



Mesilla Valley
Habitat
 for Humanity®

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 1

Words From The Executive Director

As we enter into the current build season, I am reminded of how important the friends of MVHFH are to achieving our goal of ending substandard housing. This is a daunting challenge, yet we have proven to ourselves in so many ways that we are up for the challenge. There is so much to celebrate as we come together in our mission of meeting the housing needs of worthy families

here in Las Cruces, NM.

Our first of four builds began August 30th with our groundbreaking at 7560 Monte Verde for the well deserving Atwell family. The plans are set for all four builds and we are excited to get started. We would like to officially welcome our car-avanners who are slowly settling in to assist with our homes. Don Stover, Construction supervisor has worked hard at

organizing our wonderful car-avanners. We could not do this without them and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those folks who have chosen to settle into Las Cruces for a bit and help us build for those in need. Without all our volunteers our work would not be possible. So thank you to everyone, both our local volunteers and to our visiting car-avanners.

Ground Breaking ~ Congratulations!!

A groundbreaking celebration was held at 9:00 am on Saturday, August 29th, on the construction site at 7560 Monte Verde. This is the future home of Jesse and Veronica Atwell and their family, Raymond, 10; Luiz, 7; Analise, 6; Christopher, 4 and Jesse Jr, 5 months. This is the first of four houses to be

built this year. Ed Johnson, Executive Director stated: "We had the plans all set and then we learned about the new baby on the way so we quickly modified the plans for the family. We were happy to accommodate the baby on the way."

Easy Ways to Help

1. Volunteer

2. Shop/donate to our Re-Store (2301 South Main St.)

3. Donate old cell phones.

4. Make monetary donations. Send to 720 Santa Fe, Las Cruces, NM 88001

5. Search the web with Yahoo-powered Good-Search.com and note MVHFH as your charity and they will donate about a penny to us each time you search!

Contact Information:
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www.lascruceshabitat.org





MARIE SCHWARTZ
Development Officer

Home, the spot of
earth supremely
blest, A dearer,
sweeter spot than
all the rest.

~Robert
Montgomery

STAFF

Ed Johnson:
Executive Director

Paula Wright:
Accountant

Leticia Garcia:
Operations Coordinator

Marie Schwartz:
Development Officer

Don Stover:

An Introduction ~ New Development Officer

I would like to introduce myself as the new Development Officer for Mesilla Valley Habitat for Humanity. My name is Marie Schwartz, and I received my MBA from New Mexico State University 13 years ago. Since that time, I have dedicated myself to non-profit work. I have worked in domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault, and mental health services in both Louisiana and Houston.

My experience in non-profit work has been in marketing, public relations, operations, and development and fundraising. It is my pleasure to serve this community.

I fell in love with the area and people as a student and I am grateful to have the opportunity to come back and actually serve this community. It makes it even more of a pleasure to work for an or-

ganization that is dedicated to providing and building for this community. I have appreciated the warm welcome I have received from my co-workers, volunteers, and the community.

I reside in Las Cruces with my husband and two children. I look forward to becoming acquainted with the extended habitat family as I become part of this worthy organization/family and community.

Other Builds Underway

Two
3rd St

Plumbing is under way on 3rd street and the plans are in place for the rest of this build.

Three & Four
Virginia

House two and three are going to be a duplex.

This is the first time that MVHFH is building a duplex and we are excited about the expansion of our floor plans offered. This is a great way to make better use of some plots of land.

Barnes and Nobel Gift Wrapping Fundraiser

It is that time again, time for our annual Barnes and Nobel Gift wrapping fundraiser. It will be held November 27th through December 24th. The times will coincide with the mall hours. We are looking for volunteers to help wrap gift for this

event. The shifts are 3-4 hours. This is fun volunteer opportunity, so sign up with a friend. It may even be nice to make it a family affair.

Thank you to our volunteer Mary Lou Brown for coordinating this event several years in a row.

Sign up today
Call Mary Lou at:
575-521-5927



VOLUNTEERS~We NEED YOU



In the course of expanding the pool of volunteers available to build houses, raise funds and publicize our work, we seek a diversity of skills, ethnicity, experience and religion. Can you help us not only build houses, but build our relations as a community. Join us; our doors are open to

With Sympathy

Habitat for Humanity is deeply saddened by the death of Millard Fuller, the visionary whose ideas and tireless work created Habitat for Humanity.

He died Feb. 3, following a brief illness. He was 74.

"Millard Fuller's drive and re-

You. We build Monday-Saturday, 8am-3pm. **We are in great need of volunteers, during the week, for October.**

We encourage students, retirees and anyone who would like to assist us with our mission. In Addition, we encourage groups such as businesses, civic groups, campus groups, schools and churches to secure a day for themselves. This a great way to volunteer all together on one given day (make it two or three..even better!) We build October through May. The number of hours is up to you; we just

lentless commitment to affordable housing captured people's imagination and changed lives around the world," said J. Ronald Terwilliger, chair of Habitat for Humanity's International Board of Directors. "His inspiration lives on in Habitat's work and

need your help and are grateful for whatever time you can give. Sign up today by calling Leticia at (575)525-0475.

OUR CURRENT NEEDS:

1. Weekday volunteers on the build site: No experience needed. We will teach you what you need to know.
2. Holiday gift wrapping: 4-hour shifts at Barnes & Noble start on Friday, Nov. 27th at 10am.
3. Hospitality volunteers: we provide snacks every day and lunches on Saturday, but we need people to donate snacks and lunch and/or to pick up food donations.

through its employees, volunteers, partner families and supporters. We at Mesilla Valley Habitat extend our sincere condolences to the Fuller family and are keeping them in our thoughts and prayers."



We would like all of our supporters to have the opportunity to register to win a free car with Magic 105 during

"Cobalt for Christmas."

Visit kmvrfm.com to learn more. Magic 105 is working in conjunction with The Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico in an effort to raise money for area nonprofits as part of the "Economic Crisis Campaign."





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The ReStore By: Patty Ickler - Volunteer Coordinator

What a unique store the ReStore is! We have regular customers who are self-proclaimed ReStore addicts who come often to see what's new and look for that much beloved bargain. There is something at the store for every one and every room in the house.

The currently 24 active volunteers that come each week to donate their time, energy, and expertise to ensure the donations are made ready in the best possible condition before going on the sales floor are responsible for contributing to our success. Some volunteers work to keep the store as neat,

clean, and organized as possible. All compliments about the ReStore need to be directed to them.

We welcome Habitat for Humanity "applicant families" who are earning their sweat equity hours. Their time at the ReStore has been very helpful in keeping up with our busy workload.

Improvements continue in the store. There are now very nice, sturdy shelves that house the kitchen cabinets allowing for better viewing and more floor space. Thank you Kirby Prickett and Ed Smith. Our mattresses also have a new structure to showcase

them better. Improvements continue with input from volunteers and employees who take pride in the ReStore.

Thanks, also, to all those who donate items to the ReStore. The generosity of the community is amazing and is greatly appreciated.

The showroom is getting a little spooky! Halloween costumes, pumpkins, spider webs, scarecrows, t-shirts, assorted trick-or-treat bags and many more items are now on display and selling fast. And, it won't be long before our showroom turns into a Christmas wonderland.



2301 South Main St.