



# BUILDING HOPE

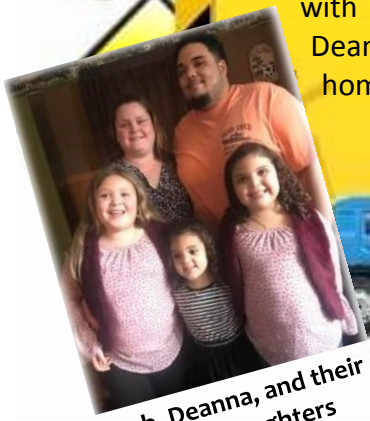
Warren County Habitat for Humanity Newsletter 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2021

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



## WE'RE HALFWAY THERE!

In spite of heatwaves, downpours and snowstorms, our first two homes on **Beidleman Road** have reached the mid-point to being completed. Our two Partner Families are putting in their “sweat equity” hours and getting results! The homes are buttoned up and work has begun inside. We recently spoke with Michael, Dominique, and their two sons; and with Rob, Deanna and their three daughters, about their unique journey to homeownership. Read what they had to say on page 3!



Rob, Deanna, and their three daughters



Michael, Dominique, and their two sons

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## PROGRESS REPORT: Warren County Habitat for Humanity Community Center



Warren County Habitat for Humanity continues to prepare for opening youth-based community center at 31 Belvidere Avenue in Washington, NJ. The new center will not be just for teenagers, however. We want to be engaging senior citizens and Veterans throughout Warren County, with a focus on improving health, wellness, and finances. Even more valuable is the interaction between generations that can build relationships and friendships.

being planned. Parents are encouraged to become involved. They can serve on the Community Center Advisory Committee, lead one-day activities like arts and crafts, or supervise/lead a session-format workshop. Other participation options include helping with fundraising, chaperoning events and field trips, signing up to be tutors in a particular subject or serving as a mentor for job shadowing experiences.

**Senior Citizen Programs** - Senior programming serves as a gateway to the nation’s aging network - connecting older adults to vital community services that help them stay healthy and independent. We will offer programs such as nutrition, health, fitness, wellness, employment assistance, finance, social and recreational activities, as well as educational and intergenerational programs.



**Youth Programs** - Our Community Center will offer both drop-in and structured programs and activities suitable for 5th through 12th graders. Low or no cost activities are



**Veteran Programs** - Veteran programming will offer an opportunity for all of our armed forces personnel to join together in purposeful discussions and engaging activities to combat the effects of PTSD. We will also offer assistance with resumé creation, career and education exploration, women Veteran discussions, Habitat build days, outlets for counseling, health, wellness, employment assistance and one-on-one talking sessions with peers.

**Facility Use** - We’ll also offer user agreements for renting the facility on Friday nights and weekends for approved activities and performances. Stay tuned for more updates and news about this much needed gathering place in our community! We hope to open our doors in Spring 2021. We simply can’t do this without your help.

**Interested in helping? Please contact WCHF’s Community Outreach Director, Jason “JJ” Norment, at 908-420-9322. You can also email him at [Jason.Norment@warrenhabitat.org](mailto:Jason.Norment@warrenhabitat.org). Thank you!**

**Catching Up with Our Partner Families** - Now that the first two homes of The Patti-Sue Rolak Memorial Build on Beidleman Road are approaching their halfway points, we asked each family some questions about their journey to homeownership.

**Rob, Deanna, and Their Three Daughters**

**Q. How has your experience of working "Sweat Equity Hours" with Habitat been? Were your children able to pitch in, too?** *"It's an amazing thing to be able to help build our house hands on! I (Deanna) have learned so many things from Dave (a volunteer) - he is a great teacher! Our children have helped at the ReStore. They LOVE volunteering, but they are too young for their hours to count. They love seeing our home being built step by step!"*

**Q. What has the reaction been from family, friends, and coworkers about this journey you've been on?** *"Our friends and family are so excited for us! They can't wait for our home to be done so I can host ALL the family and holiday dinners! I can't wait for that part!"*

**Q. Do you get to choose paint and flooring colors?** *"We have not gotten to paint so we didn't choose any colors yet, but we got to choose our kitchen cabinets and counter top, roof color and siding color, which I thought was so awesome! We are so happy with the color siding we chose."*

**Q. You're just about halfway there. Will the upcoming part that leads to completion of your home feel like it's going too quickly, or too slowly?** *"The beginning seemed to be moving so quickly! Now things have really slowed down. I hope it will move as quickly as the first half!"*

**Q. In one sentence, what would be the one thing you'd like to tell future Partner Families?** *"It's a tough and long journey but it's worth it, and you deserve it!"*



**Mike, Dominique, and Their Two Sons**



**Q. How has your experience of working "Sweat Equity Hours" with Habitat been? Were your children able to pitch in, too?** *"It has been rewarding to us to know that we had the opportunity to help with building our house. We will be able to look back at the memories of building our home. It has also been a learning experience for us especially with this being our first home. All the volun-*

*teers have been great with showing up, giving advice/tips, explaining processes and much more. Unfortunately our kids are too young to pitch in, but their excitement when they see the house is the best."*

**Q. What has the reaction been from family, friends, and coworkers about this journey you've been on?** *"They are excited for us because everyone knows how bad we have wanted to become homeowners. Everyone always wants to see pictures of the process. This journey is extra special to my family because my grandmother was so excited to see the end result and was ready to help in any way but she passed away in July. My (Dominique's) grandfather has been volunteering and he really enjoys coming to the build to be a helping hand."*

**Q. Do you get to choose paint and flooring colors? Have you figured out where your furniture will go? Have the kids picked out which room they want?** *"Yes we do get to choose the paint we want. As far as the flooring, both families came up with our top 5 floor colors that we liked. We all agreed on the same flooring and it is beautiful. We can't wait to see it! As far as the furniture, we have an idea, but its hard to picture it at this stage. I'm already decorating our house in my head for sure! I love being crafty and making things, so we will see what I come up with. The boys haven't picked out a room yet but they definitely will soon. They are getting bunk beds so our one son wants a blue bed."*

**Q. You're just about halfway there. Will the upcoming part that leads to completion of your home feel like it's going too quickly, or too slowly?** *"We both feel that it is going to be fast and before we know it we are going to be in our new home."*

**Q. In one sentence, what would be the one thing you'd like to tell future Partner Families?** *"Embrace building your house that your family will make a home."*

# FITTING THE PIECES TOGETHER: MODULAR WALLS SIMPLIFY BEIDLEMAN BUILD



Photos by LJ Jamieson

## Warren County Habitat for Humanity Receives Three Generous Grants

Last year was not an easy time to apply for grants and other funding. Many of our reliable sources weren't even accepting applications due to understaffing and underfunding. Accordingly, we are tremendously grateful for the three grants received so far this year.



In early February of this year, we received \$2,500 from **The Lillian Schenck Charitable Trust**, administered by PNC Bank. These funds will support The Patti-Sue Rolak Memorial Build on Beidleman Road and help us finish up the first two homes there.

In January, **Lowe's** awarded \$5,000 to our affiliate to the March 8th - 15th International Women Build Week program, a partnership between Habitat International and Lowe's Corporate. The purpose of the event is to unite women and spotlight their need for safe and affordable housing through home builds and repairs during this week. Stay tuned!



**Hackettstown Medical Center** and **Atlantic Health System** provided a \$6280 grant, written especially for purchasing our community center's laptop computers. These laptops are a crucial part of our vision for the center. See page two for news and updates on the WCHFH Community Center!

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## New Kids on the Block: Meet Peter and Lori Jo Jamieson



Rev. Peter Jamieson is WCHFH's newest Board Member, serving as Faith Relations Chair. He and his wife, Lori Jo, moved to their Harmony Township property in June, from Atlantic County, NJ. Although he's a retired United Methodist Elder, Peter still pastors a church part time in Bangor, PA and is a member of several clergy groups that meet via Zoom. He and Lori Jo both felt that God was urging them to get involved in Habitat's ministry, so they signed up to volunteer while shopping at The ReStore back in the summer.

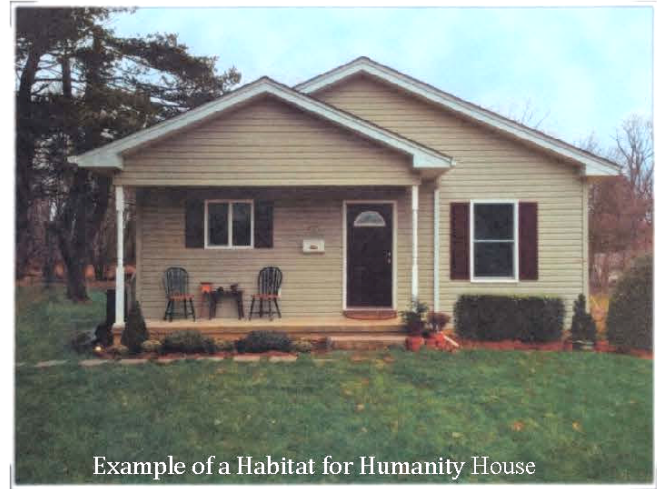
In speaking with Jason and Ben at a WCHFH event in October, Lori Jo offered to help with the *Building Hope* Newsletter. She is also Editor of the NJ Bluebird Society's Newsletter, *Jersey Blues*, and is working to establish new bluebird nest box trails. Peter and Lori Jo both enjoy fixing up their old house. After work is done, they love kayak fishing, exploring beautiful places to hike and bike, as well as designing and building vegetable and native plant gardens.



## 2021 Search In Partnership with Franklin Township Affordable Housing Plan

# NOTICE

**We are currently seeking two partner families for new 3 or 4 BR homes to be built on: Beidleman Road Franklin Township, NJ**



Example of a Habitat for Humanity House

**Part I Application to Become a Partner Family Is Available Now – Receipt Deadline for Part I is 3:00 PM, February 18, 2021**

# 0%\*

## Interest Mortgage

\* Excluding Closing Costs

Warren County Habitat for Humanity is seeking low and moderate income families with household income between the below minimum and maximum levels, based on family size:

Family Size	3	4	5	6	7	8
Maximum Income	\$70,650	\$78,500	\$84,800	\$91,100	\$97,350	\$103,650
Minimum Income	\$26,550	\$29,500	\$31,900	\$35,160	\$39,640	\$44,120

\*Must be less than 50% (low) or 80% (median) of the 2019 median income in Warren County, NJ

**Other Requirements:**

- 1. Must have a housing need, e.g. spending more than 30% of gross income on housing**
- 2. Must be willing to partner and to provide "sweat equity".**
- 3. Must have the ability to pay (make payments on a mortgage).**



For an application or more information, [CLICK HERE](#) or call 908-835-1300.



**Warrenhabitat.org**

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIFT  
A HAMMER TO HELP**

**Shop. Donate. Volunteer.**

**Yes! We're open and accepting donations Tuesday through Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 pm, and Wednesdays until 5:30 pm.**

**No appointment necessary for drop-offs.**

**Just drive around back...we're waiting to help you unload!**

Or, call 908-835-1980 to schedule a pickup.

**We are now accepting fabrics**



**and new/lightly used clothing!**

**ReStore Shopping Hours:**

**Sunday-Monday: Closed**

**Tuesday: 9-5**

**Wednesday: 9-7**

**Thursday: 9-5**

**Friday: 9-5**

**Saturday: 9-5**

**Every 2nd Thursday of the month we hold a Rewards Member Discount Day. Pick a discount card to receive 10%, 15%, or 20% off your entire purchase. Become a Rewards Program Member today by filling out a card at one of our registers and learn about all the benefits!**

**Warren County Habitat for Humanity ReStore**

**384 Rt. 57, Washington, NJ 07882**

**908-835-1980**



# GOLF OUTING

May 10, 2021  
Shotgun  
at 9:00 a.m.

Harkers Hollow Golf Club



Presents...



# Save the Date!

June 12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>

**50/50**  
**Online Auction**  
**Spectacular Entertainment**

Warren County Habitat for Humanity is a 501 (c)(3) Non-Profit organization.  
Your donations are tax deductible.



Warren County Habitat for Humanity



@warrenhabitatforhumanity



@WCHFH

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