

Neighbors Helping Neighbors



Mission Statement

South Shore Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit, ecumenical, Christian-based organization dedicated to building simple, decent homes in partnership with families in need.

WHY ?

- In Massachusetts at *least* 41,000 school-aged children and youth are homeless at any point in time (a conservative estimate, due to a variety of factors).¹
- Massachusetts is the *second least-affordable state in the country* when comparing Fair Market Rent for two-bedroom apartments.²
- Median single-family house sales price for metropolitan Massachusetts is \$402,000³. The cost of a South Shore Habitat home is typically under \$130,000, resulting in a monthly payment of under \$700.
- Ending substandard housing is a matter of conscience and action. As Habitat for Humanity founder, Millard Fuller, says: homeownership is not a luxury, it is a basic human right.
- Single-family homes at affordable prices for working families offer a multitude of benefits for all. Some advantages our local families have experienced include:
 - Increased confidence (both parent's and children's)
 - Improve children's health by having yards for them to play in
 - Boost children's performance in school
 - Break the cycle of poverty
 - Know they have a safe, reliable home that is not controlled by a landlord
 - Invested and involved in their community

WHO ?

- Business and civic organizations come together to sponsor homes and events, participate in Build Days and offer in-kind services.
- Small teams of volunteers, called Local Partnership Committees, organize in each community to develop the financial foundation for a home and increase awareness.
- Hundreds of volunteers join construction efforts at least one day a week, led by a licensed supervisor.
- Core staff at the office train and recruit these volunteers and ensure that South Shore Habitat for Humanity is a part of the wide array of solutions to the local housing crisis.
- Families apply for homes and are selected by the Board of Directors based on their need for affordable housing, ability to pay a 20 year-interest free mortgage and willingness to support the development of their home and participate in the Homeownership Training Workshops.

WHAT ?

- 42 homes completed since 1992, provided homes to 76 adults and over 150 children.
- 18 out of the 32 towns/cities served already have Habitat-built homes.
- At least 80 cents of every dollar given is directed to construction projects on the South Shore.

**To get involved contact: 781-843-9080 or email habitat@sshahabitat.org
or visit www.sshahabitat.org**

¹ Mass. Department of Education in cooperation with the U.S. Centers on Disease Control for the 2005 Youth Risk Behavior Survey

² National Low Income Housing Coalition, *Out of Reach 2005*

³ National Association of Realtors, 2006