

# Habitat Happenings



Winter 2024 Volume 6, Issue 1



Happy New Year!

We truly hope the holidays and the beginning of the new year were great. As we look at the year ahead, we look with hope and anticipation. It's always the anticipation that can make one feel that nervous twinge inside. In the theatre world we call that our adrenaline nerves and we always teach pushing them out is the key to turning them into positive energy.

So let us take our anticipation in 2024 and turn it into positive energy! We all know we could use it. Let us take the opportunities that the universe provides and make positive changes. Let us take the challenges that we are presented with and make them into new opportunities. When we are faced with adversity and complications let us take the time to pause, recognize both sides of the situation and find an outcome that provides a positive solution.

Present kindness to yourself first and you will find that giving it to others will come even easier. Take the opportunity to find peace within your day to nurture your own wellbeing. Surround yourself with positive people who give you laughter and joy and pray for those who are lacking in this area. We all are handed difficulty, but it doesn't mean we can't find our way through it,

with the help of others and or help others who need the same guidance.

Knowing you are blessed is the perfect way to find and share happiness. Many of us are blessed and sometimes we must take the opportunity to remind ourselves of this. May all the love and light of the new year be in your lives this year.

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### Recognizing Our Incredible Habitat People!

The end of the calendar year brought some recognition to several of our Blue Water Habitat for Humanity volunteers, donors, and staff. We are proud to announce and recognize the following for their dedication and work to our organization. Congratulations to everyone! The following individuals and or businesses were recognized at the state level in Lansing for Habitat for Humanity of Michigan:

Terry Wright: Volunteer of the Year Ron Wright (The Furnace Doctors): Corporate Partner of the Year

(Each were recognized for their awards at Blue Water Habitat for Humanity and presented with certificates as well as their names on the respective plagues that will remain on display at Blue Water Habitat for Humanity)

Several others were recognized for their contributions at our local affiliate. Thank you to the following individuals, businesses and organizations for their kindness:

Maura McNichol: Ivan Smith Construction Volunteer of the Year

The Furnace Doctors: Richard Collins Construction Business Award

Holy Trinity: Faith Partner of the Year Award

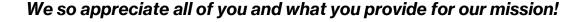
Joyce Doyle: Marilyn Foster and Pat Moses

Family Services Award

Kassidy Smith & Chris Bond: Barbara Ernsberger Achievement Award

Jane Schafer: Al Bucholz ReStore Volunteer of the Year Award

Almeda Werth: Rex Burgess Community Partner Award Tim & Judy Redmond: Foundation Builder of the Year



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...Help BWHFH, Help Others...simply by shopping!











#### Home Repairs

We are fortunate to aid families with home repairs or modifications for health and safety reasons. In 2023 we were able to serve 4 families through our home repair programs; 2 veteran households and 2 non-veteran households.

Pictured to the left are before and after pictures of a bathroom rehabilitation we performed. The homeowner went from not being able to get her walker through a 24 inch door opening to a 32 inch door opening. She now also has a low threshold shower surround that is easily accessible and usable.

Giving families the ease to know they are safely able to utilize facilities in their own home make our work successful. Our success is matched by the countless donors, volunteers and contractors who give of their time and talents to partner with us.



We are also currently accepting applicants for our Homeownership Program and our Veteran Home Repair Program. To learn more about these programs please reach out to Kara at 810-985-9080 ext. 200 or kara@bwhabitat.org.

### **Answering A Call**

Blue Water Habitat for Humanity is currently working on a new home build and home repair volunteer opportunities for 2024. How can you, your business or organization get involved with projects? Contact us today at 810-985-9080 ext. 206.

April-June: In addition to working on construction projects, volunteers and volunteer groups are invited to participate in hospitality projects, fundraising events and on committees. The Habitat for Humanity ReStore in Port Huron utilizes volunteers in a number of ways. Call 810-364-6919 to volunteer at the ReStore!

To see a list of volunteer opportunities visit: www.bwhabitat.org





our **ReStore** is a great way to make your *tax return* go farther while also *supporting your community*!





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**Blue Water** 

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