Joani’s Corner
By Joani Costello, Interim Executive Director

“Sustainability: to last or continue for a long time” is the theme for this newsletter. When this theme was chosen, I was at first intrigued and then challenged. The more one thinks about it, there are numerous ways in which GAHH embraces the concept of “sustainability.”

The definition, “able to last or continue for a long time,” applies to Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity in so many ways. GAHH got its’ roots in 1987—27 years ago—and has completed 172 houses. Not only have we helped to sustain a better quality of life for our partner families, the generations of families that will be touched from these 172 houses are countless. Communities have been built, relationships expanded, neighborhoods invigorated, and education levels elevated to outperform New Mexico state averages.

This is no small feat. It takes countless volunteer and staff hours to administer our programs and achieve our mission of building decent, affordable, and energy-efficient homes. Even though our “family” of volunteers is ever-changing, we are sustained by the multitude of donors and sponsors who never lose sight of this mission and generously help us to promote and achieve our vision in the Greater Albuquerque community.

Communities across the state are looking for ways to promote sustainable and healthy neighborhoods. At Habitat, we think about a house as a system and we consider the connections between homes and the environment and their impact on the health and well-being of our communities. Building “green” homes is important for sustaining our earth and ensuring that our homes are truly healthy and safe. The US Department of Housing and Urban Development is currently piloting the Healthy Communities Initiative in the Albuquerque area. Habitat has long been on its radar because we look at the full picture when it comes to providing shelter and building community one home, one family at a time.

For me, sustainability also relates to prudence. It is not enough to continue to select and educate families and build houses. It is critical that the financial sustainability and infrastructure of the organization is addressed timely and effectively. Each of our projects is unique and each presents challenges. For non-profits, there is always monetary challenge. Energy-efficient homes do not come with lesser price tags, land costs are high, and the cost of

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build our reserves and internal systems in order to sustain operations. We are an amazing organization with so much to offer our community. Financial prudence will enable us to continue to serve the Greater Albuquerque area for another 27 years.

We need your help to sustain GAHH and continue our work! We currently have two fun events planned for the quarter: an Upcycle and Solar Fair on October 11 at ReStore with something for everyone in the family, and our Raising the Roof Breakfast on November 1 at the Embassy Suites, where we will enjoy music, breakfast, and build a “virtual house.” As well, with calendar year-end comes our annual appeal. No donation is too small or insignificant! Keep in mind, we still have tax credits available for our Townsend project – available to both individuals and businesses. Planned giving through our Irv and Lois Hall Legacy Society is a great way for families to remember GAHH in estate plans. Planned giving is an act of hope for the future of low-income families. Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity on behalf of the families we strive to serve!

Thank you PNM Fund, a division of PNM Resource Foundation, for the grant to reduce our energy use in the ReStore during our 2013 renovation. PNM helping GAHH support our environment – awesome partnership!

Find us on Facebook!
https://www.facebook.com/HabitatABQ
President’s Message

Bob Arguelles, Board of Directors

“When we become more fully aware that our success is due in large measure to the loyalty, helpfulness, and encouragement we have received from others, our desire grows to pass on similar gifts. Gratitude spurs us on to prove ourselves worthy of what others have done for us. The spirit of gratitude is a powerful energizer.”

— Wilferd A. Peterson

I recently came across this quote from Wilferd Peterson, which so remarkably embodies the spirit and mission of our Habitat affiliate and those associated with it. From the exceptional staff, each of whom work diligently every day to procure funding for construction of our homes, generate revenue through our ReStore retail operation, or recruit volunteers for all of our endeavors, to our private and corporate sponsors, SWAT members, and partner families sharing their “time, treasure and talent,” the results of these collective efforts have culminated in an invigorating month for GAHH.

For three consecutive weekends in August we gathered at the Townsend neighborhood to celebrate the commencement of our 174th home being built for the Muñoz family and the dedication of homes for the Aragon and Marquez families. It was one of the most exciting and awe-inspiring experiences I have had while at GAHH.

Yet, with all of our success in the past year, there is still much needed. To complete our Townsend neighborhood we need to raise an additional $300,000. Please consider making a donation; no amount is too little and the lives you will change is remarkable. If your preference is to be actively involved in your commitment of service, contact our volunteer coordinator to schedule time in our ReStore or on the build site. If the Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity can be included in your estate planning, you can be assured that your gift will provide a safe, decent home for a well-deserving family.

Now, more than ever, we need your help. Please join our effort in providing safe, decent homes and communities in the Albuquerque area. For more information, visit us at www.habitatabq.org.

Thank you.

Raising the Roof!

Greater Alburquerque Habitat for Humanity Invites you to join us for our Raising the Roof 2014 Fundraising Breakfast

To Fund the Townsend Build
Saturday November 1, 2014, 9:00 am
Embassy Suites Albuquerque
1000 Woodward Place NE, 87102 (I-25/Lomas)

Guest Emcee Steve Stucker

Reservations Required
$150.00/table, $15.00/person
Reserve by October 25th
www.habitatabq.org
or mail payment to
GAHH Breakfast
4900 Menaul NE
ABQ, 87110

Questions: beth@habitatabq.org

Honoring the GAHH SWAT (Special Work Assignment Team)
Let’s Build A Cyber-House
Torchbearers: Irv and Lois Hall - Part II

This column features interviews and stories about GAHH community leaders. To submit the name of a Habitat Torchbearer, email beth@habitatabq.org

Jeanne Elmhorst, Volunteer

Around the World with Habitat

Why build homes across the world when Albuquerque is bursting with need? That either/or outlook doesn’t belong to Lois and Irving Hall. Instead, they embrace both and they build a vision. In 1999, after years of volunteering with GAHH, the Halls joined a Carter Build* in the Philippines and worked beside Millard Fuller, Habitat’s founder, and Lolita, the homeowner, who was struggling to raise her deceased sister’s four children. Lois remembers sweating in the heat carrying one block while watching Lolita hoist two blocks at once. Irv recalls Lolita’s watchful eye and warnings not to climb too high on the ladder! They treasure delightful and emotional memories laboring beside Habitat homeowners and volunteers in Korea, South Africa, Vietnam, Haiti, Mexico, and cities in the US.

In 2005, the Halls sponsored five homes and led a Global Village team to Guatemala where they witnessed Hurricane Stan’s devastation. Touched by homeowners who generously cared for each other’s children and seeing the differences simple, decent (and sturdy) homes make for families in this hurricane and earthquake-prone area, Lois and Irving created the Guatemala Dream Project (GDP). Family and friends responded and the GDP expanded to construct 40, then 100, then 500 homes.

In August 2012, the 500th home was dedicated and celebrated by family and friends of the homeowners and the Halls, the local mayor, the National Director of HFH Guatemala, and (by video) Habitat CEO Jonathan Reckford. Health issues prevented the Halls from travelling, but they were there in spirit, joyful that, like the parable of the mustard seed, their project began small and grew exponentially.

What’s next? Lois and Irving continue to weave their web of compassion and support for Guatemalans. Check out their new venture to raise funds for land for more Habitat homes at https://share.habitat.org/legacy-project.

*Since 1984, the Carters spend one week a year with Habitat, now called the Jimmy and Rosalyn Carter Work Project. Habitat continuously sponsors Global Village Builds in countries worldwide.

Editor’s note: Each year, Habitat affiliates, including GAHH, collectively tithe millions of dollars to serve families in developing countries where Habitat works. One hundred percent of the affiliate tithe gifts are sent internationally to serve families outside of the US. Since our inception, GAHH has tithed over $870,000 and supported 302 international families. Through the tithe, affiliates are eliminating poverty housing in communities around the world.

Leaving a legacy

so that no one in the Greater Albuquerque area will live in substandard housing.

The Irving J. & Lois Hall Legacy Society

I’m in the final chapters of my book of life and I think about what might be written on my tombstone. Both my wife and I would like it to say that we did make a difference. Working with Habitat has made it possible for us, hopefully, to make a difference in the lives of others. We know that it has certainly made a difference in ours.

—Irv Hall, PhD, Home Sponsor and Volunteer

Forms of Planned Giving

• Bequest in a Will
• Gift of Real Estate
• Life Insurance
• Life Income Gifts
• Retirement Plans
• Beneficiary of an IRA
• Permanent Endowment

For more information contact Beth Goldman, Director of Resource Development 505-265-0057 beth@habitatabq.org

Irv Hall in Guatemala with Guatemala Dream Project children
Construction Update

Neal DeLange, Construction Supervisor

As the summer heat turned up, so too did the activity on Townsend. In August we had two dedications and an opening ceremony! Lucy Aragon and Maria Marquez had their journeys to homeownership culminate for 920 and 924 Townsend, respectively. Work is well underway for our next two houses, 916 and 912, as we make our way down the block. The new house design has seen enormously positive results and has been both a breath of fresh air and a new challenge for the SWAT crew, construction staff, and volunteers. With an eye towards sustainability, these homes will be of great benefit to our partner families as we aim to incorporate the position of the sun, energy efficiency, water conservation, and family-friendly functionality to provide a rich and rewarding homeownership experience. As we transition into the fall season, we look forward to the progress you help us make allowing others to realize their dream of having a safe, affordable place to live.

GAHH has to raise $740,000 to build the seven Townsend Ave SW homes. At the time of printing, we have raised $470,000. We thank our current Townsend home sponsors Bank of Albuquerque, Bank of America, Catholic-Presbyterian-Methodist Coalition, Compass Bank, Lowe’s, Patrice Ann Radke Charitable Fund, Ron and Faye Detry, Sandia Retirees, and Wells Fargo. To make a donation, access www.habitatabq.org and select “Donate.” For home sponsorship information contact Beth Goldman (beth@habitatabq.org).

Ron’s House, dedicated to the memory of Rob Livingston and sponsored by Ron and Faye Detry along with Townsend project sponsors Wells Fargo and Lowe’s, became home to the Aragon family on August 16, 2014.

The Marquez Family cuts the ribbon at their home dedication on August 23 at 924 Townsend Ave SW.

Bill Reilly, construction manager, leads prayer at the Opening Celebration for the Munoz Family, 912 Townsend Ave SW.
Family Services
Kori Ann Sanchez, Family Services Manager

In the GAHH Family Services Department we think about sustainability every day. Believe it or not, with just a $450 – $550 mortgage payment at zero percent interest on a 20 year note, some of our partner families are still unable to make their mortgage payments. So we look ahead at what hardships our families may face. We try to determine if other families will encounter these same issues. Is it unemployment, a health crisis, poor finances, how they budget money, or perhaps overextending credit? We often find when we collect financial information from a struggling family it boils down to poor spending habits.

How do you think and spend? What are your behaviors around spending money? We develop a great deal of these behavior patterns while we are young. We never wonder if these spending behaviors will sustain us throughout life’s ups and downs. So when we think about sustainability, it doesn’t just transcend to our recycling or how we build a house. How are you building your future? Will it sustain you?

At GAHH, with a grant from State Farm, we began a workshop series that will inspire you and ask you to face these issues. If you are the provider in your family and something happens to you, what will sustain you? Do you have a will in place? How are you structuring the payout on your Social Security income? Did you know there are 700 ways to claim this income and you may be leaving money on the table? What about your medical coverage and retirement? These are all questions to which we will help you find answers.

Please call me (505-265-0057, x106). Classes will be held every month and I will reserve a seat for you at one of these one-hour workshops. At GAHH we are not just building houses, but a strong sustainable community. We’ve had a fantastic response from participants in these free workshops and encourage others to join.

Lunch Box Builders
Lunch Box Builders and Event Food Sponsors: March 12 – August 23, 2014

Chick-fil-A
Citibank
Community Outreach—All Saints Lutheran Church
Copper Pointe Church
Eric & Jane Leger
Ericson Family
First United Methodist Church
Gabaldon Family
Hence Williams
Jason’s Deli
Marquez Family
Martinez Family
Route 66 Civitan
South Valley Civitan

St. Bernadette Catholic Church
Texas Roadhouse
Tom & Jeanne Elmhorst

For more information contact:
Volunteer Coordinator
505-265-0057
Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity
www.habitatabq.org
Delving into Development

Beth Goldman, Director of Resource Development

Fall is here and along with cool nights and yellow cottonwood leaves, I look forward to groundbreaking ceremonies and house dedications, the Fall Upcycle Fair and Solar Celebration, the Raising the Roof breakfast, and great finds in the ReStore.

The Fall Upcycle Fair and Solar Celebration? What’s this all about? I’m guessing, well… hoping, that you are already intimately familiar with recycling and that you have taken advantage of the City of Albuquerque’s curbside recycling program. Contrary to common beliefs, recycling is not a phenomenon that started in the 1960s. In fact, the first metal recycling occurred in America in 1776 when patriots in New York City melted down a statue of King George III and made it into 42,088 bullets. When we use the word recycling today, we are referring to the process of breaking down a waste material and reworking it into a new usable product. For instance, used aluminum beverage cans (the most recycled item in the US) are recycled into dishwashers, new aluminum cans, and cement. While recycling is crucial, the process of recycling uses energy and that evokes questions in the mind of an environmentalist. Is recycling enough? What else can I do?

Upcycling also converts used or waste products into a new product, but upcycling does not include a chemical process of breaking down and re-manufacturing the material. Upcycling is what a ReStore customer does when she buys an old entertainment center and turns it into a child’s play kitchen. Upcycling is underway when an old blanket is recreated into a variety of soft warm winter hats. Upcycling is a highly effective practice for sustainable use of our resources.

At GAHH, we understand that we are stewards of our earth and we strive to make decisions that are in line with this philosophy. In addition to building energy efficient homes, the ReStore supports the environment by keeping salvageable items out of the landfill. We also have a strong recycling program in effect in the administrative offices and recently, Catherine Heyne, our grant writer won an award from Positive Energy Solar for a solar system to be installed at the ReStore.

The Fall Upcycle Fair and Solar Celebration will mark this award and celebrate ReStore’s connection to recycling and upcycling. Vendors will include creative and artistic upcyclers, passionate recyclers, a henna tattoo artist (tattoos for only $5), and more. Door prizes will be given every hour, the ReStore will have a 50 percent off sale, Albuquerque Poet Laureate Hakim Bellamy will perform a piece commissioned specifically for this event, and live music will continue throughout the day. Come in for a piece of the Sol Not Coal cake in the afternoon provided by New Energy Economy and Whole Foods. The Upcycle Fair is a free event.

Just three weeks after the Fall Upcycle Fair and after a couple of year’s hiatus, GAHH’s fundraising breakfast is making a comeback. Whether you’ve attended in the past or this year will mark your first, Raising the Roof is not to be missed. Join Steve Stucker, KOB TV weatherman, at the Embassy Suites Hotel to honor our SWAT crew and together we will build a house. SWAT (Special Work Assignment Team) works hard year round guiding the volunteers and directing the construction of each Habitat home. They come out every Wednesday and Friday rain or shine. At the Raising the Roof breakfast we will have a chance to honor the SWAT crew and show them how to build a Habitat house in 30 minutes, a virtual house that is. There will be great prizes and loads of fun with all of the proceeds going to the Townsend build. Tickets are only $15; make your reservation at www.habitatabq.org.

Enjoy the fall. See you at the fair.
Highlights of the Summer

Thank you Jane and Doug Swift and the Albuquerque Community Foundation.

Thanks to Bank of America, we have the funds to raise the five pads on Townsend SW that were in the newly designated flood zone.

Positive Energy Solar awarded the GAHH ReStore a 2.5kW photovoltaic solar system. Our goal is to grow the system to provide 90 percent of the electrical needs for the office and ReStore.

Melloy Nissan donated $50 for every new car sold in the month of May to the Home of Dreams on Townsend SW. Many thanks to the Melloy family, General Manager Roy Benson, and Irv and Lois Hall.

Ace Leadership High School student Jesus Dominguez and Daniel Zev Wolfskehl, teacher and Transition Coach, built a recycled dog house and garden bench to be sold at the Chile Festival Silent Auction. It was the most talked about item in the room.
A grant from State Farm provided funding for free classes during the summer ranging from Container Gardening to Repurposing and Upcycling ReStore Treasures taught by our own Jerry Bontrager. Access our calendar at www.habitatabq.org for a listing of fall and winter class offerings.

GAHH received a reward for much needed work on the front of our building from Albuquerque Lodge No. 60 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons! Thank you Alan Varela and Lodge members.

Thank you Schlotzsky’s and the GAHH and ReStore staff for making the daylong benefit a great time.

YUGA members Gabby and Kayla painting a mural on the front of the ReStore. Many thanks to Keep Albuquerque Beautiful!
Volunteers

Volunteers are the heart of our organization and make the real difference for our families. Many thanks to the sponsors, lunch providers, and volunteers who have helped families build their homes at the Townsend Ave SW site or volunteered in the ReStore from January 2 - August 23, 2014. For a list of individual volunteers, please access our web site (www.habitatabq.org).

**Construction Volunteer Groups**
- Advanced Communications & Electronics, Inc.
- APS Student, Family, and Community Support Division
- Bank of America
- Best Buy
- CenturyLink
- Dirty Bourbon
- Farmers Insurance –NM Property Department
- First United Methodist Church
- Future Soldiers – Rio Rancho Center
- Humana
- Intel Corporation IT Department
- Jason’s Deli
- Junior League
- Legacy Financial
- Lowe’s
- Marriott Courtyard
- Morgan Stanley Wealth Management
- New Day
- NM Society of Hospital Pharmacists
- PNM Meter Readers
- Sam’s Club
- St. Timothy’s Lutheran Church
- UnitedHealthcare
- Wells Fargo
- Young Professionals of Albuquerque

**ReStore Volunteer Groups**
- Aflac Action
- APS Students
- Beta Alpha Psi
- Celebration Baptist Church
- CenturyLink
- Citibank
- Copper Pointe Church
- Duke City Civitan
- Engineers Without Borders
- Euro Knights
- GAP, Inc.
- Hewlett Packard Corporate Print
- Humana
- Kirtland CGOC
- Kirtland Public Health
- PNM
- SPAWAR Reserve Project
- SWAT

*Dan Belden and Greg Hunt volunteering at the 17th Annual Chile Festival.*

*SWAT members and community volunteers work together on the build site.*
Donor Honor Roll

Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity has been tremendously blessed by hundreds of individuals, churches, synagogues, businesses, and other organizations that have supported our mission to build community one home and one family at a time. Major donors ($500+) are listed below for the period of May – August 2014. If we inadvertently left your name off this list, please contact us immediately. Thank you all!!

Charle and Christine Adolph
Albuquerque Lodge No 60 AF & AM
Kirsten Anderson
Leslie E & D'Ann Anderson
Anonymous
Evan & Ellen Ashcroft
Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Inc.
Roy D & Lynnae T Benson
Vladimir V & Mary Margaret Berniklau
Ann and Jim Bier Charitable Trust
Jeffrey A & Kelly A Brooks
Joyce Ann Carden
Douglas C Cardwell
CenturyLink
Mary Ann Cinowalt and John Ramos
Sallie H Clay
Cole Revocable Trust
Combined Federal Campaign – Central and Northern NM
Mary Ann Cordova
Robert H & Sharon H Craig
Bill Easton
Tom & Jeanne Elmhorst (In-kind)
Esparza Advertising (In-kind)
Virginia & Richard Feddersen
Foundation for Sustainable Living

Fox Family Trust
Betty Jane Gallagher and Brian J Gallagher
Reyes Gallegos
Pablo & Teresa Garcia
General Mills Foundation
Donovan Robert Gerty
Sandy Gold
Alexander & Debbie Gonzales
Dale Guillot
Charlotte A Halber
Dorothy D Hawkins Revocable Trust
Mellisa Heller
Gary & Debi Housley
Kim Jew Photography
Melloy Nissan
John F & Mary M Mims
Monte Vista Christian Church
Melinda Moore
Employees Charity Organization of Northrop Grumman Corporation
State Farm Mutual Automobile Companies
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
Two Men and a Truck
Mario & Lori Valdez
Wells Fargo Foundation
Clarke M Williams Foundation

Congratulations Kris Ericson!

Kris Ericson, a longtime hardworking GAHH volunteer newsletter designer, editor and website guru, was elected Chair of the Bethany College (Lindsborg, KS) Board of Directors in May 2014. Kris has been a member of the Board since 2006 and is the first woman to be elected to chair the Board. In addition to her volunteer work with GAHH, Kris is a Worship Ministries Chair and high school Sunday School teacher at All Saints Lutheran Church. She is also the immediate past-president of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) New Mexico Board of Directors. Kris works as an independent consultant to the behavioral health community with clients across the country. Her work includes serving as chief executive of ACHMA: The College for Behavioral Heath Leadership, mentoring emerging leaders, technical writing, training and assisting states in the redesign of Medicaid programs.
ARE YOU REMODELING YOUR HOTELS, MOTELS, BUSINESSES OR HOMES?

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR:
Furniture, Office Equipment, Electronics, Appliances, Washers & Dryers, Toilets, Light/Plumbing Fixtures, Recyclable Metal, Refrigerators and Household Goods. We will send out Donation Truck to pick up your items at no cost to you and give you a donation slip for tax purposes.

HELP US TO HELP OTHERS – DONATE TODAY:
All your donated goods are resold at our Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity Restore location. Money raised goes to help build homes in the Greater Albuquerque Area.

OUR LOCATION:
4900 Menaul Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110
505-265-0057 • www.habitatabq.org

STORE HOURS:
Monday-Saturday
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Closed Sunday