



- Donate
- Shop
- Volunteer

2341 2nd Ave., Des Moines
Across 2nd Avenue from
North High School

Store Hours:
MONDAY - SATURDAY
9AM - 6PM

515-309-0224

All proceeds benefit the mission of
Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity!

Find out more about our new
Tool Lending Library at
www.gdmhabitat.org/restore/tool_library.php



Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity (GDM Habitat) partners with our community to provide self-help homeownership opportunities for low-income, working families. Qualified applicants contribute 400 hours of sweat equity, complete the 'Blueprint to Homeownership' course, and purchase their home with a no-interest loan from GDM Habitat for the cost of land and materials. Volunteers provide labor to build the homes. They help our partner families create a brighter future and break the cycle of poverty housing.

framework

For more information or questions about content in Framework, please contact Beth Gibbins at 515-309-0224 x 116.

www.gdmhabitat.org

Preparing for the Big Move



Above: Jackhammers seemed to be the right tool for 'groundbreaking' at the 2200 E. Euclid location. Below: ReStore Director Lane Stumme tours the future Habitat ReStore site with his crew.



To say that we are busy preparing for the move to our relocated facility would be an understatement! From keeping the remodel on track (along with the 25 houses we are building and renovating this year) to strategizing how to move a whole store and construction company is quite an undertaking.

Our new location will be at 2200 East Euclid in Des Moines. It should be easy to get to from most of the city, as it is right at the intersection of Interstate 235 and East Euclid. **The move is slated for mid November.**

FUTURE LOCATION:



FRAMEWORK

Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity
2341 2nd Ave.
P. O. Box 716
Des Moines, IA 50303

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Des Moines, IA
Permit No. 4142

Winter 2011



FRAMEWORK

A publication of Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity

It Starts at Home

For more than two decades, Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity (GDM Habitat) has been building homes and changing lives. With the help of thousands of caring volunteers who have given their time, money, sweat and prayers, GDM Habitat has opened doors, created new opportunities and helped over 160 Des Moines low-income families make their dreams of homeownership come true.

GDM Habitat is now embarking on a whole new level of mission that will provide critical funds for the revitalization of not only homes, but entire neighborhoods, and the relocation of the Habitat ReStore, further impacting the Greater Des Moines community through the 'It Starts at Home' campaign.

'It Starts at Home' focuses on three main components: expanding the opportunity for homeownership, reaching out to more homes than ever before, and strengthening the home base.

Homes and Land

Increasing the annual number of houses built and rehabilitated by more than 20% will allow GDM Habitat to provide 135 families and their children over the next five years the opportunity to achieve their dreams of homeownership and break the cycle of poverty.

Building homes.
Transforming neighborhoods.
Changing lives.



Continuing to build new construction homes and complete major rehabilitations, oftentimes on bank foreclosed properties, will allow Habitat to help build successful homeowners and impact the lives of hundreds of children over the next five years.

Neighborhoods

Des Moines City Council member Christine Hensley has seen GDM Habitat change and grow over the past several years. As someone with the best interests of Des Moines citizens in mind she says, "Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity has been working for more than 20 years to provide affordable homeownership opportunities in Des Moines. The need for safe, affordable housing is great and Habitat has continuously been a catalyst for change in Des Moines' neighborhoods."

GDM Habitat will strive to continue to be a catalyst for change, and directly serve more than 700 families. Entire neighborhoods will experience an increased pride and perception, a more attractive neighborhood and a safer community through a comprehensive development approach and GDM Habitat's Rock the Block™ activities.

Facility

The renovated facility (estimated to open in November) will house Habitat's administrative offices, the Tool Lending Library, construction operations, and an expanded Habitat ReStore. The 36,000 square foot building allows for an expanded Habitat ReStore with more than a 100% increase in store floor and storage space for building material donations.

A relocated and improved Habitat
Continued on page 2



Greetings from our Executive Director

Transformation and change all starts at home. **Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity's (GDM Habitat) comprehensive capital campaign "It Starts at Home" is about utilizing the amazing benefits of homeownership as a trampoline with low-income families to reach new heights and to transform entire neighborhoods.**



While too many low-income families in the Greater Des Moines area live day-to-day on the financial edge of catastrophe (more than 16,000 metro families are cost burdened with their housing, up 20% since 2000), waiting by the edge with a safety net never moves the family a safe distance from the edge. When GDM Habitat is able to come alongside the low-income family, encourage them onto the trampoline, provide financial and homebuyer education, invest in sweat equity and self-worth, then the family is able to spring to new levels away from the edge and seek their God given potential.

For 25 years, GDM Habitat has worked with individual low-income families creating 168 homeownership opportunities that provide a hand-up. Recently, GDM Habitat has developed its **Rock the Block™** program. When combined with a focused approach to **GDM Habitat's homeownership program** and targeted bank foreclosed properties, Rock the Block™ is an import piece to creating a trampoline effect for entire neighborhoods. Through Rock the Block™, GDM Habitat has provided more than 175 existing neighborhood homeowners the critical repairs, weatherization improvements, and property beautification that build pride in themselves and their neighborhood. **GDM Habitat's Housing Outreach** has connected more than 400 residents to existing housing services. Additionally, the recent addition of the **Tool Lending Library in GDM Habitat's ReStore** provides neighborhood residents the opportunity to check out the tools needed to maintain and upgrade their homes.

GDM Habitat has been blessed with amazing supporters that share both their time and financial resources to make sure we have a solid trampoline to changes lives and transform neighborhoods. A few of the important springs in GDM Habitat's trampoline include Wells Fargo, Principal Financial, Kemin Industries, the Polk County Housing Trust Fund, the City of Des Moines, collaborative non-profit partners, and a number of truly amazing and caring individuals.

Thank you to all those that have made contributions to the "It Starts at Home" campaign. We are 75% of the way to the campaign goal. We need help from all of you to reach our campaign goal to continue and grow strong, excellent programs that will serve as the trampoline to change lives and transform neighborhoods. Consider adding a spring to the trampoline that allows families, children and neighborhoods to reach their God given potential. Please take a moment and prayerfully ask – "What will you build?"

In Partnership,

Lance Henning
Lance Henning,
Executive Director

Psalm 18:30-33 ~ God's way is perfect. All the Lord's promises prove true. He is a shield for all who look to him for protection. For who is God except the Lord? Who but our God is a solid rock? God arms me with strength, and he keeps my way secure. He makes me as sure-footed as a deer, enabling me to stand on mountain heights.

It Starts at Home - Continued from pg 1

ReStore facility will increase the material diverted from the landfill to over 2,000 tons a year and is estimated to double the net annual benefit to Habitat's mission. The relocated facility will provide additional space for homebuyer education classrooms, in-kind donation storage, and year-round construction activities.

Kristi Knous, President and COO of the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, recognizes the importance of affordable homeownership, saying, "Affordable housing is a key base of stability in our community. Habitat for Humanity provides much needed access to affordable homeownership." She also notes that Habitat's focus on rebuilding neighborhoods helps to enhance quality of life.

The 'It Starts at Home' campaign is truly an investment in helping to make a 'greater' Des Moines.

Ways You
Can Give



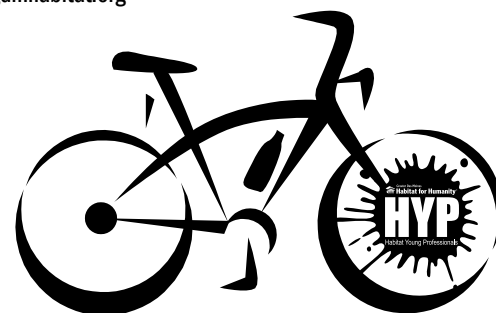
*It Starts
at Home*

Cash Gifts

Appreciated Assets

Gifts In-Kind

Please contact Patrice Maurer, Development Director, at 515-471-8686 x 102 or pmaurer@gdmhabitat.org. Or go to www.gdmhabitat.org to donate online.



Tour de Habitat

A Bike Tour of GDM Habitat's 25 Years in Des Moines

On Saturday, October 8th GDM Habitat and our local Habitat Young Professionals (HYP) chapter hosted the First Annual Tour de Habitat! Tour de Habitat is a family friendly ride that took participants on a six mile bike ride through some of the neighborhoods that Habitat has impacted most in its 25 years.

Riders spent time in the King Irving, Mondamin Presidential, Drake, and Riverbend neighborhoods while getting a glimpse into Habitat's new construction, major rehabilitation, and Rock the Block™ activities. Some of the stops included; the 1st Habitat home in Des Moines, the 100th Habitat home, the two LEED Certified homes, and the neighborhood revitalization that has taken place in the Drake neighborhood over the last few months.

After the ride participants were invited to a post-party reception where they learned more about HYP. Thank you to all those who rode the Tour de Habitat!

If you are interested in joining HYP please contact Danielle at 471-8686 or hyp@gdmhabitat.org!



Above: Justen Jones, Kevin Powell, and Sarah Meylor visit one of GDM Habitat's 25 build sites for 2011. The bike tour visited past and present Habitat sites around the city.

A Foundation Built on Partnership

Partnerships have been a key part of Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity's growth over the past 25 years. One of the partners whose financial assistance has been the foundation to help Habitat grow its mission is the Polk County Housing Trust Fund.

The Polk County Housing Trust Fund addresses issues surrounding the basic need of access to safe, stable and affordable housing. Since its inception in 1995 the Trust Fund has focused on developing affordable housing and funded over 9,600 housing units, including; new construction, rehabilitated units, and apartments. Throughout that time Polk County Housing Trust Fund has also provided operational and program support to GDM Habitat, helping to create the groundwork on which Habitat has been able to positively impact the greater Des Moines community.

Eric Burmeister, Executive Director of the Polk County Housing Trust Fund recalls that "GDM Habitat has been a long standing partner with the Trust Fund in providing affordable housing opportunities to families in the area who are capable of owning and maintaining their own homes."

Over the years the partnership has changed and grown to encompass new partnerships and help to launch new programs, like GDM Habitat's Rock the Block™.

This September, the Trust Fund provided the opportunity to expand GDM Habitat's Rock the Block™ program to the Ingleside area of the Drake neighborhood. Rock the Block™ provides a holistic focus on neighborhood revitalization by providing exterior repair, weatherization, and beautification to current homeowners within the neighborhoods that Habitat already focuses on through new construction and major rehabilitation.

Through a partnership with the Trust Fund, Wells Fargo, the City of Des Moines, and Rebuilding Together, GDM Habitat became the catalyst to organize the Rock the Block™ event that took place from September 29th through October 1st that impacted 29 families and two

neighborhood public areas.

Burmeister notes that, "Habitat has proved itself to be a capable manager. Its successful management of Rock the Block™ events with Wells Fargo and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans makes it a natural choice for community leadership where multiple agencies associate under a common cause."

"The mission of the Polk County Housing Trust Fund is to allocate limited community resources in order to increase and maintain an inventory of affordable housing units," says Burmeister. "Habitat continues to focus its efforts in these areas and is becoming a larger community player." With the assistance of the Trust Fund and other like-minded agencies and community partners, GDM

Habitat plans to continue to function as the bridge, connecting those in need to those willing to make a difference.

As GDM Habitat enters its 26th year, it will continue to rely on community partnerships as a way to carry on meeting the need for safe, affordable housing and neighborhood revitalization in Greater Des Moines. One partnership that is sure to stand the test of time is that with the Polk County Housing Trust Fund.

By the Numbers...

- Number of Rock the Block™ Projects in the Drake Neighborhood: 31
- Number of Volunteers: 500+
- Number of Partner Organizations: Four (PCHTF, Wells Fargo, City of Des Moines, and Rebuilding Together)
- Number of tons of retaining wall block: 41
- Number of tons of concrete recycled: 8
- Number of compost bags used: 80



Above: Eric Burmeister, Executive Director of Polk County Housing Trust Fund (right), visits with Grandview Student Joshua Swinnie, PCHTF Intern, and homeowner Mary Moore-Johnson during the 2011 Drake neighborhood Rock the Block™ event.