



**Habitat for Humanity<sup>®</sup>**  
of Suffolk

2019-2020  
ANNUAL  
REPORT



## our MISSION

*Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope*

## our VISION

*A world where **EVERYONE** has a decent place to live*

## our PRINCIPLES

1. Demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ
2. Focus on shelter
3. Advocate for affordable housing
4. Promote dignity and hope
5. Support sustainable and transformative development

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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PSEG LI

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# a letter from our



Dear Friends,

It is with humility that I introduce myself. I have been associated with Habitat for over 20 years, first as a donor, then volunteer, Board member, Board Chairman, and now I am the CEO and Executive Director. I have witnessed first-hand many of the builds and home ownership opportunities that Habitat has created in Suffolk County, from Huntington Station in the west to Orient Point in Suffolk's east end with Wyandanch and East Quogue in between. I am proud to report that Habitat for Humanity of Suffolk recently dedicated our 203rd home in Suffolk County, providing a hand up for a hard-working family caught at the intersection of low wages, limited housing options, and the rising cost of living on Long Island.

At Habitat for Humanity of Suffolk, our vision is to create, "a world where everyone has a decent place to live." As the CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Suffolk, I work every day towards making this vision a reality. Currently, 40% of households in Suffolk County are overburdened by housing costs, which means that at least 30% of the household income is spent on housing. In Suffolk, it is not uncommon for households to spend 50% of their income on housing. This leaves families without the financial resources for their other basic needs such as food, clothing, and health care. We don't have to look far to see those in need of decent affordable housing. Many professionals on whom we depend to keep our communities vibrant, such as school teachers and first responders, cannot afford to live in Suffolk County.

Habitat for Humanity of Suffolk is built on community and we build communities. For over 31 years, Habitat Suffolk has built strength, stability, and self-reliance through affordable homeownership providing a permanent solution for families struggling to find a place to call home. Affordable homeownership is the key to building a foundation that allows families, neighborhoods and entire communities to thrive. We know the effect is more than a roof and four walls. Success in school and at work, better financial security, and improved health are what many Habitat Suffolk families experience when they finally have a permanent place to call home. This is why we are proud to fulfill Habitat's mission to, "put God's love into action, bringing people together to build homes, communities, and hope."

Supporters, like you, are the reason Habitat Suffolk homeowners have found stability and success. Our program is powered by the strength of our partnerships and your generosity. Each year thousands of individuals, hundreds of businesses, faith organizations, schools, universities, and civic groups combine sacrifice with devotion to support Habitat Suffolk through generous gifts of time, talent, and treasure. We are constantly amazed at the dedication that comes from our partner families who work so long and hard to purchase their Habitat Suffolk home, providing their own family a brighter future. It is humbling to experience such dedication and generosity.

Thank you for lending your financial support, your voice and your time to make a difference in our community. Thank you for being part of Habitat Suffolk's important mission! Great things start at home, and by supporting Habitat Suffolk you are laying a foundation of success for so many hardworking families.

Sincerely,

Lee Silberman  
CEO and Executive Director



# 200<sup>th</sup> house



In an exciting collision of major milestones and newer program initiatives, Habitat for Humanity of Suffolk gathered 30+ CEOs and top executives and funded the 200th Habitat Home in Suffolk County. This same group raised the walls on opening day in Wyandanch among their fellow Long Island community leaders.

But we didn't stop there. This project was also the Blitz Build home, Habitat's first since 2006. With the help of contractors donating their time and talents and an expeditious effort from the Town of Babylon, we built this house together from start to finish in just 3 weeks' time. We were able to welcome home Darriell Morning, her Mother Judy and Brother Travis!

**PRESENTING  
SPONSOR**



**PSEG** LONG ISLAND

**BLITZ  
PARTNERS**



Building  
from  
**Wyandanch**  
to **Westhampton**



# CRITERIA FOR HOMEOWNERSHIP

1

## NEED

Potential homebuyers might be dealing with poorly maintained, unhealthy, or overcrowded housing; unaffordable rent; inaccessible housing for people living with disabilities; or have other shelter needs.

2

## ABILITY TO PAY

Habitat offers homebuyers an affordable homeownership opportunity. The mortgage payments cycle back into Habitat for Humanity of Suffolk to help build more affordable houses.

3

## WILLINGNESS TO PARTNER

Habitat homebuyers put in 300 hours of "sweat equity," helping to build their own home and the homes of others in the program. This also includes financial fitness and home maintenance courses.

For more information on the application process, visit [www.habitatsuffolk.org](http://www.habitatsuffolk.org)



## Walter's story

22  
SATISFIED  
MORTGAGES  
TO DATE

"Michele and I have known each other since we were children. We started dating in 1978 when I took her to see the movie, 'Grease.' We rented our first house by ourselves about 10 years later and had 3 beautiful daughters. We both had good parents that never gave us any reason to think we couldn't have the American dream. So we worked hard to provide a happy home for the next 12 years. One day Michele read in the Penny Saver that Habitat Suffolk was

lasting friends, and make the best memories.

I fell in love with the Habitat concept, learning new things every time I came out to help build my house. Michele and I were right where we needed to be, building alongside people who gave so much of themselves to give someone else a better life. After volunteering for a few months, Habitat asked me if I would be interested in working part time as a Site Supervisor. The first house I supervised start to finish was the 100th Habitat home in Suffolk. I've been proud to have supervised over 35 homes since.

Michele and I have benefitted so much from having a stable, affordable home to raise our family in. Michele went back to school and earned her nursing degree, top of her class. She has been working for Stony Brook Hospital for 15 years as a pediatric nurse. Our children all graduated from the South Country School District. Jeannette and Shannon both graduated from college, and our third daughter, Tara, has been enrolled in a great program for children with special needs. In 2002 I used much of the skills I've learned working at Habitat, and a lot of help from family and friends, I put a second story on our home. In June 2019, we paid off our mortgage in full.

It's been a wonderful experience working with and for Habitat Suffolk. If you close your eyes and think about where you see yourself in 5 years or more, I hope you see yourself in a place like I see myself, working next to people who change the lives of their neighbors in ways they will never know."

taking applications for the next round of housing. At first I was skeptical that we would qualify.

In the spring of 1999, we received a call from the Director of Habitat Suffolk that we were selected for a home. I was shocked, I felt like I had won the lottery. Complete strangers were going to help us build our dream. As renters we were moving around a lot, trying to afford a space adequate enough for our family. Now, with Habitat's help, our daughters would be able to grow roots, find long





# PROGRAMS

**LEARN  
MORE**  
[www.habitatsuffolk.org](http://www.habitatsuffolk.org)  
[outreach@  
habitatsuffolk.org](mailto:outreach@habitatsuffolk.org)



## AMERICORPS

AmeriCorps is an opportunity to make a big difference in your life and in the lives of those around you. It's a chance for individuals to apply their skills and ideals toward helping others and meeting critical needs in the community. Habitat Suffolk is proud to host several AmeriCorps service members each year for 10.5 months. With AmeriCorps, we are able to build faster and farther, encouraging service-learning while improving our programs and communities.



## CARS FOR HOMES

Support your local communities in a different way by donating your car, truck, RV, boat, or even plane to Habitat for Humanity's car donation program, Cars For Homes. All net proceeds from the sale of your vehicle donation provide strength, stability and self-reliance for families across the US. Your donation could be tax-deductible and towing is always free! Visit [www.carsforhomes.org](http://www.carsforhomes.org)



## FAITH BUILD

Habitat for Humanity is an organization founded on common ground, bridging theological differences by putting love into action. Habitat founder Millard Fuller called this concept "The Theology of the Hammer," explaining that even though we may disagree on all sorts of things, we can all agree on the idea of building homes to eliminate poverty housing and at the same time help those in need. Habitat for Humanity of Suffolk welcomes people of all faiths to join hands with us and bring hope by transforming lives.



## STUDENT BUILD

We have expanded Student Build to add the middle schoolers and include financial literacy. Building off of the core principles, we now have a comprehensive approach. Students join us onsite to build, giving them a hands-on opportunity to put their love into action. Student Build also educates the younger generation of thinkers and doers about affordable housing needs and the importance of financial stability.



## SUSTAINABLE BUILDING

All of our newly-constructed homes achieve Energy Star with Indoor Air Plus ratings and are designed and built to achieve Version 3 Energy Star certification. We are adding new infiltrator septic systems, an environmentally friendly replacement to traditional stone and pipe drainfields, using an engineered geosynthetic aggregate modular design. The homes we build are more durable, healthier and less expensive to operate than conventionally built homes.



## VETERANS BUILD

Habitat affiliates across the country are doing their part to support veterans who stepped up for us. Safe and affordable housing is the centerpiece of Veterans Build. We provide volunteer experiences that bring together veterans, military families and their neighbors. These experiences help bridge the gap and ease the transition to civilian life with fulfilling community engagement. Supporting the initiative helps us provide volunteer, homeownership, and employment opportunities to U.S. veterans, military service members and their families.



## WOMEN BUILD

Women are among the populations most likely to be affected by poor living conditions. Our Women Build program provides the opportunity for women to take a proactive step in building stronger safer communities. This is an incredibly rewarding experience for all involved, and it is also a terrific way to involve your friends and family in our crucial work with lasting impact. Women helping women sends a positive and powerful message.



4,026

**VOLUNTEERS  
SERVED IN 2019**

159

**VOLUNTEER  
GROUPS IN 2019**

24,156

**VOLUNTEER  
HOURS  
SERVED IN 2019**

## volunteer spotlight

# Madeline Stripo

since 2006

"I learned about Habitat for Humanity of Suffolk when I saw a story in the Amityville local paper. I was interested in learning more so I called to talk with the volunteer coordinator. I was immediately hooked and started volunteering in 2006.

I was born and raised in Brooklyn and after I got married, my family and I moved to Massapequa and raised three beautiful children. I was blessed all my life and wanted to pass it on to others. I love being a regular volunteer with Habitat. Every volunteer day presents a unique and exciting experience. A few years ago, I was assisting with building a house out in Orient Point, and on the first day it was 8 degrees. In order to begin the task for the day we had to first hammer the ice off the framing! It was so cold, but there wasn't a single complaint. The father of the partner family brought hand-warmers for the volunteers, which was awesome. Later in the day he brought us all hot cocoa, tea, and coffee. By the time we left, it did go up to 11 degrees, but it did not matter. I had an awesome time, and it will surely be a day I will never forget.

I have met so many great people over the years. Habitat is brimming with dedicated people - both employees and volunteers. It's truly inspiring knowing how many houses Habitat Suffolk has built over the years, and I am just grateful to be putting my love into action."





# Donors

Centerport United Methodist Church  
Comsewogue High School  
Earl Vandermeulen HS  
Elwood/John H. Glenn High School  
Farmingdale College Foundation  
First Presbyterian Church of Oyster Bay  
Friends Academy  
Half Hollow Hills East HS  
Half Hollow Hills West HS  
Herricks Senior High School  
Isolation Dynamics Corp.  
LI Lutheran High School  
Mephram HS  
Ross School  
Shelter Island HS  
Smithtown High School East  
Smithtown High School West  
St. Anthony's High School  
Trinity Church-Northport  
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church-RP  
Unitarian Universalist - Huntington  
Westhampton Presbyterian Church  
Zurich American Insurance Co

ADP Foundation, Inc  
Babylon HS  
Bayport Blue Point HS  
Brook Avenue Lumber  
Coach Real Estate Associations, Inc  
Connetquot High School  
D3 LLC  
Huntington High School  
Investors Foundation  
Janney Montgomery Scott LLC  
Joan Isaac  
John Beltel Inc.  
JP Morgan Chase  
Kathryn Zaki  
Lee and Cheryl Silberman  
Morgan Stanley  
New York Community Bank  
New York Community Bank Foundation  
Newfield High School  
Old Westbury Gardens, Inc  
Petro-Long Island  
Seward & Kissel LLP  
South Oaks Hospital  
Stony Brook University  
The Stony Brook School  
Ward Melville High School

## Local & State Government Partners

AAA Northeast  
Amneal Pharmaceuticals of NY, LLC  
H2M Architects + Engineers  
Henry Schein  
Lowe's  
People's United Community Foundation  
Signature Properties of Huntington LLC  
The Barbara Herbert Jordan Revocable Trust  
The M&T Charitable Foundation

1k+

2.5k+

5k+

Donation statistics Fiscal year 2018-2019  
Number of donors - 645  
Median donation amount - \$100



County of Suffolk  
New York State Affordable Housing Corporation  
State of NY Mortgage Agency (SONYMA)  
Suffolk County Land Bank Corporation  
Town of Babylon

Town of Brookhaven  
Town of Huntington  
Town of Islip  
Town of Islip CDA  
Town of Southampton

Albanese Organization Inc  
American Regent, Inc  
Brookhaven Science Associates, LLC  
Citrin Cooperman & Company, LLP  
Clever Devices Ltd  
Habitat For Humanity Cars For Homes  
Kate W Cassidy Foundation  
The Robert Allen Durable Group, Inc  
The TJX Foundation, Inc  
Zebra Technologies Corporation

Charitable Foundation  
PSEG Long Island  
Sterling National Bank

Island Outreach Foundation  
Riverhead Building Supply

100  
k+

10  
k+

20  
k+

Bank of America Charitable Foundation  
Bank of America Corp

50  
k+



Together we do more than just build houses...

# Collaborate

## ADDED TO THE TAX ROLE

Every time we complete a home, it is added to the tax role. For example, our two most recent completed Wyandanch homes now return, in total, over \$20,000 annually in property and school taxes.

## BRAND RECOGNITION

Habitat for Humanity was named 'Brand of the Year' in Social Services Nonprofit category based on the 2016 Harris Poll EquiTrend Study. In addition, Habitat earned the distinction of being named the "Most Loved" and "Most Trusted" brand within its category.

## REMOVAL OF BLIGHT

More than just building homes, we lift up the communities in which we build. We remove the eyesores and put in their place energy efficient, quality, and affordable homes for deserving families to cherish. More often than not, our homes inspire others in the community to update their own homes.

## VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION

Partnering with Habitat Suffolk brings the entire town together through community involvement. Onsite volunteer opportunities for groups are available to our partners. No experience is necessary, we will teach you all you need to know!

# Financials

## TOTAL EXPENSES\*

**\$4,339,790.00**

### Home Construction

\$2,091,566.00 48%

### ReStore

\$1,461,002.00 34%

### Management & General

\$453,906.00 10%

### Fundraising

\$333,316.00 8%



**TOTAL REVENUE\* \$4,027,465.00**

\*For Year Ending 6/30/2018





# ReStore®

## Habitat for Humanity of Suffolk

*"As a Real Estate agent and home owner,  
I am always going to Restore.*

*I have never walked out without  
something and their supply changes  
daily.*

*Plus I feel good that I am  
doing my part in helping  
Habitat for Humanity by  
purchasing  
items there first."*

- Malinda

**\$47.08**  
average sale

**\$1.6**  
million  
total sales

All items in the ReStore are  
considered new or like-new,  
and are all priced nearly  
60% off retail cost!

**150,697**  
items sold

Every purchase made at the  
ReStore not only uplifts your  
home, it allows us to build  
homes for families needing a  
hand

You never know what you need  
until you see it at ReStore. We  
sell building supplies, plumbing,  
kitchens, lighting, paint, home  
decor and more.

**Follow us**  
on our socials,  
where we post new  
stock daily

@suffolkrestore



@LIRestore



statistics based on sales 2018-2019





**HABITAT SUFFOLK**  
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# Everyone deserves a decent place to Live

## CONTACT US

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Habitatsuffolk

