



Volunteer Mobilization Summary Report

2008



HFHI'S VOLUNTEER MOBILIZATION DEPARTMENT
2008 Fiscal Year Summary Report

Dear Habitat supporters,

Volunteers – as builders, advocates, educators, donors, advisers and ambassadors – have been at the heart of Habitat for Humanity's work over the past 32 years. As Habitat has grown to serve more families, our mission to eliminate poverty housing remains constant, and volunteers remain essential to our success.

In 2008, Habitat for Humanity International reevaluated its volunteer programs to better serve the needs of its volunteers and affiliates and increase our capacity. In an effort to improve customer service, better educate and retain volunteers, and create systems that can be sustained as we expand our programs, we created the Volunteer Mobilization department.

We began the transition to Volunteer Mobilization in the 2007-2008 fiscal year, bringing together what were formerly the Global Village and Youth Programs departments, as well as the U.S. and International Volunteer Programs. Staff is organized more heavily along functional roles, as opposed to programmatic positions, allowing us to work more efficiently. This transition is an ongoing process, and we look forward to continuing to evaluate how we can best support volunteers and, ultimately, serve more families.

In the midst of the transition, the various programs that make up the department had a successful year. A record number of students participated in Collegiate Challenge, and thousands of volunteers gained an understanding of poverty on a global scale through Global Village. Thousands of families' lives were transformed through the efforts of volunteers this year.

The Volunteer Mobilization department strives to support meaningful volunteer experiences that allow us to help more families and truly engage volunteers. We are committed to helping create long-term advocates that deeply understand and feel connected to this mission. Together, we can help build hope.

In Partnership,



Desiree Adaway
Senior Director, Volunteer Mobilization
Habitat for Humanity International

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U.S. Volunteer Program

The U.S. Volunteer Program welcomes the enthusiasm of people who wish to donate their expertise to various projects at our operational and administrative headquarters, field offices and affiliates. Volunteers have served in a wide range of capacities, including assisting in Resource Development, Finance, Operations, Volunteer Mobilization, Communications, Human Resources and Disaster Response. While some opportunities are great for gaining experience in a nonprofit setting, others draw on the expertise of seasoned professionals or retirees who have specific skills to donate. The program enlists several different volunteer types: Retirees (“Snowbirds”), Mennonite Mission volunteers, Disaster Corps and Subject Matter Specialists. Visit www.habitat.org/us_volunteer_program to learn more.

In total, 47 volunteers served HFHI in the United States during the last fiscal year, contributing more than 9,125 hours.



U.S. Volunteer Program spotlight: Mennonite Voluntary Service

Habitat's U.S. Volunteer Program has worked in partnerships with the Mennonite Voluntary Service program for over three decades.

Rooted in the spirit of Jesus, MVS (Mennonite Voluntary Service) invites people from a variety of backgrounds and ages to walk with people who are disadvantaged by getting involved in the issues and activities of a local neighborhood and faith community. MVS volunteers live simply in a shared household, where relationships with other Mennonite volunteers can be nurtured and volunteers can serve as an extension of a local congregation. MVS reached its height during the U.S. military draft of the 1950s and 1960s because of the increased demand for alternative service options. Today, MVS provides placements for a broad spectrum of individuals: men and women, recent college graduates, retired people, families and married couples. MVS provides a way for people to live out their faith through deeds of service in communities throughout the United States.

Habitat's U.S. Volunteer Program has worked with MVS since the 1970s. The MVS program has a volunteer home in Americus, Ga., Habitat for Humanity International's headquarters, and past MVS participants have worked in many departments within HFHI. Houses are also located throughout the country, allowing MVS participants to partner with a number of local Habitat affiliates. Habitat is fortunate to partner with a nonprofit that shares its core values, and is grateful for the impact MVS volunteers have had on Habitat for Humanity for over three decades.



Global Village

Global Village trips give participants a unique opportunity to become active partners with people of another culture. Team members work alongside members of the host community, raising awareness of the burden of poverty housing and building decent, affordable housing worldwide. As partners, team members help build a true “global village” of love, homes, communities and hope! For more information, visit www.habitat.org/gv.

2008 Fiscal Year Highlights

Host Area	Number of teams*	Number of participants	Donation to host Habitat program
Africa and the Middle East	57	717	\$488,029
Asia and the Pacific	46	647	\$341,051
Europe and Central Asia	104	1366	\$671,051
Latin America and the Caribbean	237	3585	\$1,582,925
United States and Canada	69	897**	\$358,800***
Totals	513	7212	\$3,441,856

All numbers reflect the statistics of the U.S. sending program only. Additional sending programs are located in Canada, Asia and Europe.

* Includes Thrivent teams.

** Number of participants based on average team size of 13.

*** Donation is 897 * \$400 per person.

- The Global Village program sent teams to 48 countries.
- A concerted effort was made to involve youth in the Global Village program. The Global Village Youth Program utilized a model that utilized project leaders to help organize and lead youth teams. Specifically through the Global Village Youth Program:
 - o 24 youth teams participated;
 - o 373 individuals participated (this number includes leaders);
 - o Youth teams traveled to nine countries: Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Malawi, Nicaragua, Romania, Tanzania and Thailand.



Global Village Program spotlight: Thrivent Builds Worldwide

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has partnered with Habitat for Humanity to form Thrivent Builds Worldwide. Two of the focuses of Thrivent Builds Worldwide are the two communities that they are helping to build in the Gulf Coast and El Salvador. Both programs seek to build entire communities where people can live and play together next to other Habitat homeowners.

The devastation of the Mississippi Gulf Coast began in 2005 with hurricanes Rita and Katrina. In 2008, hundreds of displaced residents were still living in dangerous temporary housing when Hurricane Gustav ravaged the area. The Thrivent Builds Gulf Coast Community program makes it easy for volunteers to come to help not only re-build a home but a life in the Gulf Coast.

On the heels of the successful implementation of the Gulf Coast Community in the United States, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans was seeking an international Habitat for Humanity affiliate to work with to build a second Thrivent Builds Worldwide Community. This pilot program in El Salvador was created in response to Thrivent members' interest in Central America, the connections with the Lutheran church in El Salvador, the need for decent housing there and the model community concept that Habitat El Salvador had already developed. Habitat El Salvador aims to build a model community in each of the 14 departments in the country. The goal is that these communities serve as models, not only in terms of the physical infrastructure, but also in the way neighbors treat each other and work together to improve their communities.

Educational builds

Global Village continues to explore ways in which we can educate and develop volunteers into knowledgeable advocates for housing. While every Global Village participant learns something through their experience, we need to create tools that encourage transformation through knowledgeable understanding of the issues. In this way we build a dedicated, long-term volunteer force that deeply understands poverty housing issues around the world as it relates to Habitat's mission.

This summer an educational build was piloted in Paraguay. This was the second pilot. The first was in El Salvador in June 2007, led by Flora Calderón-Steck and Máximo Cisneros both from the Public Awareness department in Habitat's Latin America and Caribbean area office.

In Paraguay, 12 participants came together under the leadership of Stephanie Banas, formerly LAC coordinator for the U.S. sending program and current writer/editor for LAC, and Flora Calderon-Steck, Public Awareness Initiatives coordinator for LAC. Through an interactive Web blog, e-courses and conference calls, participants learned about and discussed global, regional and national housing issues before their trip. While in-country, an intensive program included an informal settlement walk-through, visits with Habitat partner organizations and discussions with experts in the field of housing and human settlements. This build was planned in conjunction with HFH Paraguay and included an advocacy presentation from Habitat's Government Relations and Advocacy department.

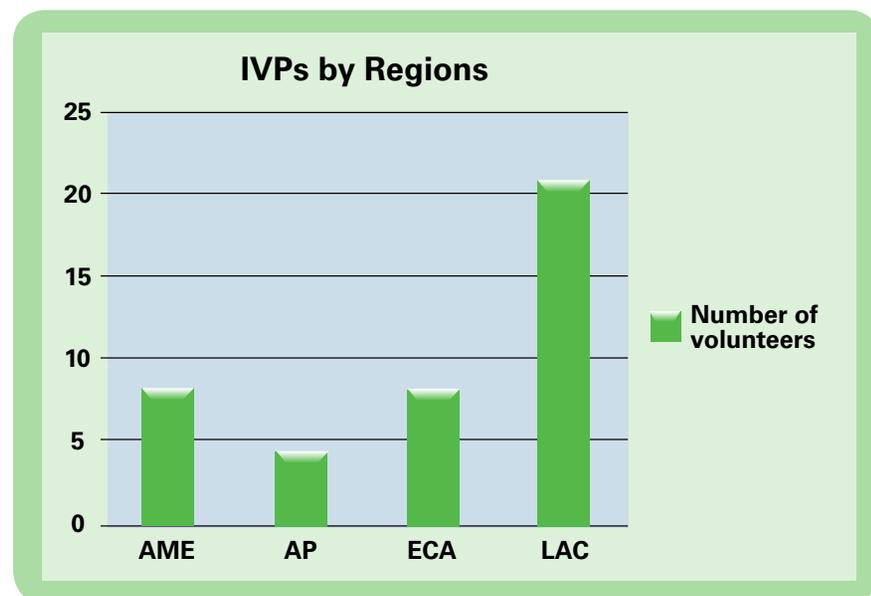
International Volunteer Program

From its beginning, Habitat for Humanity has relied on the expertise, commitment and spirit of volunteers to achieve its mission. The International Volunteer Program (IVP) gives individuals, from around the world, an opportunity to travel across borders to support our global ministry and serve for an extended period with HFH national partners and area offices. This program is designed to engage people in the international movement for simple and decent housing; provide global support to enhance the organizational capacity in HFH national organizations and affiliates, and promote best practices in volunteer mobilization, project design and management, resource development, communication, research and evaluation. Furthermore, it empowers international volunteers to achieve a meaningful experience with Habitat for Humanity and taste the rich cultures of other nations.

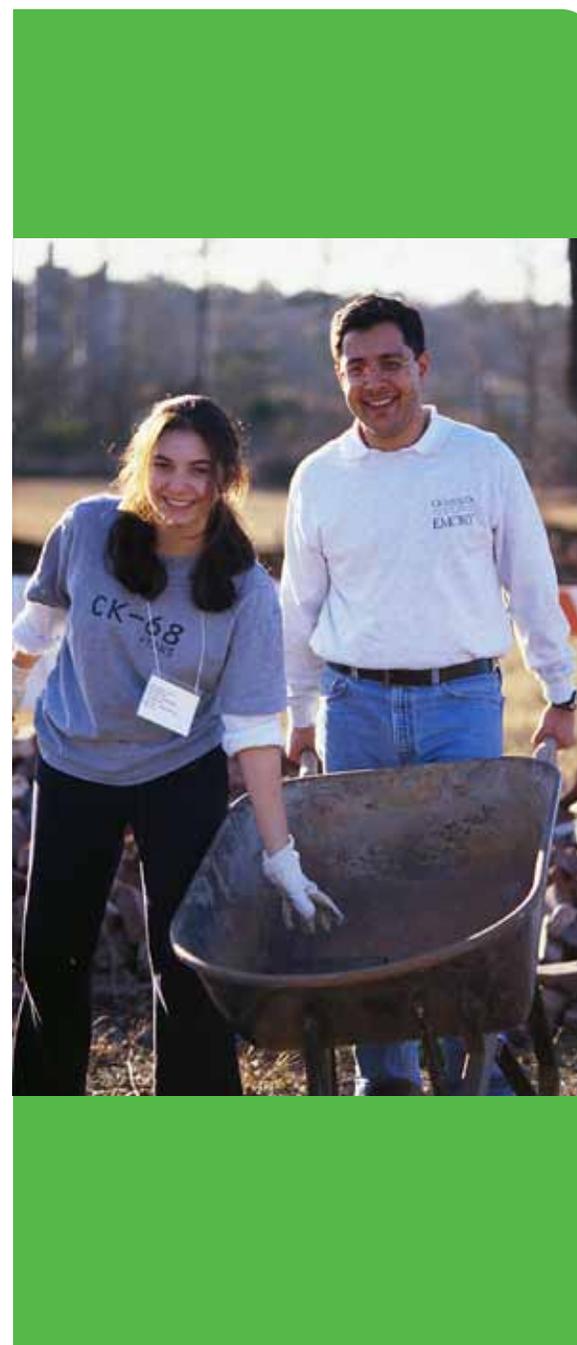
To learn more about the International Volunteer Program, visit www.habitat.org/ivp.

2008 Fiscal Year Highlights

- The International Volunteer Program placed 41 volunteers.
- International Volunteer Program volunteers contributed over 28,740 work hours.
- IVP volunteers served in countries in Asia (AP), Latin America (LAC), Africa (AME), Europe and Central Asia (ECA).
- In the fall of 2007, the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) region awarded Sheila Marie the Linda Fuller Award, an annual honor given to a volunteer within the ECA region in recognition of exemplary volunteer service. Sheila was the first “repeat” IVP volunteer, serving first in Ireland and then Hungary. She decided to give her \$1,000 award grant to the two affiliates where she had served as an IVP.



Region	Number of volunteers
AME	8
AP	4
ECA	8
LAC	21



RV Care-A-Vanners

The RV Care-A-Vanners program's goal is to further the mission of Habitat for Humanity International through advocacy and by assisting local Habitat affiliates, who act as hosts, in accelerating and/or supplementing their building programs. RV Care-A-Vanner teams participate in house construction, roofing, interior and finish work, renovations, affiliate office work and disaster relief.

Aside from the opportunity to use existing construction skills and learn new ones, RV Care-A-Vanner teams experience God's love in action firsthand. Lasting friendships develop as the group parks together, builds together, eats together and socializes. In addition, the team often has the opportunity to work alongside local volunteers and future homeowners—a truly unforgettable experience. For more information, visit www.habitat.org/rv.

RV Care-A-Vanners spotlight: George and Diane Gravlee

George and Diane Gravlee started their volunteer work with Habitat in 1993 when they flew to Kauai, Hawaii to help with rebuilding efforts after Hurricane Iniki. What followed was a lifestyle they had never imagined.

George was a hydrologist and Diane was a librarian. After retirement in 1994, George became the construction supervisor and Diane began managing the office at their local Albany, N.Y. affiliate. Soon, they yearned to travel as well. Enter the RV Care-A-Vanner program.

RV Care-A-Vanners allows the Gravlees to combine their Habitat volunteering at home with volunteering on the road. Over 15 years, they have volunteered with Habitat for Humanity in 39 states with 67 different affiliates.

George and Diane have been team leaders for over 30 builds and have supervised Collegiate Challenge groups. For the past three winters, they have led those in RVs who came down to Slidell, La. to rebuild after Hurricane

Katrina. With 23 weeks of work, their group trimmed out and completed over 25 houses for the East St. Tammany affiliate alone. The ability of Care-A-Vanners to come with a place to live, expertise and tools make them a vital part of any rebuilding effort.

George and Diane, like many Care-A-Vanners, contribute funds in addition to their labor. The couple recently celebrated their 101st Habitat build by donating money for the material to build an entire house—given to celebrate the blessings in their lives.

Care-A-Vanners like George and Diane bring their skill and experience to local affiliates. They share solutions and offer vital assistance after disasters. Most importantly, their passion, knowledge of Habitat and willingness to give of themselves exemplify everything Habitat for Humanity hopes for in those that serve this mission. We are grateful to be able to continue to work with and for George and Diane, and thousands of other extraordinary volunteers, every day.

“Our affiliate had the incredible experiences, this summer, of working with a group of 60 Care-A-Vanners. They were here for five weeks and built two beautiful homes in our community. We found them to be enthusiastic, knowledgeable, helpful and fun.

In the time they were here, they built a five-bedroom home and a three-bedroom home and provided shelter for 10 individuals. Their presence also made it possible for us to build an additional home this summer, taking our number to three this building season.

The Care-A-Vanners made a huge impact on our community and affiliate. The community embraced them with a generosity by providing meals and activities and the local newspaper ran two large articles about the group ... Not only did they allow us to build another home this summer but did a great deal to promote Habitat for Humanity in our community.”

—Sandy Strub, executive director, HFH Alliance Area Habitat for Humanity, Ohio

Youth Programs

HFHI's youth programs seek to capture the imagination, energy and hope of young people worldwide, ages 5 to 25, in order to productively and responsibly involve them as leaders in the work of Habitat. Affiliates can find a variety of resources and ideas, from hosting break groups to educational project guides, to help them involve young people in their work. Many youth programs have associated grants and awards for affiliates. For more information, visit www.habitatyouthprograms.org.

State Farm® is the national corporate sponsor of Habitat for Humanity's youth programs. Habitat for Humanity is grateful for State Farm's generous support and the opportunities to engage youth in Habitat's mission that it provides.

Act! Speak! Build! Week

Act! Speak! Build! Week is Habitat's international, student-initiated week of advocacy. Act! Speak! Build! Week empowers young people to educate themselves and their communities and move people to social action. Young people, ages 5 to 25, work in partnership with local affiliates to plan and host events focused on ending poverty housing. For more information, visit www.habitatyouthprograms.org/actspeakbuild.

Act! Speak! Build! Week 2008: "Recognize the Need, Advocate for Change"

- March 31- April 5, 2008
- 250 groups registered to participate. These included:
 - 78 percent school groups (including but not limited to high school and college Habitat for Humanity campus chapters and non-Habitat clubs.)
 - 13 Youth United Groups.
 - 66.3 percent returning participants.
 - 33 percent new HFHI advocates.
 - 40 states and five countries represented.
- During the week (based on registered groups that filled out outcomes survey after Act! Speak! Build! Week 2008):
 - 91 percent participants hosted large scale advocacy campaigns (letter-writing, petition drives, etc.).
 - 24 percent signed up as HFHI online advocates.
 - 14.8 percent participated in the "Welcome Home Housing Simulation."
 - 10 HFHI staff spoke at more than 20 schools or universities.

“Act! Speak! Build! Week is a great way to bring housing issues to campus life. Many college students become wrapped up in their busy lives, and weeks like this remind students of the issues that are in their backyard, but also give them an opportunity to make a difference.”

-Sarah Miller

“Not only can Act! Speak! Build! Week be fun, it helps raise awareness of the housing issues that are prevalent in our very own communities. By designating a week to advocacy, campus chapters can focus their efforts on several meaningful projects and have the full support of Habitat International. The week also signifies the united effort of campus chapters across the globe in eliminating housing needs.”

-Act! Speak! Build! Week 2008 participant

“We learned more about ways outside of Habitat that we can help through the petitions. Many of our members noted interest in continuing to support the National Housing Trust and the GROWTH Act.”

-Act! Speak! Build! Week 2008 participant

Campus Chapters

Campus chapters are student-led, student-initiated organizations on high school or college campuses that partner with the local Habitat affiliate to advocate, educate, build and fund-raise. For more information on the Campus Chapters programs, visit www.habitatyouthprograms.org/campuschapters.

2008 Fiscal Year Highlights

- 33,310 members
- \$3,909,778.70 raised
- \$1,362,584 donated to affiliates
- 551 total chapters
- 10 \$10,000 State Farm Campus Chapter Matching Grants given out



WILL BROCKEN

“Thanks to the many wonderful and ambitious student leaders, the annual student build is one of my favorite builds in Lafayette. Student participation has been reliable, abundant, enthusiastic and well supervised.”

*-Doug Taylor, executive director,
talking about the Purdue University
Campus Chapter*

“The campus chapter not only steps up whenever we ask for assistance, they actively seek ways to help our small affiliate and represent the principles of Habitat for Humanity in our community.”

*-James D. White, affiliate board president,
talking about Juniata College
Campus Chapter*

“The chapter’s energy and enthusiasm becomes the starting point for many of our affiliate’s greatest achievements.”

*-Jill Evans, executive director,
talking about Clemson University
Campus Chapter (2008 Campus
Chapter of the Year)*

Collegiate Challenge

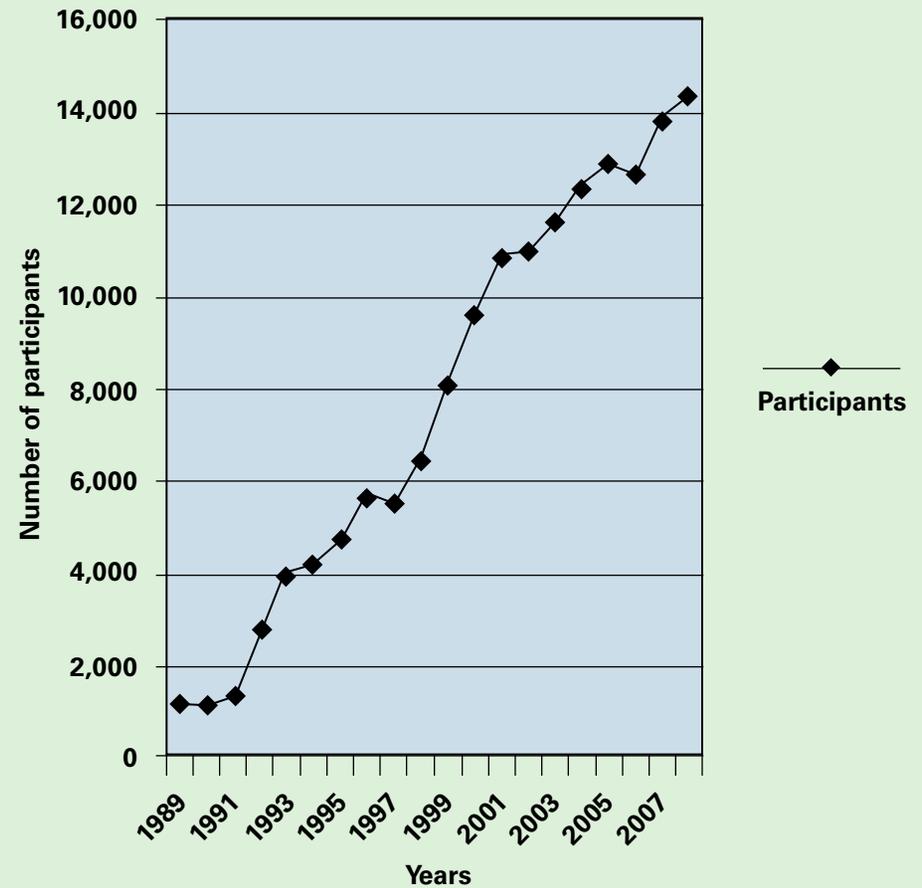
Collegiate Challenge is a year-round alternative break program that offers groups of five or more students, 16 years of age and older, the opportunity to visit one of nearly 250 host affiliates throughout the United States. Students spend one week working in partnership with the local affiliate, the local community and partner families to help eliminate poverty housing in the area. For more information on Collegiate Challenge or to sign up to host teams, visit www.habitatyouthprograms.org/colchal.

Since it began in 1989, 154,559 young people have participated in Collegiate Challenge, contributing \$14,581,892 to Habitat for Humanity.

2008 Fiscal Year Highlights

- 14,383 young people participated
- \$1,813,249 donated to Habitat for Humanity
- 214 affiliates, from 42 states, hosted teams.
- A record 11,637, totaling 712 groups, participated in Collegiate Challenge Spring Break 2008.
- In 2008, State Farm and Collegiate Challenge's relationship expanded. The State Farm Good Neighbor Citizenship® program has designated \$50,000 to be utilized by Habitat for Humanity Campus Chapters and Youth United teams in participating in the Collegiate Challenge program.
- Three affiliates received grants for hosting groups for the first time:
 - Habitat for Humanity of Key West & Lower Florida Keys, Big Pine Key, Fla.
 - Pensacola Habitat for Humanity, Pensacola, Fla.
 - Habitat for Humanity of Morgan County, Decatur, Ala.
- Two Habitat for Humanity Campus Chapters received a State Farm grant to participate in Collegiate Challenge:
 - Winthrop University Habitat for Humanity Campus Chapter
 - Bentley College Habitat for Humanity Campus Chapter

Collegiate Challenge Participation



Collegiate Challenge Spotlight: Rockbridge Area Habitat for Humanity

Volunteer Mobilization supports hundreds of host affiliates and participant groups. We are grateful to be a part of connecting young people with the mission, and for the enthusiasm and hard work affiliates and students bring to the program, and to Habitat for Humanity's mission.

Rockbridge Area Habitat for Humanity was honored as the 2008 Most Valuable Player for affiliates. During the 2008 season, Rockbridge Area Habitat for Humanity of Lexington, Virginia hosted six Collegiate Challenge events. Rockford Area HFH's has shown a strong commitment to ending

affordable housing in their community while providing young people meaningful, life-changing volunteer experiences.

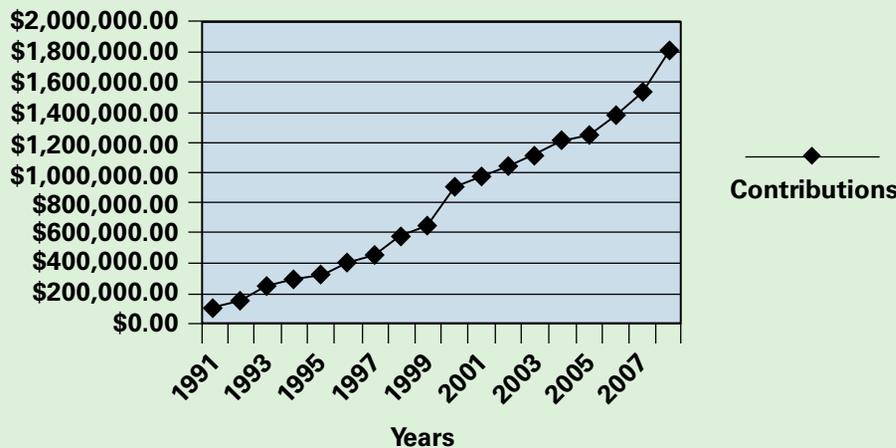
This affiliate went out of its way on more than one occasion to insure the best experience possible for every volunteer including Gallaudet University. Karen Terhune from Gallaudet University wrote:

Gallaudet University is a liberal arts university for deaf or hard of hearing students. The primary language used by our students is American Sign Language. I first began investigating possible alternative spring

break options in December of 2007. Because of our unique situation I was anticipating that organizations might have some concerns about hosting our students. I was surprised, however, that I encountered not just concern but outright resistance. That was, however, until I was referred to Rockbridge Area HFH. Rockbridge was, from the outset, enthusiastic about having Gallaudet students volunteer at their site. Further, the volunteer coordinator, Kristina Young, assisted me with finding volunteer interpreters. This was no easy task in light of where Rockbridge is located (rural Virginia)! When we arrived in Lexington, VA the Rockbridge staff welcomed us warmly. They provided notepads to assist with communication and were eager to learn about deaf culture. It was clear from the outset that they felt working with deaf students was not a hardship but instead an opportunity to learn. Our students had a wonderful week! They acquired new skills, had very positive interactions with hearing people despite the language barrier and came away from the experience feeling like they had made a contribution. Deaf people are often viewed as "disabled" and therefore "needy." For our students to prove that they could participate in a meaningful project that helps families was extremely gratifying.

The Volunteer Mobilization department is grateful for the tireless work of hundreds of dedicated affiliate staff throughout the United States to help create a diverse, inclusive community of young Habitat volunteers, as well as students that dedicate their time and energy to Habitat through the Collegiate Challenge program.

Affiliate Contributions



“As I sit here thinking about the trip showing us all the aspects of Habitat for Humanity, I remembered now I take for granted the life I’ve been blessed with. Every day I have a home to come to. This is something I realize now it is for people in my own community and it breaks my heart.

This trip has inspired me to do more. I am donating items I don’t need. I am also asking my parents to help me. I am going to start volunteering to help on a Habitat home. I think if each of us do [these kind of things] our community will be able to help more families find the comfort we already have in knowing we all are safe & sound at home.”

- Service-Learning Partnership Student - Dothan, Ala.

Service-learning partnerships

Habitat is dedicated to educating young people as they serve their communities. This year State Farm generously supported new service-learning initiatives that allow local Habitat affiliates and schools in their area to come together to help students learn in new, dynamic ways as they make a difference for others.

In the pilot year of this project, our goal was four service-learning partnerships. After working with the U.S. Office, we invited select affiliates to apply for the grant. The chosen affiliates then found local school partners and developed their service-learning projects.

The projects took place across the country, from the Southwest to the Southeast, and involved elementary and high school students. Representatives from all four projects attended the National Service Learning Conference in Minnesota, where the students from the Twin Cities project and the affiliate and teacher from the Indianapolis project presented their work. The project was presented at the Youth Leadership Conference 2008.

Four grants were given in the pilot year. Projects involved more than 750 students, providing over 2,000 service hours and fundraising over \$8,000.

2008 Partner Overviews

- *Habitat for Humanity of Greater Indianapolis and Clinton Young Elementary, Indiana*
The 650 students at Clinton Young Elementary read “Raising the Roof” to learn about housing and Habitat. Students discussed wants versus needs and determined what items a family needs in each room of their home. Students then developed a marketing plan and worked with local businesses to fundraise, bringing in \$2,000 for the affiliate.
- *Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity and Jefferson High School, Minnesota*
The 30 students in the Technology Education architecture class learned about Habitat construction and used the needs and limitations of decent, affordable housing to create architectural plans. The students of the school’s service class (JAG Corps) learned about poverty housing and volunteered at a build site, while taking footage that they then used to make a promotional video for the affiliate.
- *Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity and East Mountain High School, New Mexico*
Fourteen students took part in a two-week Discovery Project focused on homelessness and affordable housing. Students built on a Habitat site and then used their skills to provide repairs for a family they selected in their community.
- *Wiregrass Habitat for Humanity and Northview High School, Alabama*
Students learned about poverty housing through listening to Habitat for Humanity International speakers in their government class and visiting substandard housing in their community. They raised funds through recycling, volunteered at affiliate fundraisers, and built a playhouse. Finally, the students presented a well-received plumbing workshop to Habitat homeowners. This project both involved and helped expand the Youth United group at Wiregrass.

Teacher and youth leader resources

Habitat provides teacher and youth leader resources to help adults educate young people about Habitat for Humanity and affordable housing issues. New resources in 2008 include:

- Green Build online tool and poster: More and more Habitat affiliates are building “greener” houses that help create sustainable communities and allow homeowners to save money with less energy use. The Green Build section of Habitat’s youth Web site was created to help youth learn more about these issues of sustainability and green building.
- BINGO: A fun and instructional game for youth! Habitat for Humanity Bingo uses tools on the Web site for a fun twist on a classic game.
- Family scrapbooking tool: Youth can put their creativity to work “scrapbooking” a family’s journey to homeownership!
- Doghouse plan: A new hands on small-building project for youth under the age of sixteen.
- Helping Hands for Humanity: A service-learning program designed for students of all ages. The program challenges youth to raise money for their local Habitat for Humanity affiliate.



Youth Immersion

The Youth Immersion program was Habitat for Humanity International's individual volunteer program for 16 to 25 year old volunteers. The program sent volunteers on one week service-learning build trips to Habitat for Humanity affiliates around the country, focusing on issues related to poverty, substandard housing, and civic engagement while volunteering on a Habitat for Humanity home. In 2009, Youth Immersion is being redeveloped to become Learn and Build Experience. Visit www.habitatyouthprograms.org/learn_build_experience to learn more.

Summer 2007 Highlights

- 126 volunteers participated.
- Participants represented 27 states, Canada, France, and Trinidad and Tobago.
- Hosting affiliates were West Palm Beach, Fla.; Oak Ridge, Tenn.; Tacoma, Wash.; Grand Rapids, Mich.; and Winston-Salem, N.C.
- \$25,000 was donated to Youth Immersion host affiliates.
- Over 6,000 hours of volunteer labor were provided to host affiliates.
- Scholarships helped more young people participate:
 - 20 participants' program donation to attend the program waived;
 - 12 participants' airfare to the sites where they volunteered;
 - Through a generous donation from State Farm, five partner family youth were able to attend the program without any costs—paying the program donation as well as the participants' airfare.

Youth Leadership Conference

The first ever national Youth Leadership Conference was hosted by Habitat's Youth Programs department September 28-30, 2007 in Atlanta, Ga.

Over 150 representatives from over 50 chapters and 12 affiliates attended. Twelve of the 34 workshops offered were presented by chapters or covenant affiliates.



The Youth Leadership Conference has provided us with a new perspective on our campus chapter. Last year, our chapter sent me and two other officers to Atlanta. Each one of us gained valuable experience that has helped our chapter reach new heights in the months after. A problem that the youth conference helped our chapter address was member retention through the late spring. By using different approaches taught at the youth conference, we have increased the number of members regularly attending meetings by over thirty students per week.

I personally would suggest that every chapter send people to the conference, if not for the valuable knowledge, contacts and resources, but because it will revitalize you. It will renew your faith in yourself and remind you of why you have come to devote your time to Habitat. Because of this, I believe that attendance to the Youth Leadership Conference is a must for every youth programs chapter.

-Michael Ahn, University of Wisconsin-Madison Habitat for Humanity Campus Chapter, 2007 Youth Leadership Conference attendee

“Currently, our YU group is building our first Habitat house, and what a joy it is to all our members. We have learned so much, and we are looking forward to our next Habitat build. In closing, our Habitat family has been a blessing to all of us, as we know we have been to them.”

– North Collin County HFH YU

“The most rewarding aspects are finding ways to involve young people in leadership roles in the community and to see students excited about Habitat.”

– Bryan/College State HFH YU

To hear Duke students say that they are challenged to do more because elementary school students are bringing in their piggy banks to donate is simply incredible. We all learn from each other and give back to our community. To hear Youth United leaders say they didn't like to speak publically and now they can and do with ease is what it's all about. To see AJ [a homeowner's 11-year-old son] and Caitlin [a 9-year-old from a different school] become close friends through the Youth United process, putting aside race, gender, age, class...[that] is REALLY what it's all about. Their lives are forever changed, as are ours!” – HFH Durham YU

Youth United

Youth United is an affiliate-driven program, developed and supported by the Volunteer Mobilization department, in which community youth come together to completely fund and build a Habitat home. Youth ages 5 to 25 serve as the leaders, planners, fund-raisers and public relations specialists while youth ages 16 to 25 build the house on site. Affiliates can contact Youth United coordinators to discuss starting a Youth United program in their area; for more information, visit www.habitatyouthprograms.org/youthunited.

2008 Fiscal Year Highlights

- 11 new Youth United groups started, totaling over 80 Youth United groups.
- 14 new houses built, totaling 97 total houses built in Youth United's history.
- Five \$10,000 grants & 10 \$5,000 State Farm Building the Future Grants given out.
- Four \$5,000 Argosy Grants awarded to new affiliates.
- Two Youth United Urban grants awarded in the Youth United Urban grant program pilot year.
 - Over 1,000 students engaged.
 - Over \$60,000 raised.





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