



**Habitat**  
for Humanity®

**homes  
communities  
hope  
+ you**

**update report**

Maria is a midwife who is benefiting from the Temporary Shelter for Medical Workers in Indonesia program, which is funded in part with Homes, Communities, Hope + You funds.





## Forty-five years of creating safe, healthy homes

Habitat for Humanity has been building and repairing homes and improving communities around the world since 1976. We have helped more than 35 million people obtain safe, healthy, affordable homes and neighborhoods. Our donors have gotten Habitat to where we are now and are helping us continue our great work.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, more than 1.6 billion people around the world were living in dilapidated, unhealthy and unsecure shelter. These numbers have only grown since the pandemic began spreading across the

globe. Everyone was affected, and housing became even more important as we adjusted to spending most of our time at home. Countless people lost their jobs and had trouble affording necessities like healthy food, medication and their homes.

In response to this growing need, Habitat launched the Homes, Communities, Hope + You campaign in 2020. This endeavor helped keep our mission going in the face of the global crisis and is continuing to support Habitat's efforts to create safe spaces for people to live, work, play and sleep.

# Raising funds for urgent COVID-19 relief efforts

Habitat for Humanity International has raised more than \$10 million through the Homes, Communities, Hope +You campaign through June 2021. About half of these funds were reallocated gifts that our faithful partners had already committed to, and the remaining funds were new donations from thousands of generous donors.

Funds raised through the Homes, Communities, Hope + You campaign support Habitat for Humanity International, our international work and Habitat's affiliate network in the U.S.



# Sheltering front-line workers

Irvan, a nurse in the Indonesian capital, Jakarta, was afraid of putting his wife and baby in danger as the COVID-19 pandemic swept across the country in 2020. Not wanting to risk bringing the virus home, Irvan was desperate to rent a room near the hospital where he could sleep and shower after exhaustingly long shifts at the hospital. Unfortunately, landlords rejected him upon learning he cared for COVID-19 patients.

Recognizing that Irvan was far from the only health care professional facing this dilemma, Habitat for Humanity Indonesia launched the Temporary Shelter for Medical Workers in Indonesia program, which has assisted more than 1,800 doctors, nurses and other medical professionals working in Jakarta and Surabaya.

Habitat Indonesia contacted hotels near hospitals and explained the program. With hotel guest numbers dwindling, and knowing Habitat's program would be safe, many hotels were willing to participate. The hotels were glad to maintain some income, and medical workers, such as Irvan, could count on having a nearby room where they could sleep without any risk to their families.

"I could comfortably rest and recover my energy," Irvan says. "Then I'm ready to continue my work with more strength and enthusiasm."

The Homes, Communities, Hope +You campaign helps Habitat Indonesia cover the cost of the rooms, which includes two meals and a thorough cleaning. For those hospitals that are further from hotels, Habitat Indonesia's staff arranges for buses to shuttle health care workers back and forth. The program has partnered with 12 hospitals in Jakarta and Surabaya, with participation by hotel chains such as OYO Hotels and Ibis.

Maria, a midwife who lives far from the Airlangga University Hospital Surabaya where she works, also benefits from this innovative program. She sent her children to stay with their grandmother, so there's no risk of infecting them at her own home. But the added burdens associated with COVID-19 have pushed her to the brink at work, and the thought of a long commute is daunting.

"I need to be extra responsive to make sure that I save both the mother and the baby," Maria says. "Not only that, I also have to fight alone saving two lives due to the protocol that prohibits the husband's presence in the delivery room."

Now Maria knows that, once her shift of taking care of mothers and newborns is over, she's being taken care of, too.



# Helping affiliates across the U.S. with operational and strategic programs

Habitat has sent more than \$6 million of the campaign's funds to affiliates across the United States to assist with operational expenses. When Habitat homeowner families lost income through no fault of their own because of the COVID-19 pandemic, they were unable to keep up with the mortgage payments that make up much of our local affiliates' budgets. To reduce the burden on these families, many affiliates used funds from the campaign to ease the financial distress caused by those missed mortgage payments and to cover escrow and cash flow shortfalls from missed homeowners' association payments, taxes or insurance costs. Affiliates also used the funds to help families with utility expenses when nonpayment would result in a lien on the property.

Habitat has sent the campaign's funds to local offices across the United States to assist with operational expenses and mortgage-related relief funds. Below is an example of how these funds are being used.

## Habitat for Humanity Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The Philadelphia affiliate used some of the funding from mortgage-related relief from the +You campaign to help 12 households that were struggling financially because of COVID-19. The money helped with escrow payments for these 12 homeowners who were in forbearance in 2020.

Habitat Philadelphia depends on mortgage payments as a big source of its operating income, so the affiliate also used some of the +You grant money to cover operating shortfalls caused by missed payments.





## Habitat's strategic programs

Habitat has used more than \$1 million of the +You funds toward housing and community strategies. These funds have been instrumental in assisting families, small businesses and communities with urgent construction, improvements and repairs. We have started more than 340 of these critical projects that are equipping families, businesses and entire neighborhoods to stay safe and healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic. Examples of the types of projects the fund has made possible are:

- Performing critical home repairs with families affected by COVID-19, making their homes healthier and more secure so that they can safely shelter in place. The projects include replacing HVAC systems; removing trees to mitigate future storm damage; and repairing roofs, decks, plumbing and electrical systems.
- Constructing new, affordable homes in partnership with low-income families in high-cost cities.
- Retrofitting and reinforcing safety protocols at Habitat ReStores and volunteer areas so that volunteers and

staff members can continue to help families during the pandemic.

- Providing support for small businesses that are near local Habitat offices. This funding equips businesses to survive in the short term and thrive long after the pandemic is over.

### **Habitat for Humanity of Summit County, Ohio**

The Habitat affiliate in Summit County worked with several local families to make their homes healthier, safer and stronger. For example, the Mitchell family received help to repair their home's electrical system, back and front porches, and gutters. The Hale family got help with soffit repairs and installing new circuitry in the garage. The Weitzel family worked with the affiliate to replace gutters and downspouts, windows, front and side doors, siding, and the soffit and fascia. The affiliate also helped the Balthis family fix their front and side doors, ramp decking, ramp joists and posts, deck boards, and fencing.

**Habitat for Humanity Portland/Metro East, Oregon**

The Habitat affiliate in Portland earmarked these special funds for a project that is increasing access to capital for aspiring local entrepreneurs and essential businesses. Throughout the Portland area, communities confront unstable conditions. They have fewer economic opportunities, suffer poor environmental conditions and lack consistent resources for meaningful community

engagement. Being able to assist these businesses ensures that Portland will keep community leaders resilient and gives neighborhoods the chance to rebuild and thrive. Some of the funds will go toward improvements to air ventilation at a local business park to comply with new COVID-19 health guidelines, so that businesses can remain open. This will enable the affiliate to stay open and continue helping families and communities.





# Thank you

Thank you for your support of the Homes, Communities, Hope + You campaign. Your donations are helping families and communities around the world make it through the COVID-19 pandemic. Habitat greatly appreciates your support during these especially difficult times.

Even as the pandemic continues to reach people around the world, your generosity continues to help these families maintain their homes, their health and well-being, and their beloved neighborhoods.



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