



Newsletter Edition

October 2011

Building Together

## Annual Report Highlights

The annual meeting of the Board of Directors was held on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The following Board Members were installed: Ann Marie Howard, President; Timothy Hawkins, President Elect; William (Bill) Farmer, Secretary; Richard Smith, Treasurer; Preston Smith, Jr.; Sue Cumbie; Greg Mihalic; John Harrison; Edwin Ray Goodgame; Kelly rice; Thomas Singleton; and, Reverend Felix Ramirez. The 2011-2012 Annual Report was given, and the following are excerpts:



### FAMILIES SERVED

- We placed 16 families in affordable homes:
  - \* 8 new homes 7 in Lake County (2 are handicap accessible); 1 in Sumter
  - \* 4 rehabilitated homes: 3 in Lake County ; 1 in Sumter County
  - \* 4 NSP homes in Lake County
- These 16 homes provided sanctuary for 20 adults and 32 children!

### NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PROGRAM (NSP)

- Habitat has continued to partner with Lake County in purchasing and refurbishing homes. Our participation with NSP has allowed us to place a total of 8 families into homes over the past 2 years.

### DEVELOPMENT OF THRIFT STORES

- Once again, our 4 Thrift Stores covered all of our administrative costs through the sale of donated goods. This allowed 100% of all financial contributions to go directly towards providing homes for those in need.
- We purchased a new facility in Groveland that will enable us to relocate our store, and improve and expand operations in the South Lake community.



### GLOBAL MISSION

- To date, our affiliate has supported the building of 113 homes in other countries through our tithe to Habitat for Humanity International.

We look forward to many new and exciting opportunities. There are countless families throughout Lake and Sumter Counties in need of decent and affordable homes. We hope that you will continue to support our mission through your prayers, service, and generous gifts.



## Jim Fischer, CEO-Discusses Move to Rehab Projects

During the fiscal year 2010-2011, our affiliate placed 16 families into homes, and next year we hope to place 18 families into Habitat homes. In recent years, we have modified our construction approach to include the purchase of existing homes in need of rehabilitation. This adjustment has proven to be cost effective, socially responsible and has been met with enthusiasm from our partners, volunteers, staff and homebuyers.

As we move forward, this will continue to be an emphasis for our affiliate. During these economic times, we have been able to purchase, renovate and provide affordable houses for qualified homebuyers at less expense than the construction of a new house. Ultimately this approach saves them on their monthly mortgage payment.

Thank you to all the donors who made life a joy for 16 families this year. As an affiliate, Habitat promises to continue to be good stewards of your gifts, making each dollar go as far as possible. Thank you to all the volunteers, who work tireless hours on each home, making sure that families have houses that are not only well constructed and energy efficient, but are also beautiful.

We at Habitat look forward to another year of working with each one of you towards the goal of making sure each person in our community has a simple, decent place to call home.

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### Electronic Newsletter

In an effort to be good stewards of our donated resources, we are going to provide an electronic email version of our newsletter which will be emailed rather than mailed. It will contain the same information as the printed version and will also have links to our web site and social media.



We hope that as our email list grows, we will be able to send out the electronic version more often, keeping our donors and volunteers "in the loop".

**If you have an email address, please consider providing it on the enclosed envelope and accepting an electronic newsletter.**

Habitat will continue to send out a printed version to those who would prefer.

## We're Growing Again... Groveland Store Moves

**Bigger! Brighter! More Merchandise!**

On **Sept. 23rd** our new store in Groveland located at **205 Woodfield Ct., Groveland** opened for business. Store hours will be Monday through Friday 10 AM to 4 PM and Saturday from 9 AM to 3 PM. The **GRAND OPENING** will be held **October 21st at 10AM**, with local community leaders and the general public invited to attend. Please come out and support our new store.

Call 352-429-9052 to schedule a donation pickup.



**THANK YOU**  
to the  
**MANY**  
**WONDERFUL**  
volunteers  
who helped set up



## Connect with Us Online

We are now on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. You will be able to keep up with our activities on a regular basis by going to these sites.

Check out our web site at

[www.habitat-lakesumterfl.org](http://www.habitat-lakesumterfl.org)

From there you will be able to follow the icons to our social media sites. **We hope that you will "friend" us and encourage others to do the same.** In the coming months, staff will be in the stores and on job sites to help you **GET CONNECTED**. You can see what is going on, and share your own stories and pictures as well. See how others are partnering with Habitat and share your excitement for the mission with the rest of our community!

**We want you to  
GET CONNECTED!!!!!!**

## Volunteer Online Registration

As we move into the fall build season, we want to make sure that we have enough volunteer help on each job site AND enough work materials

for the volunteers that will be there. **It will help the staff if you pre-register so that we will have an idea of who is coming each day.** You can pre-register through the weekly email or by going to the web site. Click on the **Volunteer Now** icon and it will take you to our weekly calendar and an opportunity to pick your volunteer days. As we grow as an affiliate, it is becoming very important to have a head count for our job sites.

**THANKS for helping us by registering today**

**Volunteer  
Now!**

## Individual Donors and Lowe's Sponsor Habitat Women's Build

You might not realize how important your individual donation could be to a family. However, **YOUR** contribution is EXTREMELY powerful when combined with others.

This year, your individual donations combined with a \$5,000 gift card from Lowe's, sponsored a house for Tanya Smith and her three children. Area women provided volunteer labor on this house renovation, including all repairs, painting and beautiful landscape. The Lake Sumter Community College baseball team put up the new fence and laid the sod.

Tanya's children had a wonderful time at the house dedication picking out their new rooms. Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible with your financial contributions and volunteer help.



## Affiliate Vision for 2011-2012

- Serve a minimum of 18 families
  - \* Focus on purchasing homes for rehab
  - \* Build a limited number of new homes
  - \* Develop a pilot project for "A Brush with Kindness"
- Continue to purchase land for future home construction
- Diversify funding sources to ensure long term affiliate sustainability
- Support the four thrift stores to
  - \* Increase our presence in our service area
  - \* Increase funds raised to support our mission
  - \* Provide opportunities for volunteer service

## Partnership Idea!!!! - Matching Gifts

**Did you know** that roughly 10 percent of all corporate philanthropy is through matching gifts, and about one in every 10 gifts to a nonprofit is eligible for a match? Many people do not realize that their employer may match contributions for Habitat. Most corporations will match gifts made by their employees (and some retirees) to nonprofit organizations. Wouldn't it be great if your \$50 donation was really worth \$100?

The process is simple: ask if your company has a Matching Gift program. If so, obtain a matching gift form through your personnel office or matching gift coordinator, fill it out completely and send it along with your contribution to us at PO Box 186 Eustis, FL 32727. If you have difficulty finding match information, please call the office at 352-483-0434 and we will help you locate match data for your company.



*Make your gift work for you!*

**Check with your company today and increase your donation power !!!!!**

## Gifts With Purpose

You can honor a friend or loved one by making a contribution to Habitat in their name. They will be notified of your generosity, and you will receive a confirmation along with your tax receipt. Your **Gift with Purpose** will support families in our community who are in need of decent and affordable homes. A **Gift with Purpose** is the appropriate gift for any recipient and occasion and is an ideal last-minute gift.



Need a gift :  
 In honor of someone special  
 In memory of a loved one  
 As a holiday gift

**Honor Gifts** may be given to celebrate a holiday, birthday, anniversary or other special event to recognize a family member, boss, friend or respected community leader.

**Memorial Gifts** may be given in memory of a departed loved one at the time of death or on the anniversary of their death.

**Holiday Gifts** may be given on any holiday occasion for those on your gift list.

All **Gifts With Purpose** are acknowledged through notes of appreciation to the recipient and/or family members. You may use the envelope enclosed with this newsletter to make **"the gift that keeps on giving"**.

## Affiliate Needs—Ways YOU Can Help!

The new Groveland facility is 2 large buildings. We need a **forklift** to move merchandise within the store and between the two facilities. We have obtained prices for used **forklifts** (between \$6,500 and \$10,000.) Do you have a **forklift** you would be willing to donate? Would you be willing to help with the cost of a **forklift**? Please call the office at 352-483-0434 if you can help.





Habitat for Humanity of Lake-Sumter FL, Inc.  
PO Box 186  
Eustis, FL 32727-0186

NON-PROFIT  
STD. MAIL  
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Mid Florida

Current Resident or

**Joy**



**Compassion**



**Together**

**Partnership**



**Family**

What word describes Habitat for you?