

Hi Women Builders,

The 2008 Women Build is here! Two Interest Meetings were held this month and we were very pleased with the turnout and enthusiasm at both! I am excited to welcome a new group of women to the program and also thrilled to be spending another year with our dedicated past volunteers. If you were unable to attend the meetings you are still welcome to get involved. Read on for details on upcoming opportunities.

Laura

Steering Committee (February 14)

The Steering Committee is a volunteer group responsible for the behind-the-scenes work of the Women Build. They plan special events, coordinate building projects, organize lunches during build days, and assist with many other projects. Our first steering committee meeting this year is **Thursday, February 14th at 6:30pm** at the Habitat office in New Britain. Please consider joining this amazing group of women. RSVP to me if you plan to attend the next meeting.

Lowe's Training Clinics

National Women Build sponsor Lowe's will be offering Women Build clinics in basic construction skills throughout the year. Attendance at these clinics is not required to participate in the Women Build, but they are a great way to learn new skills and become comfortable with your construction abilities before joining us at the build site. The first round of clinics will be held at the Quakertown Lowe's on Route 309 on Wednesdays March 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th from 6:30-8pm. A second round will be offered at the Warrington Lowe's on Route 611 Thursdays April 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th from 7-8:30pm. These clinics are free, but registration is required. Spaces are limited to ensure everyone gets hands-on experience. To register, please contact me at l.mcclellan@habitatbucks.org.

Build-A-Thon

Save the date for this year's Women Build-A-Thon! We will be working at Emerald Hollow from Saturday, June 7th-Saturday, June 14th (we will be closed on Sunday). Look for details on how to register in future update emails.

Advisory Chairs

Women Build Advisory Chairs are influential and well-respected women of our community that assist in directing the course of the Women Build program and its integration into the community. They provide assistance in areas such as fundraising, marketing and networking. Our Women Build 2008 advisory chairs are community member Dawn Byers, Jeanne Mantell, Bucks County Women's Fund, Kim Noble, The Intelligencer, and State Representative Marguerite Quinn.

Fundraising

Funds Raised to Date: \$10,000
2008 Goal: \$100,000

Patricia Kind Family Foundation

Thank you to the Patricia Kind Family Foundation for kicking off the 2008 Women Build with a \$10,000 grant!

Dedication Ceremony (March 13)

Please join us as we present six families with the keys to their new homes! Four of the homes were worked on during Women Build-A-Thon 2007, and Women Builders worked on the others during build days in April and August. The ceremony will take place at Emerald Hollow on

Thursday, March 13th from 7-8pm. Following the key presentation the homes will be open to tour and light refreshments will be available.

Bucks County Women's Fund Forums

The Bucks County Women's Fund, Inc. is a nonprofit public foundation dedicated to raising money to fund and support programs and policies that impact, empower and improve the lives of women and girls. They will be hosting a series of public forums where community members can share their experiences, wants, needs, hopes and dreams for the women and girls of Bucks County. Results will be shared in a report to legislators and community leaders, and help guide the Fund's future grantmaking to achieve the ultimate goal of positive, lasting social change.

Meeting dates are:

Monday, February 11th, Bucks County Community College, Newtown

Monday, March 17th, James Lorah House, Doylestown

Monday, March 31st, Bucks County Free Library, James A Michener Branch, Quakertown

All forums are from 7 to 9 p.m. RSVP to 215-345-5440 or event@bcwf.org. Directions and more information at <http://www.bcwf.org>.

Note: If you received this email, it means that you are on my women build email update distribution list and should expect to receive monthly program updates and occasional announcements. If you are not interested in receiving these, please let me know.