2023/2024 ANNUAL REPORT



A report to partners, investors, supporters, friends, and volunteers



Habitat for Humanity of Butte County brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope.

### Strong and stable homes help build strong and stable communities.

#### **Dear Habitat Friends and Supporters,**



As I look back on the last 6 years since the Camp Fire, I think about the importance of *partnerships and what critical roles partners play in making wonderful things happen.* While we have always had partners, the Camp Fire redefined, enlarged, and enhanced the important role that partnerships have played in supporting Habitat's impact in Butte County.

With capacity building support from the most amazing partner to *EVERYONE*, North Valley Community Foundation and Habitat International, we have been able to increase our home production by 300% - from 2 homes a year to 8 homes in 2024. We know that these homes come from the hearts and hands of such a wide swath

of partners that they are an essential ingredient, not only to the affordable housing needs of our community, *but the sense of community for all.* 

Our incredible board members and dedicated and committed staff propel us forward as we continue to fine tune our operations to build more homes with more families, more volunteers, and more partners. To highlight just a few: our local jurisdictions, state, and federal legislators; the local businesses that donate time, supplies, funds, and other support; volunteers; individual donors; Home Depot Foundation; Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS); and Wells Fargo Bank.

We hope you enjoy reading our report and will join us as we take on the next year!

Sincerely,

Nicole Bateman

# With a little help, we all have the potential to stand on our own.



#### Greetings!



I have worked with Habitat for over 30 years—helping to start our local affiliate as a member of Bidwell Presbyterian Church in 1992 and then circling back after I retired in 2017 to rejoin the Habitat Board.

My memories are many, starting with the several years it took to complete our first home on Ivy Street and then seeing the Beller family pay off their mortgage in 2022. The Camp Fire and the tremendous support—nationally and locally—**that allowed us** 

to help Habitat grow to provided affordable home ownership for 17 families, almost all survivors of the fire.

Even though I leave the board at the end of 2024, I will continue to be involved through a variety of committees and maybe we'll run into each other helping another partner family build a place to call home.

Hom Hanger

Tom Hayes President of Habitat Board

## Homeownership Through housing, we empower

Habitat's focus on homeowners expanded as we continued to examine the essential aspects of sustainable homeownership and our connections to the communities in which we build.

The highlight of the Habitat year, of course, are the families who received keys to their new homes. While this would not happen without all the work leading up to the dedication day, these celebrations remain the impetus for everyone.

One new homeowner, Star, told us, "Our journey will transition from mere survival to truly living. I eagerly anticipate the prospect of achieving a work-life balance that enables me to spend more time with my family, granting me a sense of independence and self-sufficiency."



#### Outreach:

We expanded outreach by participating in various community events, including Ampla Health Fairs, Cesar Chavez celebrations, and veterancentered events.

## We also developed an online application form, simplifying the process for individuals applying for a Habitat home.

We hosted an event at one of our homes that had been designated as a "Wildfire Prepared Home Plus" by the Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS). We partnered with them to demonstrate how everyone can build in a fire resistant way.

We affirmed our commitment to building Habitat homes that comply with the requirements of the Plus designation, which includes cover gutters, enclosed underside of eaves, noncombustible exterior wall cover, fireresistant windows, and noncombustible decks, and keeping accessory structures at least 30 feet from the home.

#### Staff:

An added improvement came with a staff Loan Processor, Andrea Pearsall, who is responsible for submitting all homeowner loans and staying informed about new first-time homebuyer opportunities that can benefit our future homeowners.

#### On-going:

Supportive services for current homeowners continue with a variety of programs. One area of significant growth is our housing counseling services which have grown by 50% as we work with families to develop community connections and get resources they need as homeowners.

### Wildfire Prepared Home Plus Guest Speakers



Daniel Berlant State Fire Marshal



Greg Bolin Paradise Vice-Mayor

## Volunteers

## The heart of Habitat

Volunteer Coordinator Cory Beynon continued to enhance the volunteer program by earning a Certificate in Volunteer Management through Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI). This additional training led to increased volunteer participation. Some of this year's volunteer groups include Home Depot, LuLus, and the Nor Cal Roller Girls. More volunteers resulted in a hefty jump in volunteer hours--nearly 6,300 hours. The impact of increased volunteers is helping us get more homes built.





#### Veterans:

Working closely with leaders of various veterans' groups, Habitat continues to set aside a specific day for veterans to volunteer. The 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance, is a heartfelt opportunity for us to honor not only those we lost but also the brave souls who continue to uphold our safety and freedom—our cherished veterans, dedicated military families, first responders, and the unsung heroes in our communities.

#### Language:

To improve communication with volunteers and staff, Benyon connected with Spanish language proficient volunteers to assist with translation, both in the office and on construction sites.

#### ReStore Volunteer:

In collaboration with the Career Center at Butte College, Beynon placed a volunteer in the ReStore for 150 hours of work which led to a scholarship through the Dream Act Incentive Grant Program. This highlights the impact our volunteer partnerships have on individual growth and education.

#### Traveling Volunteers:

We organized multiple groups from outside the area to travel to Paradise to volunteer, and coordinating their efforts with other local non-profits for multi-day volunteer initiatives. This taps into a population of volunteers who are free to travel and are looking for service opportunities.



Like other Habitat volunteers, I have learned that our greatest blessings come when we are able to improve the lives of others, and this is especially true when those others are desperately poor or in need.

**President Carter** 



**Home Depot** 



LuLus



Nor Cal Roller Girls



Veteran's RED Day of Service (Remember Everyone Deployed)

## The ReStore

### Donate, shop, volunteer

The ReStore continues its expansion by developing new relationships with retail giants to purchase truckloads of overstock and then offering these items at 40 to 50 % off. This initiative boosts profitability, generates additional capital by selling high value products, and has increased our customer base.

We continue with one of our core values of sustainability by establishing partnerships with Chico Creative Reuse and the Smash House.



#### **Key Achievements:**

- Donation Intake: The ReStore increased donations this year by over 20%: 4,250 delivered donations and 293 donations were picked up from individuals and businesses.
- Recycling Revenue: Continued the partnership with Novelis, the world's largest aluminum recycler. We collected and recycled aluminum, which resulted in an additional \$6,973 in revenue.
- Customer Experience: Introduced a color-coded discounting policy to increase merchandise turnover, enhancing the customer shopping experience.
- Seasonal Hours: Implemented a summer schedule, opening from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. during June, July, and August. Winter hours are 10 a.m to 6 p.m.
- Paint Sales: Both recycled and new paint sales grew this past year: Sold 1,195 gallons of donated paint and 1,219 gallons of recycled paint.
- Vocational Training: Collaborated with Dreamcatchers and AARP to provide vocational training opportunities for 9 individuals.

With the generous support of the community, the ReStore has grown significantly in both income and sustainability, and the resulting funds are critical to support Habitat's mission of building homes, strengthening communities, and fostering hope.

### every shopper, donor and volunteer is helping to fulfill Habitat's mission



Manager Oliver Allen with Mike Murphy

#### A Happy Customer:

The Chico ReStore is a well-managed establishment where a friendly and helpful staff is always ready to assist customers. For those who love finding great deals, this is the perfect destination. Moreover, every purchase and donation directly supports Habitat for Humanity in building more homes with affordable mortgages. - Mike



## Women Build

### Engage, mobilize, train

The 3rd year of Habitat's Women Build Fundraiser continued to grow like a beanstalk! Total funds raised were 41% greater than last year for a grand total of \$45,260 for one weekend in May.

Sponsorship jumped nearly 50%, while peer-to-peer donors grew by 62% for a 44% increase in funds. Participant registration increased by over a third.

This is a significant event in terms of growing community involvement, financial impact, and positive publicity. We cannot over-estimate the value of our partnership with Becky Prator Realty and the expanding support from our local business community. Next year's plans include a bigger and even better Women Build in May 2025 when we will be working on a five home subdivision in Chico.

This year the Women Build Fundraiser was a tremendous success,

with both participation and funds raised surpassing previous years. Despite varied weather—sunshine on Friday and a storm on Saturday—everyone came prepared and accomplished a significant amount of work.

- We had 52 participants.
- We nearly doubled donations to \$38,025 in business sponsorships from 31 companies along with generous in-kind donations from Upper Crust, Beatnik's, and Save Mart.
- The event generated \$1,960 in registration fees, \$4,240 from peer-to-peer fundraising, \$750 in donations from non-participants, and \$325 from staff fundraising.
- The Women Build made \$45,300, marking a 41% increase over last year's total.

Next year's Women Build Fundraiser is scheduled for May 2nd & 3rd in Chico. To get on the interest list, scan the QR code.













## Financial

## A hand up, not a handout

#### Power of 100

Many thanks to the local chapter of Power of 100 +, a local giving circle of like-minded women raising, pooling, and granting money together, joining forces to maximize their giving.

Their support provided a new construction trailer and an onsite storage unit at our Chico office We use the trailer at multiple sites to store tools and materials to reduce prep time and minimize trips to the main construction site. This improved storage system saves money and reinforces sustainability.

#### Thank you, Power of 100+ Women, for helping us build more efficiently!

#### **Annual Realtor Golf Tournament**

One of our longest-term partners of community fundraising is with the Paradise, Oroville, and Sierra North Valley Realtor's Association. For the 9th year in a row, their hard work and dedication raised significant funds while helping to share Habitat's stories of success with the community. All proceeds from the tournament directly support affordable housing efforts right here in Butte County.

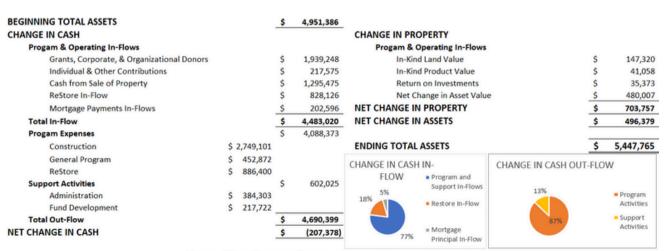
#### We are incredibly grateful to all that make this event possible.

#### **Donation of Lots**

Our work in Paradise has been enhanced by people donating lots to offset the costs of construction.

Liz Webster and Calvin Hamilton donated this year, noting "When we decided not to rebuild, the decision to donate was simple. It was the right thing to do: give another family a chance of home ownership and a fresh start."

Habitat has received 6 lots in this past year for a total of 13, a significant contribution!



For more information or questions, contact Nicole Bateman, Executive Director







**Global Efforts** 

and communities.

More than 1 billion people worldwide live in

slums and informal settlements, lacking

access to basic services like clean water.

sanitation, and electricity, and facing insecure

tenure and increased vulnerability to climate

change. These living conditions highlight the

deep inequities affecting countless families

Habitat for Humanity and its partners are

of informal settlements have a safe and

essential for health, safety, security, and

opportunities for a better future.

launching the Home Equals campaign, aimed

secure place to call home. The goal is to level

the playing field, emphasizing that a home is

at changing policies to ensure that residents

## **Habitat Board**

I joined Habitat in 2022 as a board member and Treasurer, and the experience has

been deeply rewarding. Recently, I participated in my first Women Build event, where I helped frame three walls alongside dedicated volunteers. This event highlighted the direct impact our work has on families in need of affordable housing and provided a powerful team-building experience for local organizations. I am grateful to the board, committee members, and staff for their national and to learn mo



organizations. I am grateful to the board, committee members, and staff for their patience as I have continued to learn more about Habitat, and I look forward to staying involved for years to come.

Rick Gonsalves

#### **Board of Directors**

Tom Hayes, Board President Retired, City Planner

Teresa Kludt, Vice President Retired, Attorney

Tom Baker, Secretary Retired, Paradise Attorney

**Rick Gonsalves, Treasurer** Senior Vice President, Tri Counties Bank

John Linhart, Past President Retired, City Planner

Mary Shippen, Habitat Homeowner Instructional Paraprofessional, CUSD

Carl Henker, Member Paradise Realtor

Melissa Crick, Member Executive Director Hands on Mobile Construction Training

Sean Shearer, Member Senior Architect, NorthStar

#### Habitat Affiliate Staff

Nicole Bateman Executive Director

Norman Tucker Accountant

Andrea Pearsall Loan Processor

Jenny Fales Development Manager

Cindy Webb Development & Communications Assistant

**Cory Beynon** Volunteer Coordinator

Shyla Black Homeowner Services Manager

Brixie Hansen-Judge Operations Manager

Brandon O'Rear Construction Manager

Paul Robinson Construction Assistant Manager

#### Habitat ReStore Staff

Oliver Allen Manager

Chad Slick Supervisor

David Barnes Donations Coordinator

Martin Flores Gonzalez Warehouse Associate

Joe Jones Warehouse Associate

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