



A Message from our CEO

Habitat Families Received the Keys to Their New Homes

We are so happy for our newest Austin Habitat homeowners as they spend their first beautiful spring season in their brand new homes. I want to congratulate Tequila, Jose & Mercedes, Lernis & Yaima, Viorica & Vladimir, who just closed on their homes. Here is what they have to say about their homeownership journey:



Tequila says, "It's challenging being one person having to do everything for two people plus myself, but if you want something, you are going to work for it. You are going to push and work harder to get what you want." That is precisely what this single mother did for her daughters. She worked hard to give

them not only a home but all of the opportunities that go with safe, stable housing.

Jose & Mercedes came to the United States to better provide for their family scattered across the globe. Now they can help their children and grandchildren with the money they are saving with their affordable mortgage. They now have a home that their family can come to visit once the pandemic is over.

Viorica and Vladimir are happy that their new home is within walking distance of their child's school. Viorica can go and help her child's teacher when they are back in the classroom teaching. They can also have even more family time as they walk to and from school together for years to come.

Lernis & Yaima emigrated from Cuba to have more opportunities for their growing family. Having a family was their dream, and after moving to the United States, they were blessed with a son. This year, they can now start their new life in their new home alongside their two-year-old son.

More than ever, families need the security and stability of a decent home that they can afford. The uncertainty so many of us feel today, far too many families have felt for a lifetime — if not generations. When any disaster hits, it is always those who struggle most who suddenly find themselves struggling even more. Austin Habitat for Humanity has the opportunity to play a part in helping families change course. This spring, we provided homes to five children, seven immigrants, two grandparents, and a single mother. Thank you for helping support these homeowners receive the keys to their brand new home.

Communities Coming Together To Build Futures

Our community members are rolling up their sleeves and coming out to assist on our Community Builds while staying safe and following COVID restrictions. We are grateful for the support surrounding us and the love from the community. We need your help to keep providing affordable housing solutions for families in Central Texas, especially during the pandemic.

We are so excited that our Spring Build Season is off and running. The walls of our Community Build, our 25th Catholic Build, and on our 500th Home have been raised. We will soon be raising the walls on our San Marcos Community Build in the coming weeks.

Austin Habitat is so blessed with the incredible support of the Catholic Community for providing homes to Austin families since 1998. This year as we celebrate building our 25th home alongside them, we are grateful for Bishop John E. McCarthy, who started this build and his long-lasting legacy.

A special thank you to Tom Helmer & Doug Raymond, who have been our Habitat Angels while building these 25 homes. We are humbled by their support of Austin Habitat for Humanity.

"It is unbelievable to me that we have built 25 homes! This started off as a humble idea from Bishop McCarthy to build a home for a family in need. He is smiling down on us, and I can hear him saying to us 'Well done, good and faithful servant.'" says Doug Raymond, Site Lead for the Catholic Build.

Tom Helmer, Site Lead for the Catholic Build, said, "I am always in awe of the dedication of the people who come to build these homes year after year. Also, those who are will either give their time, talent, or treasure to make it happen. I will continue to do it as I am physically and mentally able to do so because it becomes a part of who you are."

There is nothing new about the increase in demand for affordable housing in our service area. During this challenging time of the pandemic, that need has increased significantly. Austin Habitat is still relying on the community's support during this challenging time.

Austin Habitat for Humanity would like to thank all our staff, our board of directors, our REGS (regular volunteers), our volunteers, our Habitat Young Professional members, the many corporate groups, and our faith partners that have joined forces with Austin Habitat for Humanity over the last 36 years. Together we have built 500 homes and provided more than 830 affordable homes for families across Central Texas!



Austin Habitat Exclusive

Our ReStores are discount home improvement stores with a purpose. These stores help provide the resources that are needed to build cost-effective, affordable homes for our family partners. Austin Habitat for Humanity is excited to announce the opening of our 3rd ReStore in Northwest Austin this Summer. Grand Opening information will be coming shortly.



The Start of our 500th Home

This April, we raised the wall on our 500th home for future homeowners Frank and Anyelis. They believe that having an Austin Habitat home is a unique opportunity. After so many years of relocating, they are so grateful to finally have a permanent place to call home, grow their family, and have all of the benefits that come with homeownership.

The dramatic growth of Austin has exacerbated the affordable housing crisis. More than 60% of people in Travis County are paying more than 30% of their income on housing. Local salaries aren't keeping pace with increased home prices.

Austin Habitat for Humanity knows that home is the key to empowering families to overcome financial instability, stress, and impossible choices between essential needs. This is why this milestone of building 500 homes is so special to us. Through homeownership, we help strengthen families by empowering them to improve their physical health, mental health, and educational outcomes.



It Is Only the Beginning

The Home is the Key campaign reminds us all of the importance of home, and it draws on the strength and support of YOU, our tremendous Habitat community. We look forward to joining together so we can help even more families like Krushetta's know the strong foundation that a Habitat home can provide for their future. Their home is only the beginning. Watch Krushetta's story here.



Habitat Homeowner Krushetta

High Tech CEOs Join Together for Affordable Housing

The Austin tech community is committed to helping provide better solutions to the growing affordable housing crisis that this city faces. High Tech CEOs partnered with Austin Habitat for Humanity to start the dialogue about why their companies are helping provide solutions for this crisis and how others can get involved. To watch this community conversation, head to this link.

Thank You to Our Community Partners That Help Us Provide Brighter Days



Thank you to our spring partners for your support of Austin Habitat for Humanity to help build brighter days for our future homeowners. We could not build affordable homes for our partner families without your generous support.