

Building Blocks Campaign

IMPACT REPORT

2013-2015



a habitat for humanity campaign
to restore west michigan neighborhoods



Habitat
for Humanity®
of Kent County



Dear Friends,

Implementing new goals and strategies is always challenging, but great joy and satisfaction always follows when those goals and strategies are achieved. And this is where we find ourselves after a year of integrating Habitat's core ministry of providing homeownership opportunities with a new focus on strategic neighborhood revitalization.

You have made that possible! Whether you have donated to Habitat Kent, volunteered, or provided wise counsel, you are the reason these goals and strategies are transforming lives and stabilizing neighborhoods.

Enclosed you will find our special report to the community which highlights the many accomplishments achieved through Habitat Kent's Building Blocks Campaign. Because of God's love and your faithful partnership, this campaign enabled Habitat Kent to serve 200 families, in 5 neighborhoods, in 2 years; easily the greatest impact we've had in our 30 year history.

And while it is satisfying to highlight our accomplishments, it is far more rewarding to highlight the impact Habitat Kent is having on the families we serve. As always, empowering a family to change their history and build hope for a bright future is what this great effort is about. Stable and invested families lead to stable neighborhoods. A permanent home starts the process of permanent transformation.

So while this report is about the great things we are accomplishing in partnership, it is more than that. It is a story of people coming together for positive change.

With Gratitude,

Mary A. Buikema	Ted Adornato	John Benz	Laurie Termaat
<i>Executive Director</i>	<i>Campaign Co-Chair</i>	<i>Campaign Co-Chair</i>	<i>Campaign Co-Chair</i>

200 families in 2 years!

The Building Blocks Campaign
by the numbers:

40 
NEW HOMEOWNERS


5 GRAND RAPIDS WEST SIDE
NEIGHBORHOODS

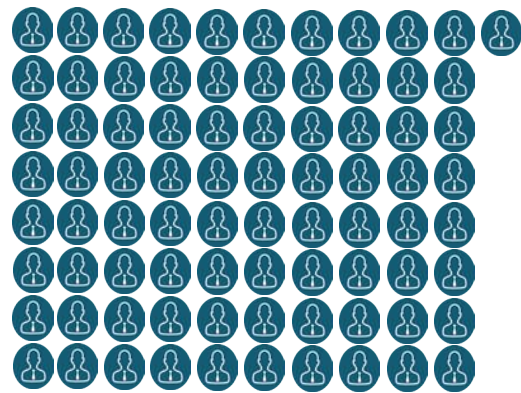
12,000 HOURS
of sweat equity 

IMPROVED ReStore 
locations to provide a
better donor and
customer experience

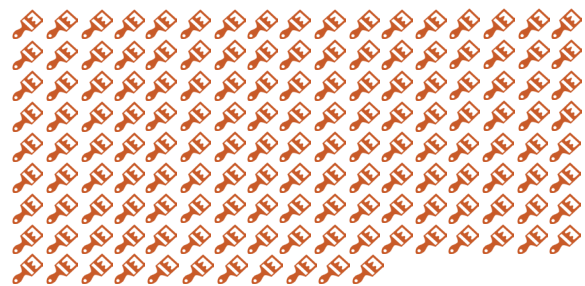
\$4.9 MILLION
To benefit the local economy during
the building and selling of homes.

And will produce
\$7 MILLION
in income to local government,
business and employers over 10 years

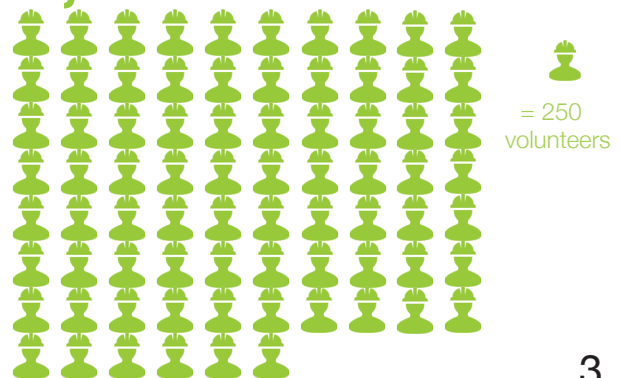
sustained
89 LOCAL JOBS



completed
160 REPAIRS & RENOVATIONS



engaged over
19,000 VOLUNTEERS





“I have my family, but I’m finally part of something bigger than me that is continuously helping others too.”

-Tennille (Homeowner)

Not being a homeowner was holding Tennille and her family back from reaching their best potential. “The reason I decided to do the Habitat program was that I was tired of those property managers,” she explained. As a perpetual renter, she found herself feeling helpless, belittled, and taken advantage of by uncooperative landlords. “I felt discouraged because I wanted that place to be home and it just wasn’t home...I wanted a place that would actually feel like home.”

Tennille has four children—Journey, Jada, Jasmine, and Jalil—all whom worked on the house in various ways during the partnership process. In fact, their Mother’s Day gift to her was working on their future home. “The best part of being a mom is that they love me and I love them...just seeing them smile, and knowing that’s my nurturing that’s making them smile. They are why I did [Habitat], it’s for them.”

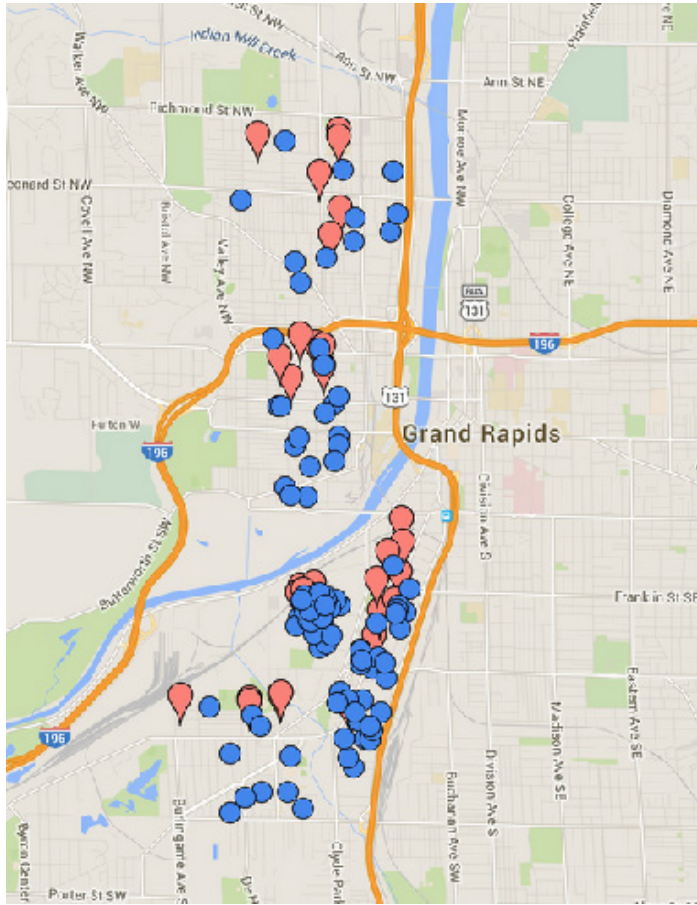
Now, as a homeowner, Tennille and her children have a constant sense of stability—not only within their immediate family, but also within the support they found in the Habitat community. “While going through the Habitat process, in talking to the other families, one homebuyer lost their mother, another lost their job...we were all talking to each other about our struggles and trying to make it better.” She talked about how every family had faced some adversity during their partnership and they leaned upon one another in order to keep going. “But then in the end, we all got our houses. We all did it.”

“I’m happy that I’m part of something that’s growing and growing,” she beams. “I have my family, but I’m finally part of something bigger than me that is continuously helping others too. I want to know the new families! I want to know who is now part of this bigger family we have.”



**The transformation of
Tennille’s home from
foundation to
finishing touches.
(January 2014-
July 2014)**





Building Blocks Campaign Map



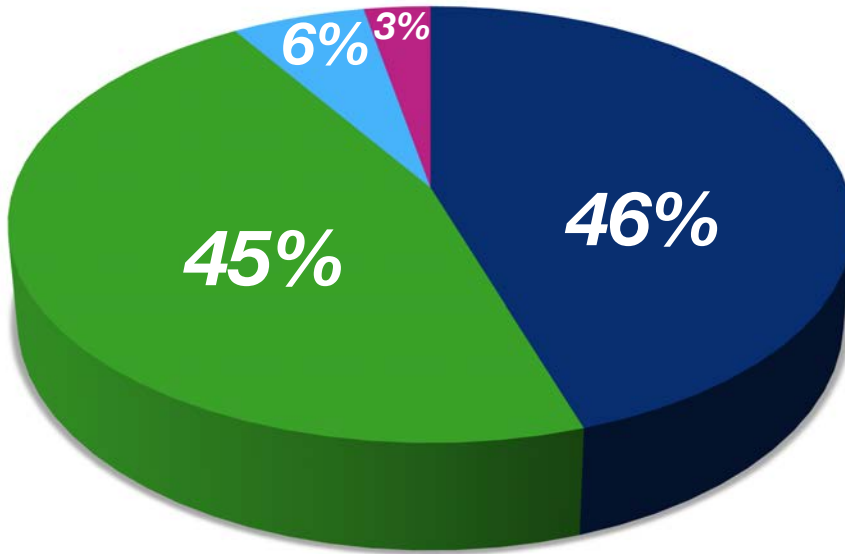
New/rehabbed
Habitat Kent home site



Repair/renovation
project site

Special thanks
to our **400+** donors
for partnering in our
**BUILDING BLOCKS
CAMPAIGN**

\$5,000,000 Raised!



Campaign Funding
New Construction
Rehab
ReStore
Repair/
Weatherization

