

Memorial Gifts

Carol Easter’s sister Karen
Mr. and Mrs. David Ives

William “Bud” Broomall
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Torongo

Robert Cretsinger
Integrity Mechanical

Corinne Davies
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Bailey

Frank Eckert
Barbara Eckert

Nancy Hankins
Alpern Rosenthal
Mr. and Mrs. James Hankins

Mae Henderson
Elmer Henderson

Geraldine Martson
Janice O’Donnell

Beverly Miller
Charlotte Lawson

Leroy Miller
Anonymous

Joseph Mulvaney
The Shaw Group

William Pfeiffer
Ruth Pfeiffer

Florence Servis
Anonymous

Emerson Shaw
Mr. and Mrs. George Lange

John Wright
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Greer

In Honor Of...

Samantha Acaster
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Sonlin

Meg Burger
Lynn Feldman

Ann Hadfield
Sandra Fickes

Lauren Kelly
Karen Burkhardt

Beth Mastro
Mr. and Mrs. Ken Wait

Winter May Melson
Dona Marie Bergner

Steve Moyer
Stephen Ministry – St. Paul’s
Lutheran Church

William and Sandy Mullican
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Moncur

Joe Newton
Mr. and Mrs. David Lightkep

Melissa O’Brien
Joan Schumacher

Tom and Maddie Read
Christine Read

Lea Schumacher
Joan Schumacher

Jay Schwartz
Employees at Dr. Schwartz’s
office

Dan and Betsy Soderberg
Mr. and Mrs. Rick Gebelein

Joseph Walp
Kathleen Walp



Habitat
for Humanity®
of Bucks County

COMINGHOME

HABITAT HAPPENINGS FOR OUR FRIENDS AND VOLUNTEERS

Coming Home is produced by Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County with contributions made by board, staff and volunteers /// Newsletter Design: Laura Sue Design

Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County Celebrates its 20th Anniversary!



This year we are celebrating our 20th anniversary, having gotten our official start in December, 1990. Thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers, led by a group from Doylestown Presbyterian Church, our first home was completed in 1994. Today, 77 families have become homeowners through our program with five more expected to make settlement by Spring, 2011.

Over the past 20 years we have seen many changes, growing from an organization run completely by volunteers to one that is now professionally staffed with continued support by dedicated

volunteers. In this issue, we will be highlighting some of the significant changes that have occurred. But for now, let’s focus on what has not changed.

Our mission, “To build affordable homes, better lives, stronger families, and safer communities through partnerships with people and organizations throughout Bucks County,” remains steadfast. Everyone - the Board of directors, staff and volunteers - focuses on that single goal every day. Why? After 20 years, we know it matters.

Our volunteers remain at the core of our success. Their dedication and skills allow us to direct more of our funding to construction and less on back-office support. Their generous gift of time and talent goes beyond helping us to build homes. They serve on committees, provide critical office support, organize events, offer professional legal, engineering, financial and design skills, manage volunteers and advocate on our behalf. These are the individuals that support the mission of Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County.

The family selection process and requirements for homeownership follow the original principles established by Habitat International. They were designed to educate potential homeowners so that they can be successful. We know it works. To date, we have had no foreclosures. Our families are thriving, expanding their families and sending children off to college, an achievement that was not as likely to happen if they had not become homeowners. What builder or mortgage company can say that?

The need for affordable, sustainable homeownership in Bucks County is as prevalent today as it was 20 years ago. In fact, it only continue to grow. Unfortunately, even here, there will always be families living in cramped conditions, frequently with multiple families in one unit. We will continue to find families spending more than they can afford on their housing, or living in unsafe, unhealthy conditions.

Our commitment to changing these circumstances by providing the opportunity for homeownership to working families in our community remains strong today. We have seen many changes in our delivery, construction and outreach and expect to see much more over the next 20 years. The faces of staff and volunteers will change in time as well. But, just as time marches on, so will the commitment to our mission here in Bucks County, our home, our community.

Linda Andrews

Linda Andrews
Executive Director

Our volunteers remain at the core of our success. Their generous gift of time and talent goes beyond helping us to build homes.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF BUCKS COUNTY

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

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Welcome Home!

Three new homes were dedicated this fall in opposite ends of the county. On October 23, in our Emerald Hollow townhouse community in Upper Bucks, friends and family gathered to celebrate the homeownership of Amber Simone in Cluster 9 and Ardjan Pashollari and Eglantina Sema and their children in Cluster 13. On November 13, LaTarsha McWhite and her three-generation family were surrounded by prayers of thanksgiving and joy at their new home at 2215 Liberator Street in Bristol Township.

In October, Rev. Christine Mottl of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Doylestown, and Habitat Bucks board member, led the prayers. Keys were presented to the families by Habitat Bucks Board Member, Nancy Buckner, on behalf of the entire Board of Directors. Refreshments were provided by Teamwork

Wins! and Dunkin Donuts. Gifts were presented from Buckingham Friends School, MOPS of Collegeville, Trinity Lutheran Church of Perkasio and the Bucks County Community College Ceramics I Class.

The Liberator Street house was sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and the member churches of the Lower Bucks Chapter. Rev. Nancy Wiseman represented Emmaus Road Lutheran Church, and provided the blessings. Representatives from Lutheran Church of God’s Love and from Lutheran Church of the Resurrection presented the house key. Gifts were presented by the Knit and Crochet group from Lutheran Church of God’s Love and by the scouts of Troop 48 Doylestown Presbyterian Church.

Berean Bookstores donated Bibles to all three families.



20 Years of Construction

Changing needs within the County; changing opportunities for land purchases; changing ideas to incorporate the reuse of existing buildings; changing philosophies about sustainable building techniques and materials; and of major influence, changing economic times; Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County (HfHBC) has been evolving its home building mission since its inception in 1990.

From 1990-2000, HfHBC built single-family and duplex homes, focusing its efforts in the Lower Bucks County area. By 2000, HfHBC had constructed 14 homes, one at a time, using conventional building methods. Averaging 1.4 homes built per year, the construction cost per home was \$93,785.

In 2001 HfHBC began its largest and most ground-breaking project. It commenced as a 37 unit townhouse development in Upper Bucks, named Emerald Hollow, in Trumbauersville. This initial phase of the project is situated on a 14 acre tract and spans two communities. In 2005 Phase 2 of the project began with the purchase of another 15 acre tract which is contiguous to the Phase 1 tract. Phase 2 added 36 more townhouses.

Emerald Hollow not only introduced the need for a whole new building process (because HfHBC was undertaking multiple, simultaneous constructions) but it also offered new homeownership models. It featured a mixed income community profile incorporating open market homes alongside Habitat sponsored families. The opportunity for affordable housing was further expanded when two tiers of qualifying incomes were created. The concept was original and enabled HfHBC to address the specific economic challenges of home ownership in Bucks County. The open market homes were sold and the proceeds were used to assist in funding the Habitat sponsored townhouses. By 2005, 25 Habitat sponsored and 12 open market townhouses were completed under Phase 1 of the project. Phase 1 townhouse construction cost averaged \$108,180 per unit with production totaling 7.4 homes per year including the open market units.

In 2005, Phase 2 began with modifications to the townhouse floor plan. The building exterior facades remained the same but unit square footage size between the Tier 1 and Tier 2 models were equalized and basements were eliminated. With these architectural changes, HfHBC could afford to upgrade the wall framing construction to 2” x 6” studs, provide higher values of insulation in the walls, and upgrade windows. This was the beginning of our growing awareness of energy efficiency and making conscious decisions during the design process to save Habitat homeowners energy related costs in the future. Interestingly, Phase 2 townhouse construction costs were lower, averaging \$101,652 per unit; our production got faster too, with 9 homes being built per year. Emerald Hollow was substantially completed in 2009.

In 2009 HfHBC launched into its Green Building Initiative; we embarked on our first adaptive-reuse project, the conversion of a circa 1920 baseball-making factory in Perkasio into a 6 unit condominium project. Fittingly named the Stitchery, the project featured 2 fully accessible units, a construction debris recycling program (75% of all demolition debris, totaling 48 tons, was recycled and kept from the local land fill), upgraded exterior wall insulation (open cell soy based spray foam insulation- R 24.5), Energy Star rated windows, Hybrid HVAC systems, Energy Star light fixtures, low flow plumbing fixtures and programmable thermostats. HfHBC also initiated their Owner Education Program to educate homeowners how to manage their energy efficient homes. Substantial completion was reached in early 2010 with the average construction cost per unit at \$108,674.

In 2010, HfHBC established new opportunities back in Lower Bucks County and eagerly began two projects in Bristol Township; a single home and a 4 unit townhome cluster. The single home replaced a blighted house, but the original foundation was salvaged and reinforced, saving materials and costs. In keeping with the Green Building Initiative, our sustainable building techniques have expanded even further to include interior air sealing, Energy Star rated HVAC systems, structural insulated panels (SIPS), permeable pavement driveways and patios, underground detention basins, and value based framing (to reduce wood use). The goal is to achieve Energy Star Rating for these current projects. The single home is scheduled for completion in October 2010 with the 4 unit cluster reaching completion shortly thereafter in December 2010. The single home is expected to have a construction cost of \$108,000 - \$110,000 and the townhouse cluster is projected to have a construction cost between \$95,000-\$100,000.

Through the years, Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County’s mission has been to provide decent afford housing. We have grown to include sustainable and energy efficient design, construction methods, and materials. We have found that doing this has not affected our average construction costs, but it does greatly impact the quality of our homeowners’ lives, our community, and the environment. As Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County moves forward, we will strive to continue and expand our Green Building Initiative as we serve Bucks County.



20 Years Celebrated with Hard Hats and High Heels!



Hard Hats and High Heels 2010 was a sparkling event enjoyed by more than 180 guests at beautiful Keenan Mercedes of Doylestown on Friday, November 5, 2010. The event marked the 20th anniversary of Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County and was a true celebration of success. Homeowners Sharon Baxter and Alice Zander shared their reflections on what it has meant to partner with Habitat Bucks.

Three awards were presented: Sara Bostancic – Volunteer of the Year, Peter Thompson – Spirit of Habitat Award, and First Savings Bank as the Corporate Partner of the Year. Guests mingled and sampled delicious appetizers as they bid on an outstanding array of silent auction items donated by local busi-

nesses and individuals. As they sat down to a fabulous dinner, guests enjoyed the one-of-a-kind table centerpieces, all crafted from high heels and hard hats by members of Artists of Yardley.

Executive Director, Linda Andrews, shared highlights from the past 20 years and thanked sponsors Scott and Carolyn Belveal and Goldman Sachs, as well as K’nex, Moore Energy, Univest and the Peter Sargent Family for their generous support. Board President Scott Belveal closed the evening with words of appreciation, as well as a request for everyone to spread the word about the good work Habitat is doing and find ways to get involved. Proceeds from the evening topped \$20,000 and will be used to continue construction on the four townhomes underway in Bristol Township.



Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County is:

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Deborah Lynch, *Resource Development Director*
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MaryAnn Fink, *ReStore staff*
Rodney Fritz, *ReStore staff*
Michael Fallon, Jr., *ReStore staff*



Five years ago, we expected 35 women for our first Women Build interest meeting. Something magical happened that night; we were amazed at the 100 women who joined us. The parking lot and street were so jammed that the police came and insisted we end the meeting because the street was not accessible for emergency vehicles.

The idea was simple; to engage women in the construction process and help them to build their own skills in a comfortable environment. Looking at our volunteer statistics, we knew that while more than

70% of our volunteers were women, less than 20% actually volunteered on the construction site. Five years later, half of our work site volunteers are women. Who knew so many of you were chomping at the bit to pick up a hammer!

The program itself has evolved along the way, but the basics remain very much the same. Lowes Home Improvement Stores remain a great partner, both at the local and national level. The company is the national sponsor for the program, providing each participating affiliate the opportunity to apply for grants, of which we have received one almost every year. Locally, we have a great partnership with the individual stores. They offer us space to run our training workshops; their employees volunteer to be our trainers – and they do a great job! Our Build-a-Thons are so popular, we have added shorter or one-day builds throughout the year to augment the week-long event.

These ladies are never assigned the 'easy' tasks. Here are some highlights of what they have accomplished:

- After the first Build-a-Thon event, our construction staff realized they didn't have high enough expectations of the ability, speed and dedication of these ladies.
- They have done everything, including footers, insulation, drywall, trim, flooring and painting.
- Need demolition? Wow - can they knock down a wall!
- One of the first groups to work on the Colonial Avenue build site, they trained right alongside our crew, learning how to set up and install a new type of footer. This new product and their hard work saved us two weeks on our construction schedule and improves energy efficiency.

But that's not all they do. They advocate on our behalf by representing us at community days and other events. They plan fundraising events, doing everything from concerts to wine tastings (a big hit!). They even work with us in doing a home repair workshop at the annual Day for All Women held at Bucks County Community College each year.

While volunteers have come and gone over the past five years, this program has grown from those first 100 to over 950 to date. The fundraising goal for the program has grown from \$60,000 to \$100,000, an annual house sponsorship!

You too can get involved. We promise you'll have fun, get really tired and feel great doing it. For more information, visit our website, www.habitatbucks.org or contact Linda Andrews at l.andrews@habitatbucks.org

Homeownership – a child's view

Twenty years has changed Habitat. Even the households that comprise our Habitat homeowners have changed: new careers, new family members, children growing up and moving out, some even marrying and having their own children.

For our 20th anniversary, we asked children of Habitat homeowners and partner families (those families currently working on their sweat equity hours and helping to complete their homes), how life has changed, or is changing, for them.

The Carroll family of Bristol Borough purchased their single-family home in 2001. When they were accepted into the program in early 1998, Candace Carroll was 4. Her twin siblings, Faith and Isaiah, were 15 months old. Candace, who was 7 when the family purchased their home, will soon be 17. Faith and Isaiah will soon be 14. As young as they were then, they've each noticed changes to their family through the years.

"Me and my family grew over the years by doing more things together," Faith said. "In the past, we would always eat dinner on our own time. Nowadays, we eat as a family."

Isaiah and Candace commented on the stability that homeownership provides for them. "You can do whatever you want to a house that you own," said Isaiah. "Renting a place, you have to move every so often, and you have to worry about a lot of things." Candace added, "Living in a rented place means you have to follow the owner's rules, and you're not guaranteed a place to live when you get home. When you own a house, you know you have a place to live when you come home."

Homeownership provides more than stability. The Abreu family townhouse in Emerald Hollow is home to Rangel, 20, Angel, Jr., 14, and Rosbel, 10, as well as their parents, who purchased their home in June 2006.

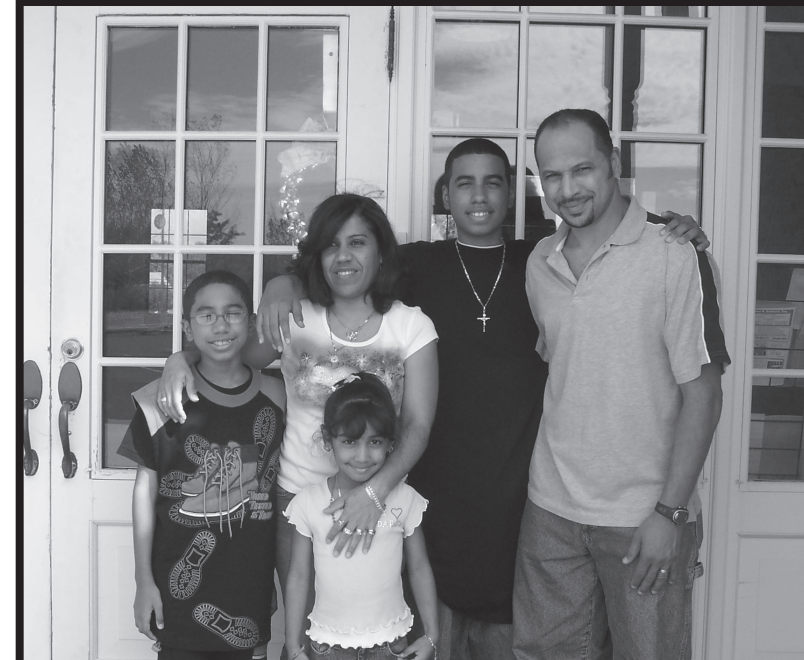
"Owning a home has given us a sense of pride and happiness that we've never had the pleasure to enjoy," they reported together via email. "Having her own room has given Rosbel a sense of organization and responsibility, while sharing one has brought Angel and Rangel closer than ever." They added, "Owning a home has brought us together on occasions such as when rearranging a room, deciding on where a certain decoration would go, or where we were going to put our Christmas tree every December. Owning a home has been a great bonding experience for us all!"

Nothing is lost during the experience of working toward a new home. Sister and brother, Ronnie Wilson and Ronald Wilson, Jr., have been watching and participating actively with their mother, LaTarsha McWhite, and their grandmother, Irene McWhite, through the homeownership process. They have been celebrating, working and praying together in preparation for homeownership since May of this year. Ronnie, 10, and Ronald, Jr., 7, have been earning sweat equity hours by making and writing thank you notes to volunteers and working in the Habitat office.

"We feel successful that we are doing something to help build the house and get all our hours in," Ronnie said recently. Both siblings are excited about getting their own rooms, as they currently share one in their two-bedroom apartment. Their new, single-family home in Bristol Township boasts four bedrooms—enough to accommodate this three-generation household, who believes that "home" is a place for love and worship.

When the family was visiting their new home in mid-August, LaTarsha shared, Ronald walked in the room where she and her mother were talking. "'Ronald said to us, 'I hope you guys aren't in there just talking; I hope you're saying a prayer. I want to go in my room to say a prayer.' And he did," she said.

"Grandma can't stop telling all her friends. She says, 'I am so proud of my daughter,'" Ronnie shared. "The first thing we'll do in our new home—I will get my mom, my brother and my grandma all together and we'll say a prayer."



Find Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County on the World Wide Web



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Add us as a contact on Flickr by visiting www.flickr.com/photos/habitat-bucks/ or by doing a search for "Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County" at www.flickr.com.



Habitat for Humanity’s ReStore – a New Kind of Ministry

Habitat ReStores are retail outlets where quality used and surplus building materials and home goods donated from outside companies, organizations and individuals are sold at a fraction of normal prices. Proceeds from ReStores help local affiliates fund the construction of Habitat houses within the community. The first ReStore opened in Winnipeg, Canada in 1991. The first US store opened in Austin, Texas in 1992. Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County opened its ReStore in 2008. Our motivation was the sheer volume of donations offered to assist with the construction of our homes or helping families to furnish their new homes. We simply could not use everything offered. Through the ReStore, we can take those donations and turn them into dollars. Realized profit from sales goes to support our construction efforts.

But a ministry – really?

The establishment of the ReStore expands our reach in the community by providing a service to the *entire* community.

and financial needs of others—the spiritual as well as the practical. We all know of many stories in the Bible where Jesus fed not just the spirits of his followers, but their bodies as well.

Habitat for Humanity is a Christian ministry. Habitat's ministry is based on the conviction that to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ, we must love and care for one another. Our work puts that faith into action. We bring diverse groups of people together to make affordable housing and better communities a reality for everyone. But the ReStore is a thrift store – a retail operation by its legal description and a revenue source on our financial reports.

I bet you are still wondering why we refer to it as a ministry...

Ours is a disposable society. When we remodel, upgrade, redecorate or just replace, the old item is frequently discarded instead of reused. We know that most of the donations provided to our store may have ended up in a landfill. The ReStore is an opportunity to give unwanted items a new home and *serves as a means* for individuals to recycle.

“Ministry” comes from the Greek word diakoneo, meaning “to serve.” The dictionary defines it as “the act of serving” or “that which serves as a means.” Ministry can, and should, include ministering to the physical, emotional, mental, vocational

We are still amazed at the number of people who think that our store is only for our homeowners. *The ReStore is open to everyone to come, shop and save!* Our customers come from all walks of life, from all over the area. Now, more than ever, everyone is looking for a bargain. At our ReStore, they find more; they can remodel a room, find a treasure or create a room. The ReStore *serves as a means* for individuals to furnish and decorate their homes economically.

The establishment of the ReStore expands our reach in the community by providing a service to the *entire* community. Whether intentional or not, everyone who donates goods to the store, and everyone who buys from the store, is donating to Habitat Bucks. It is an additional opportunity to give the gift of time as we use volunteer support to assist in its operation. The ReStore *serves as a means* for individuals to give.

The ReStore provides us another opportunity for outreach in the community. We promote our mission, information on homeownership and ways to get involved. There are educational materials available on how, what and why we build. The ReStore *serves as a means* to communicate our mission and the need in our own community.

So join us for a slightly different type of ministry. Come, shop and save!

The Habitat for Humanity ReStore is located at 31 Oak Avenue, Chalfont, PA 18914. Phone: 215.822.2708.

Hours: Wednesday 9-5, Thursday & Friday 9-6, Saturday 9-5. Donations are only accepted during hours of operation.



THANK YOU NOTES

20 years of support

Countless numbers of individuals, churches, businesses and organizations have contributed to Habitat Bucks over the years, so many that we fear attempting to mention them all would leave more than a few without recognition. So, for that reason, we gratefully acknowledge the entire collection of time, funds and in-kind donations each and every person has contributed in making so many dreams come true for the Habitat families.

A few garner mentioning specifically. Thank you so much to: Doylestown Presbyterian Church, some of whose members founded our affiliate in 1990 and continue to serve as volunteers; attorney-at-law, Peter Thompson, of Doylestown, who helped us orchestrate every single Habitat home sale since our first, and continually shares his knowledge beyond the settlement process; the long-serving staff of Doylestown Transfer and Abstract, who have facilitated at least two-thirds of our home sales, as well as provided title insurance for new building projects; TH Properties, who were a huge, financial contributor to Emerald Hollow, Phase I; QNB Bank, who has serviced our mortgages since 2002; and the Wednesday Boys, our retired “guys” who’ve had their hands on each and every house we’ve built.

Thank you to Bill Tuszyński, the Quakertown Rotary and the Quakertown United Methodist Church for their ongoing support through the annual 5K. This year will be its 9th running...and as we are looking back at the past 20 years, that’s a lot of miles!

And the list continues to grow...

Thank you Christian Life Coach and Finance Coach, Kelley Sawyer, who shared her expertise with current partner families, homeowners and persons hopeful to be Habitat homeowners, in a two-part workshop series on September 11 and 25. The full-day workshops took a holistic approach to preparing for homeownership.

As we move toward new building projects, we are **especially thankful to our committees**. Each committee has contributed to the success of our building projects, communities and the homeowners themselves. The Family Selection continues to provide innumerable hours reviewing homeowner applications, and the Family Support Committee partners with each new family who enters our homeownership program. The Site Selection Committee is fully involved with the selection and development of every project, providing valuable time and expertise. The Resource Development Committee works closely with our re-

source development director in fundraising efforts; taking full responsibility for our annual event. The Women Build Steering Committee continues

to provide strong support by organizing events and programs to support their fundraising and volunteer efforts. Women Build helps to fund a house every year.

Thrivent Builds 2010: Members of **Thrivent Financial for Lutheran and the Lutheran Churches from the lower Bucks area** labored through a long hot summer working to build the house on Liberator Street in Levittown. This charming, four-bedroom home is soon to become home to a very excited LaTarsha McWhite and her three-generation family. The group went far beyond building; they also raised funds to make the project happen. Through a grant provided by Thrivent and the fundraising efforts of the Lutheran community, this house is fully sponsored at \$100,000!

Thanks to everyone involved with Thrivent for your continued support!

Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County is delighted to partner with Dow on our Colonial Avenue project in Bristol. A national partner with Habitat for Humanity, our affiliate was selected to be a grant recipient of Dow in a competitive application process. With a prior, ongoing relationship with Rohm and Haas, we were very excited to be able to continue to work with many familiar faces now part of the Dow family. This unique partnership has provided a combination of volunteer labor, donations of construction materials as well as financial support. Thanks to everyone at Dow!

This year, we are very excited to welcome a collaboration of Episcopal Churches in Bucks County to our first **Episcopal Build**. Lead by a group from the Bucks County Episcopal Deanery, these churches are providing volunteers and financial support for one of our Colonial Avenue townhomes in Bristol. Their gifts are a blessing to a Habitat Bucks partner family!

Fundraising can be done by anyone and was proved this past year by **Bridge Valley Elementary**. They raised \$500 in their Nickels for Nails drive!

Lemus Construction, Inc. of Furlong stepped up – literally! They provided the materials and the labor for the roofs on the Liberator Street project and the townhomes on Colonial Avenue. Their in-kind contribution provided more than \$12,000 in materials and labor. Thank you for your support!

The FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) in Pennsylvania selected Habitat for Humanity as

their charity this past year. High School Club members across the state ran fundraisers towards a statewide goal of \$75,000. Thanks to the clubs in Bucks County who supported us by raising \$505!

A great big **Thank You** to the sponsors of our *Women Build* program for 2010! The following companies and organizations stepped up again this year, helping to make the 5th year of this program a success.

- Ally Bank - \$25,000
- Lowe’s - \$5,000
- First Savings Bank - \$5,000
- Jones Apparel Group - \$5,000
- FourJay Foundation - \$3,500
- Bucks County Commissioners - \$3,500

The Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County is a truly dedicated group. Their diverse skills help to provide needed expertise in faith guidance, management, finance, legal, fundraising, engineering, architecture and more. They freely share their gifts to guide us in our mission. They also make a personal commitment to support the organization financially. In our 2009/2010 fiscal year, the board of directors raised \$62,900. This included personal and matching donations, in-kind support and fundraising on our behalf. Thanks to our board of directors for all you do!

And some very difficult farewells.....

Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County has been going through a transitional period in our development. As we continue to help low-income families attain decent, affordable housing, we ourselves have had to make cutbacks. Unfortunately, our Volunteer Manager position, held by Laura McClellan, and the Marketing & PR position, held by Mikaela Martin, have been eliminated. These two dedicated individuals have made tremendous contributions to our affiliate, providing enthusiastic and unwavering support to our operations. **We thank Mikaela and Laura for all of the work they have done for Habitat Bucks** and we wish them the very best in all future endeavors.

