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EIGHT EASY STEPS TO BECOMING A BUILD VOLUNTEER!

Do you want to help us help our partner families build their homes? Are you concerned you “can’t” help on a build? No worries, no past experience or tools needed! Here are eight EASY steps to becoming a build volunteer:

1. Sign up for our email updates by emailing Susan: susan@nslchfh.org
2. See a volunteer opportunity on our email update and call (218-750-2611) or email Susan (see above) to schedule your day(s)
3. Go to the build site and meet Steve, our construction manager
4. Listen to Steve’s safety chat and day build plan
5. Build with Steve, partner families and other happy volunteers
6. Have a delicious lunch with fellow builders and Steve
7. Finish your build day and go home happy in the knowledge you have helped a family with a hand UP into a simple, decent and affordable home!
8. Go to <http://nslchfh.org/volunteer-highlights> and click on our survey to tell us about your experience.



Steve Burgess
 North St. Louis County Habitat
 Construction Manager



Habitat HIGHLIGHTS

Summer 2016

Volume XXII, Edition II

FOUNDATIONS START PROJECTS, BRING STABILITY AND SECURITY

The summer has been a blur of activity this year as five projects get underway for the 2016 building season. Our first project started in early spring, a rehab with the Dow family in Virginia. Typically, our history of building shows that one out of every six homes is a rehab. Rehab projects are old homes which have been donated to Habitat. Volunteers then work to completely gut out and remodel the home with a new family. The key to accepting a rehab project depends a lot on the foundation of the home. If past planners and builders put good “bones” into the home and it has a solid foundation it can make a great Habitat home for another family in need. The Dow home did indeed have a good foundation and we are looking forward to dedicating the finished home with the family on Sunday, October 2nd.

With many challenges due to weather, we were grateful to see concrete being poured this July on our Hibbing and Aurora home building projects. The Padora-Thronson and the Olson-Koller families were just about as excited as our volunteers to get started building on these two homes! The North St. Louis County Habitat for Humanity staff feel like a hull of a ship has just been launched into the water. The boat is now floating and is now ready to fully outfit for its seaward journey. Likewise, concrete in the ground means that volunteers can now be scheduled in on a regular basis and soon the homes will be ready for our families to continue their life’s journey’s in a safe and sustainable way. We certainly need and appreciate all your help in working with these families to complete these homes!

Fall brings us to the beginning of school and two more foundations. Students have started working on a foundation in Chisholm in partnership with the Colemer family. The Chisholm and Hibbing High Schools as well as the Hibbing Community College will work together to lay a foundation and then use this platform as their class room from September 2016 to May of 2017. Students will receive the foundational knowledge of home construction as well as community involvement in meeting a family’s need for affordable housing. The Mesabi Range College’s Second Year Carpentry Class will lay the second student built home’s foundation in Virginia in partnership with the Bane family. These school partnerships have been a wonderful boost to Habitat’s ability to serve five families per year adding much needed volunteer power to the organization.

This fall we will endeavor to pour a sixth foundation in Cook which will be the starting project for the 2017 building season. Though we are busy with all the 2016 building season’s activities, this will enable a very early start to next year’s building since we can start framing before the delays of the spring thaw and rain. We are excited to partner with the Tuomala family to build this home in Cook.

“Home” is a great foundation for the families we serve. This building of concrete, wood and glass provides stability for families as they are able to put down permanent roots into the community. Often we hear stories from our families as to how many times they had to move before they were able to finally move into their Habitat home. Their home stopped the constant struggle to find an affordable, decent place to live! With their Habitat home as a foundation for the family, children are healthier and do better in school. Parents often times are able to continue their education or go for promotions at work. Families settle in and thrive in their community thanks to your generous donations of time, skill and funding.

When it comes to foundations you, our donors and volunteers, provide the solid ground on which we depend to fulfill Habitat’s mission of building homes communities and hope. Thank you for your support!

~Nathan Thompson, executive director

Important dates:

Dow Dedication: Sunday, October 2nd, 2:00 PM, 922 14th St. N., Virginia, MN
 Colemer Ground Breaking: Tuesday, September 13, 10:15 AM, 329 8th St. SW, Chisholm, MN
 Bane Ground Breaking: Tuesday, September 13, 1:00 PM, 218 12th St. S., Virginia, MN



2016 BUILD SEASON IS OFF TO A GREAT START!

BUILDING HOMES, COMMUNITIES AND HOPE



Olson-Koller Family
Ground Breaking—Aurora



Delta Call Center—Sheeting and Shingles—Hibbing



Wells Fargo painting at Dows'—Virginia



Habitat 500 Riders/Builders Raise the First Wall—
Padora-Thronson's—Hibbing



One of our many wonderful Voyageur Outward
Bound School groups at the Dow home—Virginia



Kiewit Crew—Demo Day at the Dows'—
Virginia



2016 Bike.Home Kick Off
Padora-Thronson
Family—Hibbing



And the fabulous Care-a-Vanner crew brings the Aurora house
from foundation to dried-in over the course of 10 days!



Walls going up in Aurora



Sheeting in Hibbing



Foundation Work in Aurora



Daimler/Detroit Diesel put up trusses at
Padora-Thronson house—Hibbing



Demo Day at the Dows'—Virginia



Blue Cross Blue Shield
women ROCK the Dows'
house—Virginia



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
TIME, TALENT AND
TREASURE!**