REQUEST FOR territory, whether it's new houses, house repairs and improvements, disaster recovery work, etc.

**STRENGTH STABILITY SELF-SUFFICIENCY**

every

mother

needs to know her children have a safe place to call home

Delisa purchased her home from Habitat Capital Region in 2017 and secured the stability that comes from safe and affordable homeownership for herself and her three children.

Shortly after moving into their home, Delisa’s oldest daughter was involved in a severe auto accident. The next few months that should have been spent decorating bedrooms and hanging curtains were instead spent at the hospital.

During these difficult months Delisa had to go on unpaid leave from her job to care for her family. She reached out to let Habitat Capital Region staff know what had happened and that she might need additional support. She also let staff take part in her joy and relief as she shared the news of her daughter coming home from the hospital, returning to high school, graduating, and now attending Lansing Community College.

Since becoming a homeowner, Delisa has made every mortgage payment on time. When asked what has changed in her life since becoming a homeowner, Delisa said she has found peace, happiness, and “improved self-esteem knowing that I have accomplished something for me and my children”.

Delisa exemplifies what partnership means to Habitat Capital Region and has demonstrated immeasurable grace, strength, and courage since buying her home. Delisa credits some of her strength and recent family successes to having a safe and stable foundation to call home.

I am no longer worried about the dangers that were in the neighborhood where I used to live.”

— DELISA, Habitat Capital Region Homebuyer

Safe, decent, and affordable homeownership frees Habitat Homebuyers from the constant burden of uncertain, inadequate living situations and empowers them to overcome barriers and build better lives.

Children of homeowners are 116 percent more likely to graduate from college compared to children in families who do not own their homes.
By the numbers
Of the 264 households served by HFHCR in the last 5 years, only 64 did not have any household members in any of the following categories:

- 45 Households containing an individual over 65 years old
- 85 Households containing an individual with a disability
- 13 Households containing a veteran
- 3 Households containing a veteran

The need for affordable home accessibility ramps is staggering and one of the greatest demands faced by Habitat Capital Region. Over half of the households served by the organization in the last five years contained an individual over 65 or with a disability.

In 2018, Habitat Capital Region received an average of more than one ramp request per week. When someone applies to the Ramp Program, it is most often because they have an urgent need, are living on a fixed income, and may be experiencing other financial strains due to health and disability.

**No one should have to endure the struggle, stress, and pain of being unable to access their home safely and independently.**

Habitat Capital Region is blessed to have an amazing Ramp Crew of dedicated volunteers who have been working to help local people create safer and easier access to their homes for over 25 years. Last year the Ramp Crew built a record 45 ramps in the Capital Region. Through the Ramp Program and the people who dedicate their time and resources to it, Habitat Capital Region restores the safety and dignity of people who have become trapped in or out of their own homes.

The need for ramps in Eaton and Ingham counties exceeds current capacity. The Ramp Program must continue to expand to meet the growing needs of our community.

**You can make an impact in your community.**
Contact Sami Chau, Volunteer Program Coordinator – (517) 374-1313 x 102, volunteer@habitatlansing.org – if you or someone you know is a skilled builder able to dedicate time and expertise to build strength, stability and self-reliance one ramp at a time.
Habitat Capital Region brings people together to build homes, community, and hope because together, everyone has the power to make a difference.

Bob has been making that difference with Habitat for the past 27 years. He has a deep understanding of the impact that Habitat for Humanity has on people in the community and his commitment to volunteering his time to the mission is an inspiration.

Not afraid to dig in, get dirty, and lift others up, Bob is part of Habitat Capital Region’s construction Core Crew and can often be found leading teams of volunteers on site.

"As much as you teach, you learn, as a crew leader ... It’s fulfilling."
— Bob, Core Crew Volunteer

Bob has the ability to inspire folks with his mischievous sense of humor, extensive building knowledge, and generous spirit. Nothing is too much trouble for him and his “let’s think about this for a minute” attitude. Bob has a wealth of patience that makes him a cherished coach for volunteers, old and new, to learn tricks of the trade.

You can help build a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Sign up for a volunteer orientation on the Habitat Capital Region website to get started today.
Cost of Home
Help make the cost of home something we can all afford

In Michigan, 1 in 8 households spend more than half of their income on housing. That means **1 in 8 families are denied the personal and economic stability that safe, decent and affordable housing provides**. Those with the fewest resources are forced to make the hardest choices.


When the cost of home is a family’s future, that’s something no one can afford. Visit habitat.org/costofhome/the-solutions to learn more about how you can advocate for affordable housing solutions in your community and across the country.

In the Baker Neighborhood

There are many complexities that surround the cost of home. There are also too many people in the community living in inadequate and unaffordable housing, which is why Habitat Capital Region partnered with the City of Lansing Department of Neighborhood Organizations, Lansing BWL and Consumers Energy, the Capital Region Community Foundation, and other community partners to revitalize target segments of the community.

Baker Neighborhood was identified as an area of greatest need. Homes in the neighborhood are nearly twice as old as the regional average, with the majority of homes having been built before 1940, and the rate of poverty in the community is at nearly 50 percent.

Habitat Capital Region has made a three year commitment to work in Baker Neighborhood, providing access to affordable home repairs for homeowners and renters. To date, four Rock the Block events have been held in the neighborhood and another will be held in the spring.

**Neighborhood revitalization works.** According to Andi Crawford with the City of Lansing, both victim and property crimes declined in the neighborhood by 33% from 2017 to 2018.

**Raise your voice**

Call or write to your policy makers to support comprehensive packages that meet the needs of low-income individuals and families by:

- **Increasing supply and preservation of affordable homes**
- **Equitably increasing access to credit**
- **Ensuring access to and development of communities of opportunity**
- **Optimizing land use for affordable homes**

*Sources:


**every woman**

has the power to build a better world

There are families in every community who are just a hand-up away from achieving the stability found in affordable homeownership. Every year during Habitat Capital Region’s Women Build event, local women volunteers roll up their sleeves and build solutions. This year’s Women Build participants had the incredible opportunity of extending their hands to help lift up a family in Habitat Capital Region’s Homeownership Program.

Over the course of one week in May, 116 Women Build volunteers donated their time, energy, and financial support to the rehabilitation of a Lansing home to be sold to future Habitat Homebuyers, Najat and Suliman. The volunteers committed nearly 800 hours of hard labor to the project to transform every aspect of the house and property for the homebuyer family.

**“All of the love that has gone into building this home will stay here until the end of the world.”**

— SULIMAN, Habitat Homebuyer

Najat and her husband Suliman came to Lansing with their seven children in 2016 as Congolese refugees. Najat was born to a Congolese family in a refugee camp in Sudan; life as a refugee is all that she has ever known. Becoming a homeowner in this country, once something so unimaginable, has transformed her future and the future of her family.

All that Suliman and Najat needed to be able to build a safe and decent future for their family was a little bit of support.

Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. Through financial support, volunteering, or adding a voice to support affordable housing, everyone can empower their neighbors to build better lives for themselves. Together, everyone has the power to build a better world.

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**every gift**

makes the difference

When you give to Habitat Capital Region, you are building more than just four walls. A home is a safe place to grow up. A home is a foundation to build a future. A home can change lives. Join Habitat Capital Region in building a community where every family has a chance for a better tomorrow.

**Leave a legacy of strength and stability for future generations, by giving to the Habitat for Humanity Capital Region Endowment Fund.**

All contributions to the Endowment fund are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Checks can be made out to Habitat for Humanity Capital Region Endowment Fund and mailed to Tri-Star Trust Bank, 3511 Coolidge Road, Suite 300, East Lansing, MI 48823. Contact Carmen Hall at 517-374-1313 ext. 106 for more details.

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There are so many ways to support the Endowment Fund:

- Check
- Appreciated securities
- Qualified charitable distributions from your IRA
- Planned gifts
- Life insurance policies
- Beneficiary designation on retirement plans
REQUEST FOR SUPPORT

for building:

as "dreams" or "hope" because those don't evoke empowerment. "Shelter" plants us firmly in the housing

SUPPORT THEME

living on a fixed income, and it is most often because they

more than one ramp request

ramp
every

independence to families in need of a decent place to live.

In 2018, Habitat Capital

homes for over 25 years. Last

safer and easier access to their

financial strains due to health

volunteered with us expressed surprise at never

improve homes as well, but expressed confusion

themselves, not simply meeting an immediate need that

They want to know that they are helping someone help

SELF-RELIANCE

and messages that directly demonstrate what that

STABILITY

the idea of a Habitat home as a strong foundation for

STRENGTH

Habitat Capital Region is

By HFHCR in the last 5 years,

Of the 264 households served

by 33 VOLUNTEERS

demonstrated immeasurable

and awesome deals

find great stuff and awesome deals for a good cause

give furniture, appliances, building materials and more

give their time and talents to help run the store

DONORS

VOLUNTEERS

SHoppers

DIVERTS

thousands of tons of material from landfills

RAISES FUNDS

$