



# COMING HOME

Building Homes, Building Hope, Building Community

*In order for people to become everything they can be, they need the right place to become it—Home.*

Affordable homeownership leads to increases in graduation rates and net family wealth, as well as improved physical and mental health, especially in children. Vicki, our newest homeowner, told us she can already see her two boys earning better grades in middle and high school; and as for her two preschool girls, “there is a new light in their eyes!” We think that is pretty powerful.



when First Federal of Bucks County (now Penn Community Bank) generously donated the property to us, presenting us with a wonderful opportunity to complete a small community.

Soon after, our friends at Bux-Mont Christian Church in Warrington offered the lumber and manpower to panelize the home. So one spring Saturday, members of Bux-Mont and of the First Federal Board of Directors framed the two-story colonial in the parking lot of the church!

Thank you to the generous financial sponsors of this home: **Bucks County Foundation, Bux-Mont Christian Church, Dominion Energy, The Dow Chemical Company, Penn Community Bank, ISPE, Lower Bucks Hospital, Parx Casino, Samuel Adams PA Brewing, Sykes Enterprises, Wells Fargo and William Penn Bank.**

Over the next several months, join us to build two new homes in Morrisville Borough—our first homes in that town!



Seeing what a new home does for teenagers, imagine what a new home will mean for Imani—George and Lucy’s daughter. She will only remember growing up safe with room to play; the feeling of joy her dad brought home after he spent a day building their very own house; and watching her mom’s journey as she studied hard pursuing her nursing degree.

That is what homeownership inspires in Habitat Bucks’ partner families and what it can mean for our communities.

That is why we are thrilled to be looking ahead to building 17 homes over the next few years! Work has begun on the State Road site in Croydon. The story of this home actually began a few years ago

**Our mission: To build affordable homes, better lives, stronger families and safer, revitalized communities through partnerships with people and organizations throughout Bucks County.**

# Construction & Family News

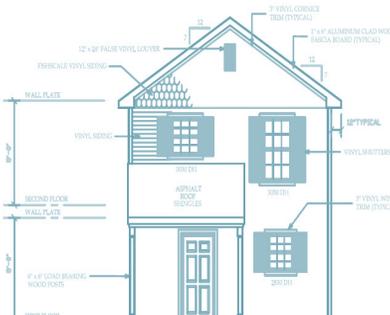
In the beginning...a new home sprouts in a church parking lot and grows on site!



Habitat Bucks' 101st home did not start on its final site, as most homes do. Instead, it was pre-fabricated by members of Bux-Mont Christian Church and First Federal of Bucks County (see page 1 for related story). This house is the second pre-built by Bux-Mont—the first house is now a happy home on Watson Avenue, Bristol, and a third is planned for B Avenue, Bristol Township. Join the fun working alongside volunteers and future Habitat homeowners! Watch us, and our homes, grow!



**DREAM BIG!**  
**AFFORDABLE NEW CONSTRUCTION**  
**FOR SALE**



**35 & 37**  
**Harrison Avenue**  
**Morrisville**

Join over 100 families who have partnered with Habitat Bucks to build and purchase their own homes. Construction begins late Fall 2015. **Apply now!**

Contact Stefanie Clark:  
s.clark@habitatbucks.org or 215.822.2812 x307

**REPAIR YOUR HOME SWEET HOME**  
**A Brush with Kindness**  
*Low-Cost Exterior Home Repairs for Homeowners*



Before (left) & After (right) with new paint & door

- Repair your home's exterior
- Add a ramp for accessibility
- Replace aging doors, windows, porches
- Applications taken year-round!

Contact Karen Reever:  
kreever@habitatbucks.org or 215.822.2812 x304

## Upcoming Events & Volunteer News



### Holiday Giving

On Tuesday, December 1, 2015, people around the world will come together for one common purpose: to encourage philanthropy in support of non-profits. Locally, it's a simple idea—make a contribution to Habitat Bucks, then tell everyone you know via Facebook, Twitter and other social media platforms!

We believe everyone deserves a decent, safe, healthy place to live. Research shows the benefits of homeownership lead to:

- *Increases in:* graduation rates, children's good health, net family income
- *Decreases in:* children's behavioral problems, asthma, use of government assistance

Please use this link to participate: <http://tinyurl.com/habitatgivingtuesday>.

### Mark Your Calendar!

Habitat Bucks' Signature Event, Hard Hats and High Heels, will take place on Friday, March 18, 2016, at the Manor House at Commonwealth. Enjoy drinks and dinner as well as extensive silent and live auctions.

For sponsorship opportunities or to purchase tickets, contact Tom Drotar: 215.822.2812 x316 or [t.drotar@habitatbucks.org](mailto:t.drotar@habitatbucks.org).



### Gifts of Retirement Plan Assets

Do you have money saved in an employee retirement plan, IRA or tax-sheltered annuity? Each of these retirement plan assets contains income that has yet to be taxed. Your beneficiaries will owe the income tax at your death, which may be reason enough to consider giving your loved ones less heavily taxed assets by leaving your retirement plan assets to charity instead.

You can help build tomorrow, today, by including Habitat Bucks in your estate planning. For more information, please contact Tom Drotar: 215.822.2812 x316 or [t.drotar@habitatbucks.org](mailto:t.drotar@habitatbucks.org).

Congratulations and endless thanks to

***Sara Bostancic***

for her **10 years** of dedicated, volunteer service!



Sara Bostancic with Tom Drotar,  
Resource Development Director

Volunteer in our **ReStore**  
weekly, monthly, seasonally!

The ReStore supports the mission of Habitat Bucks.  
We need YOU to keep it as awesome as it is!

[volunteer@habitatbucks.org](mailto:volunteer@habitatbucks.org)



**FREE PICK UP (215) 822-2708**

Residents in our community make donations to the Habitat for Humanity ReStore every day! Their donations help fund the construction and rehab of homes for low income families in the area.

We accept items in good condition that can be resold in our ReStore.

Doors • Windows • Appliances • Tools • Cabinets  
Lighting • Building Materials • Furniture & much more!

**DONATE** **SHOP** **VOLUNTEER**



*Building Homes and Hope...  
Thanks to You!*

## How you are making a difference...

### Welcome New Habitat Board Members:



Chuck Breder  
Toll Brothers



Susan Eckert  
Parx Casino



Mike Keim  
Univest



John Richardson  
Dumack Engineering



Karl Schmidt  
Villanova University



Bring your group for a team-building day in the ReStore.

Thank you to all of our volunteers!

ReStore proceeds support our build mission.

**Volunteer**  
[volunteer@habitatbucks.org](mailto:volunteer@habitatbucks.org)

Join our networks



**Board of Directors:** Neil McKeon, President; Sandie Bauder; Michael Block; Charles Breder; Nancy Buckner; Sherry Cordery; Susan Eckert; James Esposito, Esq.; Mary Pat Holewinski; Mike Keim; John Richardson; Mike Savona, Esq.; Karl Schmidt; Eileen Silver; Mark Silverman; Chris Tuck  
**Staff:** Florence Kawoczka, Executive Director; Laura Blair, Finance Director; Colleen Brink, Volunteer & Outreach Director; Stefanie Clark, Family Program Director; Tom Drotar, Resource Development Director; Mike Fallon, Construction Director; Sam Martin, Office Manager; Karen Reeve, Community Development Manager; Jason Rupe, Construction Site Supervisor; Kathy Schoepfer, Volunteer Coordinator  
**ReStore Staff:** BJ Breish, Manager; Krystal Oliver, Assistant Manager; Todd Brosky; Don Feeney; Zach Fowler; Susanne Jess; Jacob Lightner; Janet Northcott; Patty Saylor