

Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity

Our History:

The Articles of Incorporation for Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity (PAHH) were approved in October 1989. **The mission of PAHH is to bring people together to build homes, communities and hope while seeking to put God's love into action.** PAHH serves an area of western Yavapai County, AZ (a rural county of 8,125 sq. miles in the mountain heart of north central Arizona) that includes Paulden, Skull Valley, Diamond Valley, and the four municipalities of Prescott, Prescott Valley, Chino Valley, and Dewey-Humboldt. PAHH's application for HFHI affiliation was approved in September 1990, and construction on our first house began in the same month. A \$10,000 loan from HFHI was seminal to the successful completion of that house, and the loan was repaid in March 1994.

Sound governance was insured by the establishment of a Board of Directors, which now includes 12 members, appropriate committees (11), and an administrative team comprised of an executive director, director of resource development, director of volunteer services, construction manager, office manager, director of communications, Re-Store manager, faith relations liaison, family services coordinator, and home restoration program coordinator. Tithing has been an integral part of PAHH's 24-year history, and our tithe to Kenya has more than tripled the number of homes built in their local service area.

In Nov. 1998, PAHH opened its first home supply business in a 1,360 sq. ft. store front facility. We moved into a 14,600 sq. ft. building in Dec. 2003, and our Re-Store sales revenues pay the majority of administrative costs, allowing most donations to PAHH through fundraising, grants, events, and state tax credits to go directly toward building homes. Our Re-Store staff members have developed extensive relationships with small business, corporate, and restaurant donors throughout our community, which continue to result in donations to our Re-Store.

From its inception, PAHH has endeavored to communicate its mission and achievements to the public. Our newsletter, "The Builder," was begun in 1990 and currently has a circulation of 1,500 (and is available electronically). Our website, www.prescotthabitat.org, was established in 2002 and redesigned in 2009; it now has an active blog and Facebook page. Our "Builder's Club," "Volunteers with Habitat," "Home Restoration," and "AZ State Tax Credit" brochures are distributed to thousands of individuals each year.

PAHH is currently working under the direction of a 2010-2013 Strategic Plan, the principal goal of which is to increase our building capacity. With awards of several Community Development Block Grants, Federal Home Loan Bank grants, and a SHOP grant, PAHH has been able to purchase property and build in areas previously not affordable to us. PAHH received 5 *Thrivent Builds Homes* grants between 2007- 2011 which, with the aid of 4 local Lutheran congregations, increased our building capacity by one house each year.

We collaborate with MI Windows & Doors, whose annual golf tournament proceeds go directly into building houses. Proceeds from Toolbelts and Tuxedos (T & T), our annual fundraising event, continue to be designated for building houses.

PAHH has initiated a Home Restoration Program to provide assistance to approved individuals and families who own their home by providing and mobilizing volunteers and business partners to assist homeowners who because of age, disability, or family circumstances struggle to care for their home.

In 2009, building capacity increased with grants from the Del E. Webb Foundation and the Prescott Jewish Community Foundation. In 2010, PAHH launched a successful capital campaign, “High Five! For Habitat,” to build 5 houses in Chino Valley’s Bright Star development for 5 families by raising \$500,000. A Yavapai County Community Development Block Grant award helped purchase the land and Federal Home Loan Bank, Wells Fargo, State Farm Insurance, and Margaret T. Morris funds contributed toward the campaign. The last two Bright Star houses were dedicated in June 2012. Our Madison Park Cottages project was launched in 2012 to build 6 clustered homes in downtown Prescott.

To date, PAHH has completed 74 houses in Yavapai County’s “Quad-City” area, and they have been home to 125 adults and 202 children.

July 31, 2013