physical and financial challenges. Together, we are a formidable team!

# A Night of Hope and Giving Returns

As you know, every year, Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity hosts our singular fundraiser, Raising the Roof. The event, over the years has evolved from a Saturday morning breakfast to an evening event, changing venues and improving the program, to keep it fresh and exciting.

This year's gala will be held on Saturday, May 17th for the first time, at Sandia Resort and Casino, from 6:00pm to 10:00pm. We will offer a scrumptious dinner, cocktails and dancing to Albuquerque Jazz Orchestra (<https://www.albuquerquejazzorchestra.org/music>), the first time live music will be included in the program.

Gone is the auction, both silent and live but in its place, we're raffling off a 1927 Buick Master six classic car. We'll also have a few other special raffle gems for you to win.



We're selling only 250 raffle tickets (\$100 each), so your chances of winning are superb!

The evening will see our "Volunteer of the Year" award winner and our "Contractor of the Year" award winner and beautiful recap of our program accomplishments that will inspire and gratify you for supporting this vital mission. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased at <https://habitatbq.org/raising-the-roof-2025/>

Sponsorships and tables are still available as well.

We hope you can join us for A Night of Hope and Giving at Raising the Roof 2025. It will be magical!





# Our Preservation Repair Program

Meet Oscar Guardado-Juarez, our new Preservation Repair Program Manager. Oscar was an employee in our ReStore for almost a year and 10 months before we learned of his experience with home building and remodeling. Since breathing new life into this essential role in October of 2024, he has managed to remodel 10 homes and has several more projects in the works. His goal is to complete 30 projects annually.

Check out the after image of a recently completed project. This photo details an ADA-compliant ramp that Oscar re-built from wood sitting atop cinder blocks, complete with a wheelchair ramp and a new set of stairs.

Upon completion of the rebuild, it was re-painted to match the aesthetics of the home, in addition to choosing quality decking that also complimented the look and feel of the homes' exterior.



The grateful homeowner was overjoyed with the work Oscar and his crew performed stating, "This ramp was not safe prior to Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity's services. While we had several of our critical systems repaired, we could not afford to have this ramp re-built and were not able to perform the remodel ourselves. We are so thankful for the work done. Not only is this ramp built to code, but it also really adds to the curb appeal of my home!"



GAHH is extremely excited for the future of this program under Oscar's management and expertise. We are actively working to grow both our Home Preservation Repair volunteers and staff, so if you are interested in volunteering, please visit this link: <https://habitatbq.galaxydigital.com/>

If you're looking for really rewarding work and you have a construction or repair background, we have job openings for both a Home Preservation Repair Supervisor and Home Preservation Repair Coordinator.

For additional information and instructions on how to apply, go to: <https://habitatbq.org/who-we-are/careers/>



# The Gift that Keeps on Giving

## State Tax Credits

DID YOU KNOW?

You can financially support affordable homeownership 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, 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](mailto: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 to Fill Another Vital Need in Community

Just imagine you're a senior citizen living on a low fixed income and you need a new roof or HVAC system. How will you pay for this? Or perhaps you're a disabled veteran unable to manage living in your own home because you've recently been confined to a wheelchair – your counters are too high, or you can't fit through the door of your bathroom. How will you ever find a contractor who will get quality work done at a price you can afford when you can't afford anything?

Enter GAHH Critical Systems Replacement (CSR) program. Designed to replace a home's interior systems such as HVAC, windows, roofs, bathroom retrofits/repairs and even installation of ADA necessities, CSR will provide home repair services to qualifying elderly, disabled, veteran and/or cost-burdened lower income Bernalillo and Sandoval County homeowners living in mostly older residences.

For qualifying homeowners, this free program provides a variety of services, including air conditioning and heating, water tank, and roof replacements, windows and sliding doors, ADA compliance and Health/Safety related improvements such as garage door replacements, ramps, and decking/stairs. (Note: Due to the cost and complexity of the processes, mold or lead remediation will not be covered).

Here is an example of one homeowner who was helped through the program, in their own words:

*"I am a 74-year old Vietnam veteran who worked stateside feeding troops before their deployment from Fort Lewis Washington. I had trauma as a child and was never able to read or write from that time on (my ex-wife writes this). However, I learned mechanics and construction and worked on led crews throughout my career, once my time in the service ended. In the early 2000's, I developed a seizure disorder which left me unable to work and on disability permanently.*

*My house was built in 1980 and in January of 2024, my 40-year old furnace died. After having my furnace replaced by another nonprofit, Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity arrived to assess the other needs left unaddressed in my house. They replaced my roof, two skylights that leaked and all of my gutters.*

*Habitat was by far the most professional and competent to take this big project from A to Z."*

A final excerpt from our homeowner's letter:

*"The entire team that works with the Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity, understand that these are exemplary people who genuinely care about serving this community. The greater Albuquerque community is very fortunate to have Habitat for Humanity, who have decades of experience, in our midst. They did a beautiful, fabulously professional job of installing the new skylights, removing and drying in, and shingling the roof. The team from Habitat for Humanity were in and out throughout the process, attending to business like good stewards of business do.*

*This is a heart warming story of community service with an organization that has decades of experience serving communities across the United States and abroad. All is well now for this disabled, Veteran, homeowner. The owner of the home is comfortably dried in and will stay dry for years to come.*

*Thank you Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity. Kudos to you."*



# GAHH to Fill Another Vital Need in Community

Stay tuned for public announcements of when this incredible program will be available to our neighbors in Bernalillo and Sandoval counties. As for us, we are deep in fundraising mode to establish a war chest. Our goal is to raise \$250,00 for the program's first operating year. We humbly ask for your support in this effort.

