Summer 2011 Issue 16

Hammer & Nail

Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity®

Candace Mayo

From the Desk of the Executive Director...

Land, Land…We Now HAVE Land!!

About the only thing that's fortunate about this economy is that land has become more affordable and more readily available to affordable housing builders like Fort Collins Habitat. I am happy to tell you we recently closed on another five lots in the Rigden Farm subdivision just across the street from where we're currently building. We're calling this new section Rigden Cottages East.

There is an "inside joke" among Habitat executive directors around the country. It seems we either have land and no money to build, or we have money to build, but can't find land. A few years ago, our affiliate couldn't find, or afford, land in all of Fort Collins. The economy was thriving, our donations were plentiful, and yet, we had no place to build.

Today, we're in the opposite position. With the help of the City of Fort Collins Community Development Block Grant loan program, we now have land, but we now need the money to purchase building materials. In this challenging economy we're seeing donors putting their coveted dollars where, right now, they are most needed—local emergency or urgent services like the food bank, homeless services, and health care organizations. Add to that a cry for help from the many who have been affected by tsunamis, tornados, earthquakes and flooding here in the U.S. and around the world.

I hope you remember that Habitat for Humanity offers a permanent housing solution to a family that creates a "generational shift." A Habitat homeowner's family and their family's family is put on an amazing path to permanent success through homeownership. When you plan your giving, please don't forget us and our important local Habitat mission.

Candace Mayo

Candace Mayo, Executive Director

Annual Fundraising Drive Begins Now!

As we begin our new fiscal year, we're "gearing up" for a fundraising campaign like no other. We recently purchased five new lots in the Rigden Farm Subdivision—the same place we're currently building (see the Executive Director's column at left).

As we close the books on our last fiscal year, we know we have a huge fundraising goal to meet so that we can begin building four homes in 2011-2012 in this new phase. To achieve that, we need to raise over half a million dollars. We welcome your individual gifts, and invite church and corporate groups to come and build a Habitat home as a team effort through our Adopt-a-Day or TEAM Build program. Visit our website at www.fortcollinshabitat.org for more information about those programs or to make an individual donation.

In September, we hold our annual matching gift direct-mail appeal. This campaign yields the most donations because of the matching component. Would you consider having your company sponsor our "matching gift offering?" Or, as an individual, challenge other Habitat givers to match your donation! The money we raise during this fundraising drive enables us to purchase building materials, tools, and supplies, as well as the ability to pay the city fees necessary to build these Habitat homes.

The need is so great and times are so challenging, but we know the Lord blesses our ministry. With your help and His, homes WILL be built! Thanks, in advance, for helping us make 2011 our biggest fundraising year ever!

A Warm Welcome to Our Newest Habitat Families!

New Families Welcomed!

Equipped with balloons, hammers and hard hats, the Family Selection Committee delivered the exciting news to two newly selected partner families at their homes. Michelle, whose home is sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, broke ground on her family's home in April. Each weekend, Michelle builds alongside volunteers and she is thrilled with the progress of the build.

Kristie Rae's home will be built by PresBuild II in 2012. Until now, owning her own home was only a dream, but her dream is finally coming true. Congratulations to Michelle, Kristie Rae and their families!

New Website Launch

Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity is pleased to announce the launch of its new website at www.fortcollinshabitat.org. Now it is easier than ever to sign-up to volunteer, find out how to become a Habitat homeowner, read recent news and events, and support Habitat's mission by donating online. The Fort Collins Habitat ReStore is also celebrating the launch of a newly redesigned website at www.habitatstore.org. Check out our listings of new items and vehicles, print out a coupon for your next visit to the ReStore, and stop by again often to learn about upcoming sales and events.

Thank you, Otterbox!

OtterBox Has the Job Site Covered!

Thank you to the staff members of OtterBox and the OtterCares Foundation for pausing from their very cool jobs of making protective cases for technology devices, and for spending the day building a Habitat home in TEAM Build!

Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity® ReStore

ReStore RePurposes

At the ReStore, you'll hear words like reuse, rejuvenate, repurpose, refresh, reduce and recycle. Thanks to our generous donors, the ReStore keeps household items out of the landfill and gives them new life. Many items can be easily upgraded using paints, stains, slip covers, or by using an item in a way other than its original use. You'll find creative repurposing ideas as well as photos of our newest items on the "Ft Collins Habitat for Humanity ReStore" Facebook page. "Like" us on facebook to stay up-to-date on the latest "finds" at the store!

(970) 223.9909 or www.habitatstore.org

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Jessie Donaldson, Cindy Richards and Jordan Richards/**Decor**
The Mattoon Company /**Providing Logistics, Expertise and Fun**
Heidi Muller/**Photography**

Thank you, Thrivent!

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

The 4th Thrivent Builds home, sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, is nearing completion and will soon be the new home to Michelle and her children. In collaboration with Thrivent Builds, seven local Lutheran churches have come together to support the build by providing volunteers, additional funding and prayer support. Our Saviour's Lutheran, Peace with Christ, Redeemer Lutheran, Shepherd of the Hills, Spirit of Joy, St. John's and Trinity Lutheran Churches are all participating in this collaborative build.

The home will be completed this fall and will be the 48th Habitat home in Fort Collins. Thank you Thrivent Builds and local churches for supporting homeownership in Fort Collins! Are you a Thrivent member or a local Lutheran looking to get involved? Please contact (970) 488-2520 or e-mail dpyles@fortcollinshabitat.org to sign-up today.

Did You Know...?

Gifts designated to Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity support our mission to serve hard-working, low-income partner families locally. Gifts designated to Habitat for Humanity are received by Habitat for Humanity International and promote the cause of affordable housing internationally. Be sure to designate your gifts to Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity if you wish your contribution to benefit the Fort Collins community!

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