



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

## Will you help us reach our goal in 2021?

### HOPE BUILDERS CLUB



Our regular donors are affectionately called our "HOPE BUILDERS". This group of committed supporters pledges an annual amount which is EFT drafted on a recurring schedule of their choosing. This helps Habitat plan the budget and provides stability during turbulent years such as 2020. It will also allow us to build an additional home each year once we meet our goal of \$60,000 pledged per year!



**A monthly gift adds up to a lot of hope for families right here in Blount County.**

**THROUGH SHELTER, WE EMPOWER**

## Meet Future Homeowner, Dashawnda



Dashawnda has lived in Alcoa for 27 years and attended Alcoa Middle school and High Schools. She is now mother to three children ages 10, 7, and 4. Dashawnda dreams of becoming a homeowner and providing more stability and safety for her family.

She worries about the safety and health of her family in their current housing situation. The house is small for her family and the basement is a concern because it floods and often has standing water in it.

Her family and friends referred Dashawnda to Habitat, after seeing the new homes Habitat has been building in the Alcoa area. She was accepted into the Habitat Program in August of 2019 and has been attending education classes and doing sweat equity since. Some of her favorite classes have been the budgeting classes.

Dashawnda is looking forward to being a homeowner because owning a home helps her provide a steady life for her and her children. She is excited to see the look on her children's faces when she can tell them...

**"This is your forever home".**

# Home Repair Projects



## Lundy Ramp Project

Take a look at these before and after photos of a recent front deck replacement that was performed through our Home Repair Program. What was once a dangerous entrance to the home, is now a safe, code-compliant, means of egress that will last for years to come. Thanks to Broadway United Methodist Church for being willing to serve by volunteering to perform this project.

## Black Sidewalk Project

Take a look at these before and after photos of a recent front deck replacement that was performed through our Home Repair Program. What was once a dangerous entrance to the home, is now a safe, code-compliant, means of egress that will last for years to come. Thanks to Broadway United Methodist Church for being willing to serve by volunteering to perform this project.



## Our support took a massive hit, but the need has only increased

As we begin 2021 with much hope and optimism for the future, we also reflect on the challenges we and many others endured in 2020. Last year brought with it many lessons about perseverance, flexibility, and ingenuity. We experienced uncertainty and stress in our fundraising plans, massive revenue loss at our ReStore location, and a halt to our volunteer building projects. Our homeowners too were facing crisis as many were impacted by furloughs, lay offs, or reduction in work hours as a result of the pandemic.

In the face of these many challenges, we saw our team pull together like never before and dig deep to make sure that we supported our clients new and increasing need. When things changed, we found creative solutions and adapted quickly to shifting demands. What inspired us all was seeing our community and communities across the world come together to meet needs. We saw compassion like never before. We saw our



volunteers even more inspired to 'get back to work' once we found safe ways to do so. We saw employees nimbly adapt and innovate to meet ever-changing demands. And we saw extraordinary generosity from our donors.

We have some rebuilding to do in 2021 and your support will be more important than ever. Thank you for helping us reach the milestones and weather the challenges below. It is only because of the generosity and kindness of our donors that we have been able to persevere.

## MILESTONES

- Completed construction of 2 affordable homes
- Completed over 100 critical home repairs for 30 income-qualified households
- Began constructing 2 new homes in our brand new subdivision
- Secured grant funding to help our existing homeowners who had suffered income loss due to COVID
- Provided services to 15 households who qualified for COVID related mortgage assistance
- Provided our clients with regular communication about available crisis services and resources

## CHALLENGES

- Unable to hold 3 out of 4 of our fundraising events resulting in a loss of 64% of our expected event revenue
- Lost 32% of average annual revenue at our ReStore due to closure and reduced traffic
- Experienced a 30% reduction in corporate support and sponsorship
- Lost 4 months of work at our construction sites
- Saw over 5,000 fewer volunteer hours than the previous year
- Served increased need for affordable housing and critical home repairs in our community

# Volunteer Highlights - Nancy Zambell

## THANK YOU NANCY!

Here is a little about this fantastic woman and volunteer –



I'm Nancy Zambell, Owner/Broker at Tennessee Mountains Realty Group in Maryville. I'm a recent transplant to this beautiful area, having moved from Fairfield Glade (Cumberland County) in January. I've been in the real estate field for more than 15 years, and I love helping buyers and sellers move onto their next adventure!

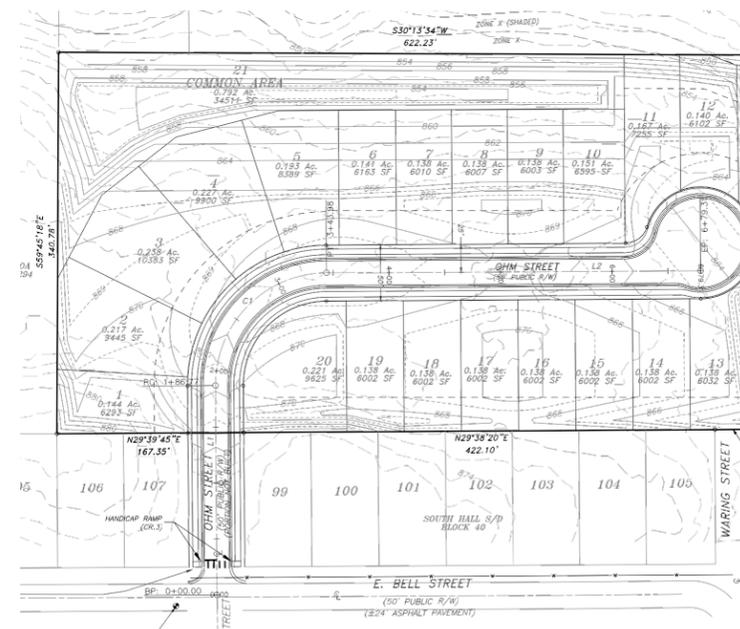
Additionally, I have been writing investment and financial newsletters, and speaking at national conferences for more than 30 years.

I've also written recipe and real estate newspaper columns, and have just begun a new "Real Edvice" column in the Maryville Daily Times.

I love to hike, travel, and cook; and, of course, volunteer in our community. I have been a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity for many years, slinging a hammer at women builds in Putnam, Cumberland, and Blount Counties, and was best known for my baked ziti at the Cumberland County Habitat Lunch on the Lawn!

Habitat is a wonderful organization, helping thousands of families to keep their families safe and secure in their own homes, and I'm proud to be a small part of that effort.

# Hall's Place - Collaborative Development



We are thrilled to announce that after purchasing a tract of property off Ohm Street in Alcoa back in July 2018, we are ready to break ground on the first of 20 planned affordable homes to be built in partnership with Foothills Community Development Corporation. The process of developing this tract included clearing the land and completing grading work as well as installing improvements to include electrical, sewer, and streets to the City of Alcoa's requirements. Once this work was completed, we underwent final plat approval with the city and then it was able to be recorded. We are so excited to begin construction the first home in this development directly.



## Volunteer Opportunities

The ReStore is seeking volunteers to help with intake and processing of their generous donations. Please contact Fred Plummer at [fred@blounthabitat.org](mailto:fred@blounthabitat.org) if you have interest in helping.

## Our Board of Directors

- |                           |                                |                  |                 |
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