



Inaugural Women Build 2004

Putnam County Habitat for Humanity is planning our Inaugural Women Build this fall!

Honorary Co-Chairwomen: State Sen. Charlotte Burks & her daughter, Putnam County Executive Kim Blaylock

Build Site: Burks Lane up on Buck Mountain Road (named in honor of Tommy Burks)

Partner Family: Gina Bilbrey and her children Coty, Brianna, and Tyler. When not on the job site, Gina can be found working at Russell Stover.

Committee: Judy Dronebarger, Ginny Liebsch, and Kim Ealey

Funding: Sponsors and donors throughout the county are being approached this summer to help fund this home. Several sponsorship levels are available. Donations may also be made in honor of a specific woman, and the donor will be invited to put the woman's name on a 2x4 within the house during the *Blessing of the Home* ceremony.

Construction: All work on the job-site will be completed by women. Several skilled crafts-women have already stepped forward to volunteer as supervisors, plus several basic construction training courses will be held for our volunteers prior to the start of construction. There will be a job for everyone on the jobsite! Skills are not required, just a willing heart.

We will begin construction in September and most work days will be on Saturdays. Our intent is to complete this home before the holidays.

Lunches: Initial plans are for men to provide the meals and snacks to the workers.

Volunteers will be needed to help with the organization of this build. Anyone willing to serve on this committee are welcome!

If you represent a group that is interested in sponsoring and volunteering, here's what you should know:

One person should be selected to act as a Liaison between your group and the Women Build Committee.

Your organization will also provide: Person(s) to schedule volunteers, to see that all volunteers sign liability waivers, and one to track all volunteer hours provided

We ask that you encourage your members/employees to spend as many Saturdays with us that they can, plus attend the three important ceremonies (Groundbreaking, Blessing, and Dedication)

PCHFH will provide: Training Schedule, Promotional items for you to use to promote the build (posters, flyers, etc.), Safety Talk at the beginning of each work day, Opportunity for your group to meet the homeowner. As with all builds we also provide – site, work plan, volunteer accident insurance, materials & tools,

Worksite Volunteers should bring the following:

- ✓ Work Shoes or Boots
- ✓ Bandana or Hat
- ✓ Sunscreen
- ✓ Work Gloves
- ✓ Water Bottle
- ✓ Own tools if they wish
- ✓ Willing Heart!



Quick Glance at PCHFH

Putnam County Habitat for Humanity builds and sells single-family houses to qualified low-income families at no profit and with no interest charged. The houses are built with volunteer labor whenever possible and with funds raised from the community. Habitat for Humanity is a “hand-up” not a hand-out.

Established: 1995

Homes Built: 31 in Putnam County (3 under construction in early 2004)

More than 100 lives directly impacted

20 in Honduras (through our tithes)

Average Cost of Home: \$40,000 excluding land

The need in our community

40% of the households in Putnam County have incomes of \$25,000 and LESS. With the median monthly mortgage payment at \$799 and the median rent at \$441, the dream of homeownership to hundreds of families in our community remains just a dream! That’s why PCHFH exists – to bring the community together to help those needing a hand-up, not a hand-out!

Homeownership requirements

To qualify for a home, applicant must:

- Have a housing need based on current shelter conditions.
- Have the ability to pay for a Habitat home (30-60% of the median income & a good debt to income ratio)
- Be willing to participate as a “partner” with Habitat.

PCHFH Homeowners are required to:

- Pay closing costs of \$850
- Contribute a minimum of 500 hours of sweat equity. (working on the construction of their homes and other homes, and other volunteer tasks with PCHFH)
- Attend Education curriculum (home maintenance, what makes a good neighbor, budgeting, etc.)

Many Partner Families continue to stay involved with PCHFH through the Homeowner’s Association, committee work, and general volunteer needs.

Sources of funding

We strive to be good stewards of all donations.

1. Gifts from local individuals, businesses, civic groups, and churches
2. Mortgage payments from Partner Families are used to fund the building of additional homes
3. Proceeds from Habitat ReStore
4. Special events: Cooking on the Square, HBA Home Show, HBA/Realtor Golf Tournament
5. Some grants are received and used for land purchases, infrastructure and administrative needs. Government money is NOT accepted for the construction cost of Habitat homes.

In addition to funding needs, we always have volunteer needs to work on job-site, serve on committees, work in ReStore, help with special events, and more!