

A Newsletter of Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery and Delaware Counties

Your impact (May- September)

Volunteers at Habitat MontDelco	962
Families Impacted By Your Support	235
Garbage Diverted from Landfills through the ReStore (pounds)	489,169

Events

Almost Home Fall Session
in Norristown
October 2 - November 8, 2018

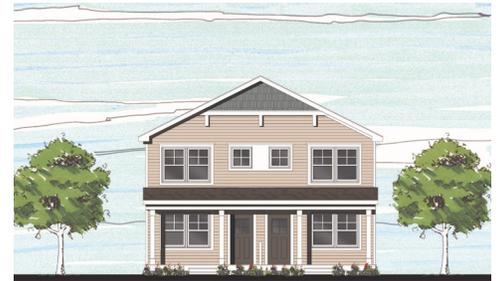
629 Walnut Street Home
Dedication
Mid December

Habitat MontDelco's 30th
Anniversary Year
Begins January 2019

Women Build Weekend
February 15 and 16

Two Families to buy new Habitat Homes in Bridgeport, PA

This fall, Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery and Delaware Counties is beginning to build our latest project, the new construction of two twin homes in Bridgeport, PA! The stunning new homes will have 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, and an open-concept first floor.



A rendering of the front of the twin homes. The homes on Bush Street were designed by Barton Partners.

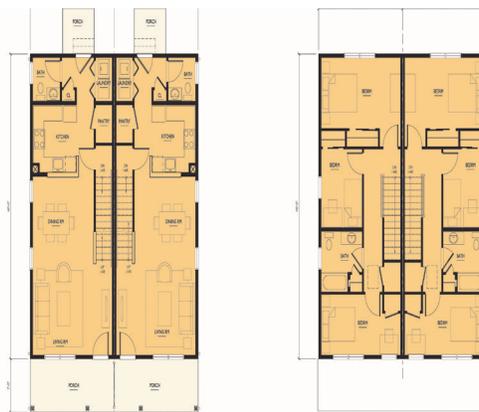
Purchasing one of these Bridgeport twins will be the Samaan family, Hani and Hayam, and sons Mathew (3) and Karaj (4). Currently, the Samaan family lives and works in Norristown. The family of four has been renting a small apartment, but they are quickly outgrowing it!

They are excited to become homeowners where they already have roots!

Moving in the home next door will be the Youseff family. This family of five consists of parents Wasfi and Marsa, along with daughters Karen (11) and Silvana (3), and son Mina (8). The Youseff family currently rents an apartment in Bridgeport. Wasfi works the overnight shift at Shoprite, as well as a day shift at League Collegiate Wear LLC, along with his wife Marsa.

These future homeowners are no doubt committed to providing the best for their families. Since learning they were approved for their homes, they wasted no time in beginning their sweat equity hours- 400 hours of service a Habitat home-buying family contributes to their new home.

Both families have been working hard chipping away at these hours in the ReStore- unloading trucks, organizing, stocking shelves, and wherever help



The floor plan for the twins. The projected complete date for this project is Spring 2019.



The Samaan family are all smiles after signing paperwork to begin the homeownership process with HabitatMontDelco. The family includes Hani, sons Mathew, 3, and Karaj, 4, and Hayam

New Habitat Homes...

is needed. Once construction begins, Hani, Hayam, Wasfi, and Marsa will work alongside Habitat's construction team and volunteers to build their own homes. They will each individually complete 100 hours of sweat equity solely in construction.

The Samaan and Youseff families are motivated and enthusiastic about the process as they know how much this will change the lives of their families. Moving into a stable home will allow them more financial freedom, independence, and security that they have been dreaming for of for so long. Future homeowner Hani shared that, "owning a home means that my kids will be successful. They will have a bright future, and Hayam and I will

know that we will always have a safe place for them."

The construction of these new twins would not have been possible without the support of our corporate partner, Thrivent Financial, and other generous donations. Thrivent works to provide opportunities for its members to give back where they live and work. Their partnership with Habitat MontDelco is one example of how they achieve this. Thrivent and more than 20 churches will be sponsoring one half of the Bush Street twins through their Faith Build program. To make this possible, we need support from local churches and corporate partners. We are halfway to our goal, but we won't be able to complete these homes without your help. If you are interested in becoming a part of the Bush Street twins—either through volunteering or donating, please contact Cara@habitatmontdelco.org or lmraz@habitatmontdelco.org.



The Youseff family. Children Karen, 11, Mina, 8, and Silvana, 3, along with Wasfy and Marsa are pictured above.

"Owning a home means that my kids will be successful. They will have a bright future, and Hayam and I will know that we will always have a safe place for them."

-Hani, future Habitat home-buyer

4 WAYS



SHOPPING & DONATING AT THE RESTORE HELPS HABITAT'S MISSION

Horsham ReStore Hours
Shop.
 Tuesday – Saturday: 9am – 6pm
 Sunday: 11am – 5pm
Donate.
 Tuesday – Sunday: 9am – 5pm
 Sunday: 11am – 4pm

West Norriton ReStore Hours
Shop.
 Tuesday – Saturday: 9am – 6pm
Donate.
 Tuesday – Sunday: 9am – 5pm
 To schedule a donation pick-up online, visit www.habitatmontdelco.org/donatestuff

15% OFF YOUR NEXT PURCHASE
 WHEN YOU TEXT **restore** TO 77948

JOIN THE RESTORE TEXT CLUB

 This discount cannot be combined with any other offers.

Habitat Work in Delco

Habitat of Montgomery and Delaware Counties is continuing to expand our programming to reach more people in Delaware County.

Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery and Delaware Counties has partnered with the County Office of Services for the Aging (COSA) to complete ten Critical Home Repair projects around Delaware County. COSA works to provide well-being for older county residents and to maintain independence and dignity in a home environment for as long as possible. Families who have benefited from the Critical Home Repair program are greatly impacted and left with a feeling of hopefulness. Eric Nixon, a CHR recipient, said of the program, "It is a wonderful program and my family is blessed because of it."

Through this partnership, COSA will work to identify senior citizens in need of Habitat's Critical Home Repair program, support Habitat's construction team through the repairs, and ensure residents feel safe and secure in their homes. Saroj Chettri, Neighborhood Revitalization and Critical Home Repair Manager, says "This partnership will be great for both Habitat, as well as COSA. It will help save resources and time for both organizations. We can partner up to share information, resources, and skills in order to reach out to more of the senior population in Delaware County."

In addition to the Critical Home Repair program, Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery and Delaware Counties has property in Lansdowne. The lots are located on Dudley Avenue, in the heart of the borough. Habitat plans to build new homes, breaking ground in summer of 2019. The future Habitat



A family is all smiles as they stand outside their newly repaired home. The CHR program helped this elderly couple with yard work, a new railing for front steps, and a new deck.

homeowners of these properties will enjoy a quiet cul-de-sac location and will be able to take advantage of parks, the library, and public transit- all within walking distance.

Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery and Delaware Counties' home buying program will bring much needed affordable homeownership to Delaware County, as it has in each neighborhood a house has been built or rehabilitated in the past 30 years throughout Montgomery County. Tamara Charles, Habitat of Montgomery and Delaware Counties newest homebuyer in Pottstown, knows all about the hopefulness and promise a stable home can bring. At her home dedication this summer Tamara shared, "...after hitting rock bottom, moving into our new home will allow myself and my three children the opportunity to flourish as we grow in our home and in our community."

Additionally, we will be hosting our first *Almost Home* Financial Literacy course in Delaware County this spring. The *Almost Home* program aims to help families become financially stable through an intensive 6 week course where they begin achieving their financial goals, learn new skills including project management, resume writing, and organization practices, and are empowered to break counterproductive financial habits. This upcoming course will be held in Lansdowne, for six weeks this coming spring.

"There is a significant need in Delaware County and we have the ability to make an impact."
-Marianne Lynch, HabitatMontDelco CEO

Marianne Lynch, HabitatMontDelco's CEO says, "Holding an *Almost Home* session is a great launching point for us because it provides the opportunity to connect and collaborate with local organizations who are already having an impact on their communities. *Almost Home* has left a lasting impression on so many families in Montgomery County that we are anxious to make it accessible to our Delaware County families. *Almost Home* also provides the opportunity to let folks know that the possibility of home ownership with Habitat for Humanity in Delaware County is on the horizon!"

To keep updated on all our happenings in both Montgomery and Delaware Counties, contact Chad Guth, Director of Family Services, at cguth@habitatmontdelco.org.



At her home dedication, Tamera Charles, with her two daughters, shares what their new home will mean to them, along with Board President, William McEwan, and CEO Marianne Lynch



A group of *Almost Home* students learn organizing tips from Darla DeMorrow From HeartWork Organizing. Darla will bring her lesson to Delco this Spring.

YOUR SUPPORT CAN HELP BUILD A HOME...

As we begin our latest project- two new twins in Bridgeport, PA, we need your support more than ever. When you give, you are funding life-changing work to help families like the Samaan's and the Youseff's in taking positive steps to a better, more stable life. Your donation will help these families break the cycle of poverty and build long-term financial security.

\$25

Can fund one
bathroom
faucet

Shower a family
with kindness



\$75

Can fund
living room
light fixtures

Shine the light of
love



\$150

Can fund one
front door

The gateway to
homeownership



\$250

Can fund
drywall for
one bedroom

A finishing touch



\$500

Can fund one
hot water
heater

Hot water that's
no trouble



Ways to get involved

There's something that each one of us can do to end poverty housing in our community:

Volunteer! There are opportunities at our construction sites, in our ReStore, in Family Services, as an intern, or on any of our committees. For more information, contact Cara at cara@habitatmontdelco.org.

Invest! Give the gift of Habitat and transform lives. For more information on ways to give, including gifts of services, materials, land or property, contact Laura at lmraz@habitatmontdelco.org.

Advocate! Tell our county representatives, your township, or borough commissioners why preserving homeownership is important to our quality of life. For more information about contacting community leaders, contact Marianne at mlynch@habitatmontdelco.org.

Recycle! Moving, remodeling, or cleaning? Donate your items to the ReStore! If you have items that are in good shape and usable, contact our Donations Coordinator at restore@habitatmontdelco.org.

2018-2019 Board of Directors

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