



WE'RE DOING IT TOGETHER!

November 16, 2023

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Habitat of Sonoma County Is Turning 40



Our affiliate was formed in 1984 by a group of Sonoma County volunteers dedicated to ending poverty housing in our county. Within the first **seven years** dedicated community volunteers completed 18 rehabilitated homes, and in 1991 we built the first Habitat home for Efren C. and his family within one week, with the help of the Methodist Church organizing a "blitz build."

Because of our supporters, several things have happened along the way, and I'd like to share a few, well how about five.



In 1991 we built the first Habitat home in Sonoma County for the Efren C. family. With the support of



Meet Judy M. and family. She fled

the Methodist Church, Habitat initiated a 'blitz build' and in just one week-built Efren's family's home.

"A lot of people have dreams to have a house. It's so hard for low-income. The experience we had changed our lives," said Efren C.

Funding and Building the first home was the result of individual donors, grants, volunteers, and donations of services & materials.

Each home is a community project.

Kenya to seek asylum in the US after losing her home and daughters father to violence.

She worked hard as a nursing assistant and shared a room with her daughters in a crowded house where her girls were sick frequently.

After completing her 500 sweat equity investment and attending Habitat's financial education classes Judy and her daughters received the keys to their new home in 2016.

"I want you to know that your gift to Habitat for Humanity changes lives —and sometimes saves them." Judy M.

Judy's girls followed in mom's footsteps and went into the medical field and became doctors. When the time was right Judy sold her Habitat home with the help of Habitat to another family in need.



Habitat Gets a ReStore

Volunteer extraordinaire, AKA "**Mr. Habitat**," Jack Blankenship, started Habitat ReStore out of his garage in 2003 by soliciting for and selling building supplies, vehicles, and home furnishings. You name it, he sold it, with all proceeds going towards Habitat's mission. You name it, he sold it, with all proceeds going towards Habitat's mission.

Now, 20 years later, and with Jack's guidance and determination, ReStore is a 4x Bohemian Best of Resale Store offering 28,000 sq. ft. of shopping for home and work items.

The Habitat/ReStore family team dearly misses and honors Jack every day.

[Habitat ReStore 1201 Piner Rd., #500, Santa Rosa](#)



Habitat Receives NBBJ's 2022 Gives Award

In November 2022, Habitat of Sonoma County was named one of the North Bay's most philanthropic non-profit organizations making the area a better place to live by North Bay Business Journal. With your support we made a significant impact in 2022. Thank You!

[NBBJ 2022 Gives Award](#)



HABITAT'S Up n'Coming 4-unit Build

Spring 2024, Habitat will start laying the groundwork for a four-unit development in the heart of downtown Sebastopol. And all four homes are designated as affordable housing.

The homes are located at 333 N. Main Street, a half mile from the Sebastopol Plaza, business district, parks, outdoor events, farmers market as well as multiple school locations, public transportation, grocery stores and retail shops. It is an excellent location for the development of new housing opportunities for low-income, first-time home buyers. Soon, four local families will know the joy and comfort of living in a safe and affordable home.

[Stay up to date](#)

Become a monthly donor and make a difference!



start a monthly gift 

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VOLUNTEER



Donate A Car

Our "Cars for Homes" car donation program is a great way to get rid of your old vehicle and ensure



 **POPPY BANK**

that we have a world where everyone has a decent place to live! We accept almost all types of vehicles, including cars, trucks, motorcycles, recreational vehicles, and construction equipment.

When you donate your car to Habitat for Humanity, you're helping us build homes alongside Sonoma County families. [I want to donate my car.](#)



Volunteer

- Volunteer at ReStore - Habitat of Sonoma County's retail outlet benefiting Habitat's programs.
- Support Volunteers – Office volunteers, ambassador volunteers, grant writing.

Contact us at vol-email@habitatsoco.org.

Become a Habitat Partner

Join Habitat partners such as Medtronic, Friedman Brothers, Poppy Bank, just to name a few, in supporting home builds.

For partnership opportunities, please contact Jacqui Salyer @ j.salyer@habitatsoco.org.



Shop at ReStore

- New and gently used household items.
- 28000 sq ft. sales floor.
- New donated items daily.
- Proceeds benefit Habitat programs.
- 4-time Bohemian "Best Resale Store"
- Donate to ReStore.
- 1201 Piner Rd., #500, Santa Rosa
- [What's ReStore?](#)



Habitat Maui Fire Update

On August 28, devastating wildfires hit three cities on the island of Maui: Kula, Kihei and Lahaina.

Amongst the three, the most devastating occurred in Historic Lahaina where thousands of structures were damaged or destroyed resulting in families, businesses and communities losing everything overnight. Much of Lahaina has been virtually wiped out.

Many homes on Maui are multigenerational households, common given Hawaii's housing crisis. The disaster left thousands of residents displaced, including our very own partner families. The Lahaina wildfires wiped away all 10 homes our team, partner families, volunteers and community built in Kahoma Residential Subdivision.

The destruction caused by these fires is truly heartbreaking. Habitat for Humanity Maui stands with the community and is committed to supporting those affected by the disaster.

Together, we will (re)build homes,
communities and hope.

[Disaster Relief](#)



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