

## THE PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

## Congratulations Volunteers!

19 Volunteers are Honored with  
the President's Volunteer  
Service Award from 2019 Hours

On Thursday November 12th, we safely gathered to honor the hard work of our volunteers. 19 Volunteers were awarded with the President's Volunteer Service Award which reminds us, 'one of our Nation's greatest strengths remains the compassion of our everyday citizens, who give so willingly of themselves and their lives for the benefit of others.' We are honored to have so many dedicated men and women who believe in our mission and regularly support our work in the community with their time and commitment.

Our Construction Manager, Tim Crozier is thankful for all the construction Loyal Volunteers who are a vital role in our building production. "We appreciate all these volunteers because they truly are an extension of our staff. If it wasn't for you all, we'd be pulling our hair out trying to get it all done, so thank you!"

The power of volunteering benefits our organization as well as the volunteers themselves. Research shows that volunteers of all ages enjoy better health, more stamina and lower stress. One of the volunteers reflected on his

### Gold Awards:

Paul Stauffer  
Steven Lux

### Silver Awards:

Brian Stormer  
Dave Claes  
Dennis Oleksuk  
John Ohlman  
Ray Dietrich  
Steve Schadelbauer  
Steven Johnson  
Thomas Sheridan  
Wayne Welker

### Bronze Awards:

Bob Darlak  
Ed Upton  
Emory Pope  
Mark Hilkert  
Mary Verstraete  
Okey Wise  
Robert Nitzsche  
Tom Marttala

time saying, "What I have experienced here working with these men and women has saved the second part of my life in a way. It has nourished a feeling that has been missing for a long period of time especially in these times. Thank you all."

Our volunteers enjoy their time working with each other and form bonds of friendship. In accordance with the Stay Home Advisory issued by Summit County Executive, Ilene Shapiro, Habitat for Humanity is cancelling all volunteer groups through December 31, 2020. This includes both build site, and ReStore volunteers. We wish we could continue to provide volunteer opportunities for volunteers, especially through this difficult and lonely holiday season but at this time we must protect and prioritize everyone's health.

Volunteers, we look forward to joining you again in 2021 and will miss you dearly! We wish you all a Merry Christmas and happy holidays. Thank you for your commitment to building a world where everyone has a decent place to live.



## what does 'home' mean to you?

#giving tuesday

### Donate to Build Hope

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

This year has been hard on everyone across the world. This Giving Tuesday we ask; **what does home mean to you?**

Home means more now than it ever has. It's the place you have found comfort, safety, love, and refuge. Donate to help provide safe affordable shelter for a family In our community.

**Two easy ways to donate:**



**Online**  
[hfsummitcounty.org/givingtuesday/](https://hfsummitcounty.org/givingtuesday/)



**By Mail**  
 2301 Romig Rd.  
 Akron, OH 44320



**75 HOMES**  
 BUILT & REHABBED



**150 HOMES**  
 REPAIRED



**1,000 LIVES**  
 CHANGED



**10,000 VOLUNTEERS**  
 MOBILIZED

## Community Leaders Discuss Affordable Housing

[hfsummitcounty.org/imagineimpact/](https://hfsummitcounty.org/imagineimpact/)

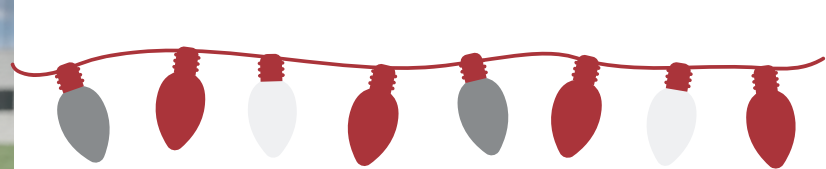
Watch all the videos in our series launching our 5 year Imagine Impact campaign. Learn more online and join the movement!

**The Role Affordable Housing Plays in Job Stability**  
 Nick Browning, Akron Region President Huntington National Bank

**Affordable Housing Affects on Children's Health**  
 Grace Wakulchik, President and CEO of Akron Children's Hospital

**How Affordable Housing Affects Our Kids Education**  
 Dr. David James, Akron Public Schools Superintendent

**How Community Partnerships Build Hope**  
 Ken Babby, Owner and CEO of The Akron RubberDucks



## online holiday store

apparel, accessories, and safety

Shop for your holiday gifts on our online store! 10% of each sale is donated to our homeownership program here in Summit County. These quality items support our mission and help advocate for affordable housing in your community.

## advocate for hope

shop online: [habitatholidays2020.itemorder.com/sale](https://habitatholidays2020.itemorder.com/sale)





**Roberta Dorkoff,**  
**Volunteer Manager**  
 330.745.7734 x211  
 robertad@hfhsummitcounty.org



**Tim Crozier,**  
**Construction Manager**

## All Volunteers Cancelled Thru 2020

**Virtual Volunteers needed** to create Donor Bios and product information sheets for the ReStore. Contact Roberta for more information.

**Children's Volunteer Opportunity:** Children can color and decorate welcome home cards for our homeowners to receive on dedication day. Cards can also be decorated to thank our volunteers.



### Tim's Tip

"Never shake varnish before using. Shaking creates bubbles. Always stir!"



## How to Support Habitat from Home

1. Follow us on social media.
2. Share our posts and newsletters with your friends and family.
3. Donate to our mission.
4. Pray for our organization and our mission locally and worldwide.



@HFHSummitCounty  
 @HFHSCReStore  
 @ReStoreSummitCounty

## Build Update

Three of our East Avenue homes are at the drywall phase.



## A Christmas Prayer

In a world where worry, not peace, prevails, stir up that good news again. This Christmas, make it real in our hearts. Never have we needed Your joy and peace more than now. Thank You for the gift of Jesus, our Immanuel, the Word made flesh. Forgive us for forgetting—that Your love never changes, never fades, and that You never abandon the purpose for which You came: to save us from our sinful condition, and to give us life eternal, the joy of relationship with a holy God. Your birth—and Your death—sealed Your promise to us forever.—

Amen.

By: Rebecca Barlow Jordan

<https://www.countryliving.com/life/g30243110/best-christmas-prayers/?slide=4>



Dear Habitat Supporters,

Over the past several months, conversations about diversity and inclusion have become a common occurrence in our country. Habitat for Humanity's mission statement calls us to put God's love into action by building homes, communities and hope. The staff and Board of Habitat for Humanity of Summit County believe that in order to truly live out that mission we must address our commitment to building hope for those in our community who have been systematically disadvantaged.

Habitat for Humanity of Summit County is committed to providing affordable housing programming for Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) and individuals of all races and ethnicities. We believe that affordable housing is a basic, fundamental right of every single person who shares our great community with us. We know that stable shelter represents transformational change for families and our neighborhoods.

Today we are proud to share the following Diversity, Equity and Inclusion statement with everyone who supports our organization. It outlines our history of service to the BIPOC community as well as our commitment to continue working towards creating a diverse and inclusive organization. We are proud of the legacy that Habitat for Humanity of Summit County is building, and look forward to doing more to create a more equitable community. As always, we thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Rick Dodson  
President, Board of Trustees

Rochelle Sibbio  
President & CEO, Habitat for Humanity of Summit County

**View Entire Statement Online**

[www.hfhsummitcounty.org/2020/11/23/diversity-statement/](http://www.hfhsummitcounty.org/2020/11/23/diversity-statement/)



Frank has said that “working full-time and doing sweat equity hours can be a challenge, but the rewards make it worth the sacrifice of your free time.” Completing sweat equity has given Frank self-confidence and proven that he is able to handle the responsibility of homeownership. He has learned to stay focused over time to complete a goal.

Frank would like to thank the volunteers for sacrificing their time and energy to allow him to become a homeowner. He is thankful that the business partners are supporting an organization that seeks to bring communities together through volunteering to create functional living spaces at affordable prices.

Frank believes that “home is a warm friend that always welcomes you at the end of the day. Home means family, a safe place to be yourself, and the only spot where you can feel truly free to laugh, cry, and reflect.” Frank is looking forward to having a basement to keep his exercise equipment so that he is able to complete his physical therapy at home. He is also looking forward to having a yard to enjoy. Staying in shape is necessary to keep his autoimmune disease under control. Frank will also appreciate having a home that is more efficient and air tight since he also suffers from dry skin. Frank thought due to his circumstances that homeownership was unattainable. Habitat for Humanity has allowed his dream of homeownership to come true.



**Kim Kerr, Family Services Manager**  
kimk@hfhsummitcounty.org  
330-745-7734 ext. 207

## Interested in building a home with Habitat for Humanity?

**Learn more and apply here:**

[www.hfhsummitcounty.org/about-habitat-for-humanity/programs/apply-for-a-habitat-home/](http://www.hfhsummitcounty.org/about-habitat-for-humanity/programs/apply-for-a-habitat-home/)

## Partner Family Highlight: Frank

I would like to highlight one of our Partner Families, Frank. Frank grew up in Garfield Heights with his parents, Sharon and Ronald. Frank has three brothers, Ed, Joe, and Steve, his fraternal twin. During his high school years he played baseball and basketball. Frank excelled in school and after graduating from High School attended Miami University studying Chemical Engineering. He transferred to Cleveland State University earning his degree in Education.

Frank worked in pharmaceuticals for 9 years before going on disability in 2017. Frank's brother Ed is a pharmacist in Columbus. His brother Joe is a technology teacher in Sylvania. Frank's brother Steve is a CPA working at Sterling Jewelers. Currently Frank is living with his brother Steve in Macedonia.

Frank has an autoimmune disease that saps him of energy. This requires him to need to plan his days evenly to accommodate this disability. Fortunately, Frank is a home body who likes to learn new things, watch documentaries, and play board games. He also enjoys reading, listening to podcasts and nature. On the weekends, Frank can usually be found watching football.

While attending Miami University, Frank heard about Habitat for Humanity when he volunteered to work on rehab homes and newly built homes. Frank continues to volunteer with Habitat as he works towards homeownership. Frank completes his sweat equity requirement using his technology skills helping in our office. Frank actually had his own small business in the dotcom era setting up computers and networks but chose to focus on his degree at the time. Frank hopes to improve his health and work again in the IT field with a more flexible work schedule. Frank also enjoys working with his hands and has volunteered to help build picnic tables in two family picnic table build days.

# Habitat Homeowner Corner

## No Upcoming Partner Family Classes

### Partner Family Builds:

December 5th and December 12th  
Please contact Roberta to sign up.

### To our Habitat Homeowners,

We know how difficult this time has been during the pandemic and we want you to know we are here to continue to be your partner in homeownership. Now more than ever, it's important to maintain open communication with us so we can find ways to assist you if you are having challenges in making your mortgage payments on time. Our goal is always to find solutions that meet the best interest of your family and our organization at the same time. As we have journeyed with you into homeownership, we want to continue to lift you up in sustaining it for many years to come.

If you are in need of a conversation about your payments, please contact either Kelley Busson, Director of Finance at 330-745-7734 x 201 or Rochelle Sibbio, President & CEO at 330-745-7734 x 203 so we can work one on one with you for a solution.



2301 Romig Road Akron, OH 44320  
restore@hfhsummitcounty.org  
330-745-9098

**Always Open to the Public**  
Wednesday - Friday 8AM-6PM  
Saturday 8AM-4PM



## Safe, No-Contact FREE PICK UPS in Summit County

Schedule a Free Donation Pick Up in Summit County Online at [hfhsummitcounty.org/restore/](http://hfhsummitcounty.org/restore/)

**\*Donations MUST be in a garage or outdoors for a no-contact pick up\***

### Donation Drop Offs Accepted:

Monday & Tuesday 8AM-3:30PM  
Wednesday - Friday 8AM-6PM  
Saturday 8AM-4PM



## MASKS ARE REQUIRED

for shoppers, volunteers, visitors and staff in our ReStore, offices and worksites.



### Do you get our weekly ReStore emails?

We send out weekly emails with highlights of new merchandise and offer exclusive coupons. Sign up online at [hfhsummitcounty.org/restore/](http://hfhsummitcounty.org/restore/)

**\$10 OFF \$30**

**Expires: 12/31/2020**

Some exclusions may apply. Not valid beyond expiration date. Must show coupon at checkout to receive discount. One per customer. Cannot be combined with any other promotions.

