



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
03.08.23

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Virginia Housing Grants to Fund Fauquier Habitat for Humanity Home for Family of 6

RICHMOND, VA- To celebrate Virginia Housing's 50th anniversary, the Authority is collaborating with Habitat for Humanity affiliates in their work to eliminate substandard housing by providing an additional \$1.2 M in grant funds that will build homes and communities in five of Virginia's localities. A total of \$343K through "The Virginia House" grant has gone to Fauquier Habitat for Humanity to build a home in the Warrenton community for a family of six.

Since July 2022, "The Virginia House" grant has assisted five Habitat for Humanity affiliates throughout Virginia in the construction of a single-family home designated to assist a family in achieving their goal of homeownership. A total of \$1.2M has supported construction costs and loan subsidy, making homeownership more affordable. Virginia Housing also included funds to create a sustainability fund, which allows the Habitat to prevent mortgage delinquencies through emergency assistance for Habitat homeowners facing a financial hardship. The Habitat affiliate has the flexibility to structure their stability fund to address the financial needs of their borrowers.

In Fauquier, "The Virginia House" grant has helped to finance a single-family home for a family of six. The homeowner has completed participation in Virginia Housing's Homeowner's Education course and 200 hours of 'sweat equity' in helping build homes for Habitat for Humanity through the Women Build program. Women Build is a fundraising and educational opportunity provided by Habitat for Humanity, Int. that empowers women to be part of the process of home building. 88 women participated in the build of this home and over \$30k has been raised on behalf of Women Build to put toward the construction process.

Habitat for Humanity will host a dedication event for the family on March 11, 2023 at 11am that is open to media.

"Our partnership with Habitat for Humanity has always meant a great deal to us. For our 50th Anniversary, we felt it was very important to do even more with this incredible organization to provide homes across Virginia. We look forward to each project and the positive impact it will have on the families and communities involved," said Susan Dewey, CEO of Virginia Housing.

"We are honored to be the recipient of the Virginia House grant," says Melanie Burch, CEO of Fauquier Habitat for Humanity. "This investment in Fauquier County is driven by a shared commitment to help more families achieve financial security and stability. Building a home this large in a six-month time frame would not be possible without the Virginia House grant and fundraising efforts on behalf of Women Build."

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By investing in the power of home, Virginia Housing transforms where and how thousands of Virginians live and thrive, strengthening communities and the economy. Founded in 1972 as the Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA), Virginia Housing is celebrating its 50th year of working in partnership with the public and private sectors to help Virginians attain quality, affordable housing. While receiving no state taxpayer dollars, Virginia Housing raises money in capital markets to provide mortgages to first-time homebuyers, financing for rental developments and neighborhood revitalization efforts. Virginia Housing invests in innovations in affordable housing, and makes homes for people with disabilities and older Virginians more livable.

For more information about Virginia Housing's partnership with Habitat for Humanity, visit <https://www.virginiahousing.com/news>.

Driven by the vision that everyone needs a decent place to live, Habitat for Humanity found its earliest inspirations as a grassroots movement on an interracial community farm in south Georgia. Since its founding in 1976, the Christian housing organization has since grown to become a leading global nonprofit working in local communities across all 50 states in the U.S. and in more than 70 countries. Families and individuals in need of a hand up partner with Habitat for Humanity to build or improve a place they can call home. 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 help families achieve the strength, stability and self-reliance they need to build better lives for themselves. Through shelter, we empower. To learn more, visit [habitat.org](https://www.habitat.org).