



HABITAT HAPPENINGS



A Publication of Habitat for Humanity of Morrison County

Fall 2023

We Are Closing on House 23!

Amanda and Jaxon are thrilled to finally have a home of their own. Amanda has been working hard on her sweat equity: clearing trees, painting, cleaning after subcontractors, providing lunch for workers, and also spoke at our golf tournament. She has enjoyed seeing all of her planning come together in the house, and is delighted to have a yard for her son and their dog.

Jaxon, age 5, is looking forward to playing in the back yard, and always asks which room is his, what it will look like, and where his toys will go.

Amanda says, "I am excited to take on this new adventure and learn and grow with it. It is truly a blessing."

Amanda's home is the first one in Morrison County that was approved for USDA financing at a rate of 1.1%. USDA has a partnership program with Habitat for Humanity affiliates to increase the number of affordable houses by financing the costs to build at a very small interest rate. By partnering with USDA Rural Development, we can begin construction on the next home even sooner. Congratulations to Amanda for being the first USDA Habitat partner!

Thank you to our construction manager Jerry Theisen, our dedicated volunteers, and all of the contractors who made this house possible: JD Services, Ziegler Plumbing and Heating, Ripplinger Plumbing, Big Dave's Electric, Doucette Construction, Doug Prokott Building and Remodeling, Pro Peak Construction, and Randy's Insulation.



Our Volunteers Make a Difference!

2023

Volunteer Statistics



675

Construction Volunteer Hours



92

Event Volunteer Hours



72

Individual Volunteers Hours



\$26,439

Value of Volunteer Labor





Bipartisan Build

We hosted a Bipartisan Build Thursday, September 7. MN state and federal legislators, Little Falls city officials, Morrison County Government Center staff, and staff from Habitat Minnesota in St. Paul worked alongside our dedicated volunteers hanging sheet rock in house #23. It was a great opportunity for our officials to get their hands dirty and get a better understanding of the housing needs in our community and in our state.

New Board Members

Welcome, Danette and Alex, to our Board of Directors!

Danette Ringwelski is the Community Services Director at Tri-County Community Action Partnership.

Alex Wiggers is the General Manager of Country Inn and Suites in Little Falls.

We are still looking for one more board member to join our team. If you have an interest in affordable housing in Morrison County and are willing to serve on our board of directors, please contact us today!

2023 Golf Tournament - June

We had a very successful 21st annual HFHMC Golf Tournament! Twenty teams and 27 hole sponsors raised \$15,475 to support affordable housing right here in Morrison County.

Tournament winners were:

Men's Division: RTO, PA

Mixed Division: Frosty's Bar and Grill

Thank you to all the teams and sponsors who made it such a great day!

2023 Fall Raffle - October

Thanks to all who bought a ticket for our fall raffle. Your participation helps provide a worthy family with the life-changing opportunity to own their own home.

Congratulations to the raffle winners:

Storage Shed - Bill Osberg

Coffee Table - Tim Calhoun

Adirondack Chair - Claudia Girtz

Holiday Inn - Annette Gregoire

Falls Theatre - Greg Johnson

\$100 Cash - Kim Mielke

Women's Build

Our recent Women's Build Paint Party was a big success. We had 19 ladies volunteer 62 hours of time. They painted all of the trim and molding for House #23. Thanks, ladies!

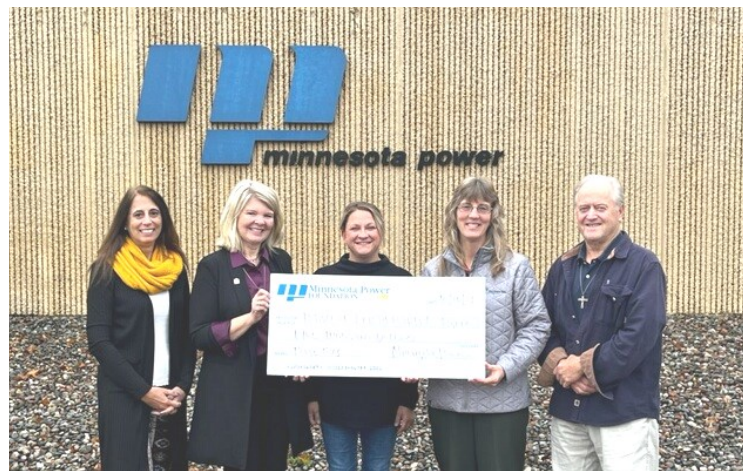


Minnesota Power Grant

MN Power awards \$5,000 to Habitat for Humanity of Morrison County to support affordable housing. MN Power has connected electricity to all 23 of our Habitat houses.

Pictured here are:

Sheila Watercott, VP HFHMC Board; Kathy Lange, HFHMC Executive Director; Kelly Desormey, MN Power Sr. Engineer; Diane Korver, Treasurer HFHMC Board, and Bill Osberg, President HFHMC Board.



Annual Appeal 2023

We believe that every man, woman, and child deserve a simple, decent place to live in dignity and safety, and that adequate shelter in our communities should be a matter of conscience and action for all. We need your support to keep moving toward that goal. As the affordable housing crisis continues, Habitat for Humanity International has challenged all affiliates to double their capacity. Our partner for House 23 is almost ready to move in. In the past we have built one house per year, but 2023 will see us closing on two homes in the same year! This can only continue with the help of our generous donors and volunteers. Rising property and building costs continue to be a challenge to affordable housing. We help keep the homes affordable by securing volunteer labor, donated materials, and low interest loans. Your monetary gift will allow us to give another family a “hand up” (not a “hand out”) and help them get into an affordable home.



You can return the self-addressed envelope with your contribution, or you can access online giving via the QR Code or by clicking DONATE on our website - www.hfhmorrisoncounty.org.

You can also call 320-616-2084 to donate via credit card.

HFHMC is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization and your donation may be tax deductible according to IRS guidelines. Thank you for keeping Habitat for Humanity in your giving priorities.

Donate Online Today!

www.hfhmorrisoncounty.org

320-616-2084

Thank You!

Financial Donors from April-November 2023:

10 Spot Bar, AirBorn, Inc., Doug & Lois Anderson, Robert Anderson, Kathy Angell, Mary Ellen Barnes, Julie Bell, Bryan & Joan Berg, Ron Bieganeck, Builders First Source, Abby Carr, Centerpoint Energy Minnegasco, Jerry Chandler, Roger Chirhart, Phillip Cichon, City Sanitary, Jan & Del Corrick, Rodney & Gladys Crowe, Domino's Pizza, Kevin Doucette, Andrew Ebert, Edina Realty, Ardys Erickson, Joy Erwin, Falls Court Dentists, Falls Fabricating, Farmers & Merchants Bank, Betty Fedde, Don & Sherri Feige, Festler Land Surveying, First Lutheran Church, Frosty's Bar, Donald & Sharon Gehrke, Clara Girtz, Goldsmith Jewelers, Jolene Goodrich, Cynthia Habas, Grace Haile, Hanneken Insurance, Lisa Hanowski, Jordan Hansel, Ron Hinnenkamp, Tom & Teri Hoggarth, Lois Hokanson, Kevin & Cheryl Hoskins, J. B. Schommer Insurance, Katie Jackson, Roger Johnson, Roger & Susan Johnson, David Katka, Dee Knopik, Dick & Jeanne Knopik, Deacon Craig and Diane Korver, Bryan Kosek, Vicki Krueger, Larson Abstract Service, Little Falls Lions, Doug Luepke, Magnifi Financial, Marshik Agency, Lynn McCarthy, Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union, Miller Welle Heiser, Morrie's Little Falls, Terrance Nash, Helen & Michael Neudecker, Northland Drilling, Bill Osberg, Ted & Mary Pfohl, Pierz Lions Club, Randall Cushing Lions, Ron & Carolyn Rausch, Floyd & Lynn Richmond, Danette Ringwelski, Darla Robertson, Ken & Michele Rosh, RTO PA, Rydeen Aviation Services, Kim Salisbury, Brenda & Rande Smith, Jeff Smith, Steve & Margie Solem, Starry Eyed Brewing, Dave & Polly Stish, Swanville Women's Club, T. J. Hoheisel, Mike Trettel, United Way, Upsala Lions, Fred Waltman, Mary Lou Yatckoske, Marvin & Roxanne Zettel

In-Kind Donors from April-November 2023:

Falls Radio, Froggy's Signs, Goldsmith Jewelers, Holiday Inn, Kathy Lange, Little Falls Community High School, Ron Makela, Marshik Insurance, Gary Osberg, Paul & Kathy's Supermarket, Barbara Pinckney, Prairie Point Quilters, Scheels, Cindy Scholl, Starry Eyed Brewery, The Falls Theatre, Wyatt Klosowski

Save the Date - 2024 Events!

April 6, 2024 – Spring Ladies' Luncheon
at First Lutheran Church, Little Falls, MN

June 10, 2024 – 22nd Annual Golf Tournament at Eagle's
Landing Golf Course, Fort Ripley, MN

Interested in Being a Homeowner Partner?

We will be accepting applications **January 1-31, 2024**
for our next homeowner partner!

Applicants are reviewed based on their:

- Need for adequate housing
- Willingness to partner with Habitat
- Ability to repay the low-interest mortgage

Applicants must meet our income guidelines, and have
lived in Morrison County for at least one year.

If you are interested in applying, visit our website to
download an application or call us at 320-616-2084.



Sarah Nice, owner of House 7 in Motley, receives her satisfaction of mortgage from Kathy Lange after working feverishly at Lakewood Health to pay off her mortgage early. Sarah moved into her house in 2006 on her oldest son's 5th birthday. He is now in college and Sarah has another son, Isaac, still at home.

CONGRATULATIONS, SARAH!

**“Housing is stability. Housing is dignity.
Housing is absolutely necessary,
critical infrastructure.”**

~ Pastor Raphael Warnock, US (Georgia) Senator

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