



Building Hope

Warren County Habitat for Humanity Newsletter 4th Quarter 2021

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



Signs of the Times - Our Veteran Build in Pohatcong Township is Underway

- and it's not your ordinary home build! Unlike the Beidleman Road projects, this property was donated to Habitat by Pohatcong Township with an abandoned, uninhabitable house on site that needed to be demolished. The team made quick work of that, and is progressing well on foundation work.



Proceeds from our 50/50 Raffle are wholly dedicated to this project.

The 50/50 winners will be drawn on **Veterans Day, Thursday, November 11th**, at our brand new Community Center! Tickets will be on sale until November 10th at the office and the ReStore, as well as online at our website, www.warrenhabitat.org. Also, a very special thank you to **SallyAnn Christie** for leading this effort!



Warren County Habitat for Humanity Critical Home Repair Program (CHR) : A Personal Story

Jim Monteleone is a Veteran who served on the beaches of Normandy in World War II. As a long time resident of Warren County, Jim and wife Trudy had built themselves a home in Oxford, NJ where they lived for many years.

On February 16, 2020 as Jim was mowing his lawn, his lawnmower backfired, police later determined, causing the home he built with his own two hands to burn to the ground. The couple was not physically injured, but the fire did take an emotional toll.

As Jim and Trudy purchased another home on the other side of Warren County, they maintained a fear of fire and the need for fire escapability in the event of another unforeseen accident.

Through the **Warren County Habitat for Humanity Critical Home Repair Program (CHR)** we were able to build a means of egress off of their living room with a little patio on which to enjoy morning coffee.

If you or someone you know is in need of this program, see page 10 for more information on how to apply for repairs.



WCHFH Completes Eighteenth & Nineteenth Home Builds for the Irizarry and Chobot/Eckert Families

Warren County Habitat for Humanity (WCHFH) is pleased to announce the completion of two brand new homes on **Beidleman Road in Franklin Township**, providing both the Irizarry and Chobot/Eckert families with safe, affordable housing for both them and their children.

The home dedications were held on **August 1st and October 3rd** with friends, family and WCHFH staff celebrating the milestone of homeownership together. Having far exceeded the required 250 hours of sweat equity working alongside Habitat volunteers, both families were beyond excited to receive the keys to their very own homes.

"This has been the experience of a lifetime. Being able to build our own home is a dream come true!" said Rob and Deanna Irizarry.

Mike and Dominique shared as well. "It was such a great feeling to see all of those people out there for us! We are definitely loved! Thank you for everything! We're so overwhelmed with the love and support!"

"This is what we all work so hard for," said Ben Eskow, Executive Director for WCHFH. "Seeing the appreciation and gratitude of our partner families is a reward to each one of us that can't even be put into words. Thank you to everyone here, and those in our community as well, who made their dreams come true."

The Irizarry Home Dedication Sunday, August 1st, 2021

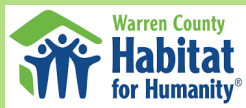


"Habitat helped us learn many skills to help maintain our home. They have made us feel successful in life. They have brightened our children's views on a "home". We have very good relationships with the volunteers- we consider most of them our friends. They worked with us every weekend no matter what and always made us feel useful and taught us so much. This has been the experience of a lifetime. Being able to build our own home is a dream come true. The lifelong friends we've made makes it even better. We're just happy to be home." - The Irizarry Family

The Chobot/Eckert Home Dedication, Sunday, October 3rd



Photography by Cathy Miller



Building Hope The Newsletter of Warren County Habitat for Humanity
 Submit your news and photos to Lori Jo Jamieson, Editor, at lorijo.jamieson@gmail.com.
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"Dear Mr. Ben Eskow, HFH Warren County. We would like to transmit you from HFH Honduras our grateful feelings, thanks for helping through your Tithe during the month of August, that certainly is making possible to reach out more families with affordable and adequate housing, in addition, we were able to support families struggling with the effects of the hurricanes ETA & IOTA specially during these difficult times of pandemic. We are also glad to share with you our [Annual Report 2020/2021](#) where you will find about the accomplishments and challenges during all this period."

Kind Regards,
Luís Madrid

Desarrollo de Recursos, Habitat para la Humanidad Honduras



"I'm feeling so well, and happy, especially for my children that didn't have a room where to sleep. Sometimes I think that all this is just a dream, that isn't real. Before when it rained, I have to gather all my 4 children and get shelter in a corner of the house, water used to get inside cause a several leaks through the roof; Now we do not get sick cause the cold weather."

Esslyn
St. Elena, Roatán, Honduras



Mr. Ben Eskow
HFH Warren County

September, 2021

On behalf Esslyn and the other 32,000 families that have been benefited in Honduras with decent and affordable housing, Habitat for Humanity we would like to thank you for being part of the change in the quality of life of children, elders, women and men that have received a house thanks to your economic support of **\$11,191.41** During the month August.

Your contribution allows us to continue the work at the most needed zones of the country, including native groups.

Your donation means hope, blessing and achievement of the dreams of thousands of families that thought it was beyond them.

Honduras has a total housing deficit that reach 1.4 million units, 61.8% stands for quality and 38.2% require a brand new house; those numbers increased with the crisis provoked by Covid-19 pandemic, thousands of people lost their jobs or entrepreneurship for lack of capital to work with; many of these families were affected by the hurricanes ETA and IOTA as well, and despite the event happened several months ago, they haven't been able to resolve their housing situation after losing all cause the floods.

Habitat commitment is to keep working to reduce the housing deficit in the country so more families can be benefited, we believe that adequate and affordable housing is the foundation to break the poverty cycle.

Once more, we would like to thank your help, we like you know how important have been your commitment for the families.

¡Please receive our most sincere grateful feeling for your generosity!



Alberto Benítez Salem
Executive Director
Hábitat para la Humanidad Honduras

Habitat for Humanity and ShelterBox have started distributing emergency shelter aid to communities who lost homes in the 7.2 magnitude earthquake that recently devastated southwestern Haiti. Read the article on page 6.

Community Center Update! The WCHFH Community Center is moving along! We have poured an ADA-compliant ramp in the rear entrance of the building as we begin painting, tiling and finishing work inside.



If you are interested in renting either the conference center or main room, please reach out to JJ Norment for rates and rental agreements.

Call (908)835-1300 x16 or email jason.norment@warrenhabitat.org



ReStore Volunteer **Barbara Snyder** helped out at our WCHFH booth for this year's Washington Borough Festival. Would you like to volunteer for a community outreach event?

Be like Barbara! Volunteer!

Call our office at 908- 835-1300 for upcoming opportunities.

Community Outreach News

Thank you so much to **Patty Swayne** and the **Warren County Farmers Fair Volunteers** who worked from July 31st through August 7 at our beautiful display. They did a great job representing our affiliate and sold **forty 50/50 tickets**.

Dairy Queen Fundraisers were held on **August 10th and September 16th**. A percentage of sales were donated to our affiliate, raising **\$70**. What a great reason to have ice cream!

Thanks to everyone who made the **Drive-in Movie** a success! ReStore's parking lot was converted to a drive-in and the event was well-attended.

Last, but by no means, least . . .The Year-end Appeal was mailed out at the end of January 2021. So far, the letter has generated **\$15,316**. We are so grateful for everyone's support!



"Be A Hero" Fundraiser, organized by **Lisa Burd Reindel**, (2nd from left) was held on September 25th in support of our Pohatcong Township Veterans Build.

Jimmy & the Parrots Band (left) entertained attendees. **Ben Eskow** spoke of the importance of WCHFH's work. A great group of volunteers (right) showed up to make this event a success: **\$13,296 was raised for the Veterans Build!**



Habitat for Humanity International Press Release

Contact: Erika Boyce
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newsroom@habitat.org / www.habitat.org/newsroom

Habitat for Humanity and ShelterBox team up to support people in Haiti

LES CAYES, Haiti (October 1, 2021) — Habitat for Humanity and ShelterBox have started distributing emergency shelter aid to communities who lost homes in the 7.2 magnitude earthquake that recently devastated southwestern Haiti.

The earthquake destroyed nearly 53,000 homes and severely damaged 77,000 more. People who lost their homes were left exposed to the elements, with little privacy or protection from the ongoing severe weather and other threats.

ShelterBox and Habitat for Humanity, in close coordination with government and local officials, are distributing shelter kits in hard-hit communities. The kits include tarpaulins, tools and fixings, thermal blankets, solar lights, kitchen sets, sleeping mats, mosquito nets and water carriers.

ShelterBox is supplying emergency shelter aid as well as training and technical support to people using the items. Habitat for Humanity is using its strong local connections to run and monitor the distributions while also identifying shelter needs in communities.

"Quality shelter materials are in scarce supply and an absolutely urgent need right now here in Haiti," said Jean Frenel Tham, national director of Habitat for Humanity Haiti. "Even many families whose homes are still standing are choosing to sleep outside for fear their damaged homes could still cave in. By working together, Habitat and ShelterBox will be able to get more families back on their feet faster, so they can begin rebuilding homes and entire communities."

"Providing the vital emergency shelter aid that families need after the earthquake helps to ensure that much-needed resources are available for the initial emergency. As well as being used for emergency shelters and repairs, this partnership will also contribute to providing the foundations for further recovery and reconstruction. Families in Haiti deserve a place to call home" said Alice Jefferson, ShelterBox head of responses. "Habitat for Humanity has been a trusted and valued partner for many years. We know that by working together, we will make the biggest difference to the people who need support."

ShelterBox has responded to several disasters in Haiti, including in the catastrophic 2010 earthquake and Hurricane Matthew in 2016. In 2010, ShelterBox provided shelter for 140,000 people, the organization's biggest response to date, outside the long-running conflict in Syria.

Habitat for Humanity has worked in Haiti since 1984. The organization also helped rebuild and rehabilitate communities devastated by the 2010 earthquake. In the wake of Hurricane Matthew five years ago, Habitat partnered with families to build or repair more than 1,800 homes. Early assessments following August's earthquake indicate that roughly 98% of those homes are safe and free of significant damage.

Habitat and ShelterBox have worked together in disaster responses around the world, from India and Malawi to the Dominican Republic, Honduras and Paraguay.

About ShelterBox: ShelterBox provides emergency shelter and other essential items to families who have lost their homes to disasters. With operational headquarters in Cornwall, UK, the charity also has 15 affiliate organizations worldwide. The charity has been Rotary International's project partner in disaster relief since 2012. Visit www.shelterboxusa.org/

Warren County
Habitat for Humanity
ReStore



Shop. Donate. Volunteer.

384 Rt. 57, Washington, NJ 07882
908-835-1980

Did you know???

In 1991, five volunteers opened Habitat for Humanity's first-ever ReStore in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Their vision was clear: keep new and used home and building materials out of the waste stream while helping fund Habitat's work. Today, there are more than 1,000 ReStore locations across six countries, all contributing to Habitat's vision of a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

That's 30 YEARS of ReStore!

ReStore Shopping Hours:

(Closed Sunday & Monday)

Open Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
& Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.;
Wednesday: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Donations Drop-off Hours:

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday,
& Saturday 9:30-3:30
Wednesday 9:30-5:30

No appointment necessary, just drive around back. We will help you unload!

ALL DONATIONS MUST BE FREE OF:

Tobacco scent, burn marks, pet dander, hair, odor, stains, bite/scratch/damage marks. NO Rips, Tears, Stains, Fading, Burn/Water Marks, Mold/Smoke Odors

Have a donation in mind but not sure if we'll accept it? Please email photos to: donations@warrenhabitat.org

To schedule a pickup, please call
908-835-1980

SPOOKTACULAR SALE

COSTUME CONTEST @ 12PM
WINNER WILL RECEIVE \$20 GIFT CERTIFICATE

30% OFF
October 30th, 2021

GRAB & GO
MUST TAKE ITEMS AT TIME OF PURCHASE

384 NJ-57 W. Washington, NJ 07882
www.warrenhabitat.org (908) 835-1980

ReStore
Warren County Habitat for Humanity

Join Our Rewards Member Program & save even more money!

- For every \$200 spent **get \$5 off** your next purchase.
- Receive notifications of **upcoming sales** via email
- Receive 10%, 15% or 20% off of all purchases every 2nd Thursday of the month.

Not yet a member? Sign up for free by filling out a card at the register! **Next Rewards Member Discount Days:**
NOVEMBER 11th - DECEMBER 9th - JANUARY 13th



Your Donations Can Be Someone Else's Treasures!

Darren Muso and Chris Pozarycki, owners of **The Loft at Jack's Barn** in Oxford, beautifully decorated their two B&Bs with many items purchased here at the **ReStore**. See photos and background on **pages 8 & 9**.

Darren Muso holds up a mirror purchased at the ReStore for his Oxford B&B, *Twenty Belvidere*. His other properties decorated with ReStore items include *The Root Cellar*, *Cold Springs Farm*, *Brooder House Inn*, and *Beanstalk Epicure Catering*.

DECORATING IN STYLE ON A BUDGET: THE STORY OF JACK’S BARN

It’s been twenty years since historic preservationists **Darren Muso** and his partner, **Chris Pozarycki**, purchased their old farmhouse. The neighboring barn, a former antique co-op closed up for years, was owned by an elderly gentleman named Jack, and was not for sale. Eventually, in 2010, Jack did offer them the barn, ‘as is.’ The 10,000 square foot space was full to the rafters with furnishings, antiques, and oddities. Vendors showed interest in renting space and “Jack’s Barn” was once again open for business!

Darren and Chris began selling off the barn’s varied contents, with proceeds frequently going to their favorite nonprofits, such as the Lakota Wolf Preserve and Alzheimer’s Services. They also desired to donate quality items to worthy organizations. Wayne Ferguson, former owner of Cherrybrook Pet Supplies and long time resident of Broadway, NJ, told them about Warren County Habitat for Humanity’s **ReStore** in Washington, NJ. One day, a couple inquired at the antique co-op about holding their wedding in the barn’s loft. After reading of this new Barn wedding trend, Darren and Chris decided to give it a try. Word of mouth traveled, many more requests came in, and Jack’s Barn had a new purpose in life. The space, now called **The Loft at Jack’s Barn**, was updated with modern amenities while the integrity of the barn and its charm were maintained.

ReStore Comes Back onto The Scene - Wedding parties and guests had always been referred to local lodging, but then a nearby property with deep roots in Oxford Township came up for sale. In 2014 the partners decided to purchase **Scranton Manor**, located next to historic **Shippen Manor**. Both mansions were built by the Shippens, a wealthy, prominent Philadelphia family who founded Oxford Furnace in 1741.



Twenty Belvidere

Darren and Chris renamed the 7,000-square-foot, three-story mansion **Twenty Belvidere** and began worked painstakingly on renovating, refinishing floors and sprucing up the home's nine bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms. They started out using stock from their antique shop, but when Darren, a talented merchandiser and designer, began noticing the ReStore’s high-quality furnishings at discounted prices whenever he would bring in donations, he became a frequent customer, seeking out furnishings for **Twenty Belvidere**.

In May of 2021, they purchased a newer house adjacent to Jack’s Barn, **The Brooder House**, named for the cozy place on a farm where chickens roost and lay their eggs. They transformed it into additional lodging for guests in just 4 months. Many distinctive furnishings were bought at the ReStore.



Exterior of The Loft at Jack’s Barn
1487 Route 31 in Oxford, New Jersey



The Loft at Jack’s Barn, dressed for a wedding.



AT
THE
BROODER
HOUSE



Dining and Living Room ReStore décor: pine farmhouse table, collection of blue plates, four matched upholstered arm chairs, autumn and hunting prints, two lovely chandeliers, one with pears and apples. **More designs are on page 9.**

Continued from page 7 - WCHFH ReStore;
The Loft at Jack’s Barn; Twenty Belvidere



Is your grandmother’s wrought iron sewing machine taking up room in your attic? Have you noticed them at the *ReStore* from time to time? Darren put three together and repurposed them as counter supports for *Twenty Belvidere’s* bridal salon.



ReStore items - a vintage leather recliner, wooden arm chair, shaded brass chandelier and prints - make the library at *Twenty Belvidere* a warm and cozy place to be.



An inviting bedroom alcove was created using simple elements. The chairs and floor lamp are from the *ReStore*. Photo courtesy of *Speer Images*, Hackettstown, NJ.



Above: *Brooder House* bedrooms successfully decorated using unconventional combinations and repurposed items. Take a virtual video tour of Darren and Chris’s properties [HERE](#)

Consider spending your decorating dollars at the *ReStore* while helping to build homes!
See our newest inventory posted on Facebook: www.facebook.com/WCHFHStore.





Applications Being Accepted Critical Home Repair Loan Program

NOTICE

Warren County Habitat for Humanity (WCHFH) is launching a new loan program for existing homeowners to complete critical home repairs to their primary residence.



**Receipt Deadline for Applications is:
3:00 PM, October 27th 2021**

Visit: warrenhabitat.org for more information

Warren County Habitat for Humanity is seeking two (2) low or moderate income homeowners with household income below maximum levels noted, based on family size:

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Maximum Income (\$)	54,950	62,800	70,650	78,500	84,800	91,100	97,350	103,650

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

Other Requirements:

1. You must reside within the service area of Warren County Habitat for Humanity
2. You must occupy the home as your primary residence.
3. **Applicant must demonstrate willingness to partner (*sweat equity*) and an ability to pay for the project cost based on a sliding scale. (*These criteria are subject to change*).**
4. Applicant must have a need for the repair(s) requested.
5. Homeowner(s) must be current on existing mortgage, homeowner's insurance, and property taxes
6. Total long term expenses including loan payments must not exceed 43% of gross annual household income.

Note: Veterans with proof of an honorable discharge will receive a 10% discount on services.

Go to www.warrenhabitat.org/critical-repair/ and click on the flyer to download an application.

All applications must be submitted via US mail and received in our office by Wednesday, October 27th at 3 p.m.

