

WINTER 2021

the doorway

building homes, communities and hope

Join us for the Gwinnett Lights 2021 virtual event

The Gwinnett Lights 2021 virtual event will broadcast on March 25th at 7:00 PM on Gwinnett Habitat for Humanity's Facebook and YouTube accounts. This event will demonstrate the comprehensive nature of our mission to put God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope. The purpose of this event is first to raise funds to build houses, repair existing homes and revitalize neighborhoods in Gwinnett County. Additionally, we will raise awareness of how we are creating better homes and brighter futures. Through collaboration with volunteers, donors, sponsors and partners we accomplish our mission. We come together to foster stability, strength and self-reliance through shelter.

Raise funds to build houses, repair existing homes and revitalize neighborhoods

Share our story of collaboration with partners, sponsors, donors and volunteers

Engage the community in creating impact by giving of their time, talent and resources

Gwinnett Habitat for Humanity contracted with Nightglass Media to film, edit and produce this project. During this virtual event, you will hear about Gwinnett Habitat's journey to impact the local community through renovation, home building and neighborhood revitalization. We will include regular and time-lapse footage of the construction process, interview segments with donors, volunteers and staff members sharing why they invest their time and resources. You will hear from our homeowners to see the incredible impact we are making together in their lives.

We will also include the voices of community leaders to share the larger impact of our work. All speakers collaborating on this production will share an aspect of the Habitat mission they feel creates an essential community impact. We will demonstrate the collective impact of an entire community working together in unity to create a ripple effect that changes the future of individuals, families and communities.

We invite each of you to become part of the Gwinnett Habitat story. We look forward to working with you to build homes, communities and hope for families in Gwinnett County!



our vision is a world where everyone has a safe, decent, affordable place to call home



Gwinnett
Habitat for Humanity®
ReStore

The ReStore has been experiencing very positive growth since the new year and we are excited about what is in store for the Spring. Here are some fun facts about our business from the start of the year:

- We have sold over 7,000 screwdrivers, a great corporate donation.
- Gwinnett home owners purchased over a 1,000 boxes of flooring!
- There is a lot of renovation going on in our community, as we sold over 400 doors.
- It may be winter but don't tell that to our customers, as we have sold over 2,000 outdoor pillows since they arrived.

As we look to the spring, we are excited about a new relationship between us and a major retailer of fine home furnishings. We are starting the planning this month and hopefully will see product in our store soon. Thanks to our corporate partners, who have successfully launched this program in 6 other markets, we should see nice growth in our business. In our next newsletter I look forward to updating you on our new online store venture. Stay tuned!



ReStore news

What are our new hours?

We are now open [Wednesday through Saturday](#) each week from [10:00 am - 5:00 pm](#).

Do you have things to donate, but no time to drop off?

Please [call 770-962-4200](#) to find out about our residential and corporate pick-up service and request your donation time. [We will send out our truck to collect your donation.](#)

Would you like to donate your time to serve as a volunteer at the ReStore?

Please visit our website, [suburbanatlantarestores.org](#), to apply to volunteer with us!



a story of transformation

Ms. Miradia Pineiro has been undergoing cancer treatment including chemotherapy. Her immune system has also been severely compromised, and she is extremely sensitive to cool temperatures. Ms. Pineiro felt debilitating cold drafts throughout her home, including around the doors, windows and especially around the fireplace and mantle areas in her family room. Faced with huge medical bills, Ms. Pinero and family have not been able to keep up on home repairs.

Our ABWK Team, assisted by 'Renewal by Anderson's' personnel undertook repairing damaged siding on the chimney stack and replaced the backdoor among other repairs with the help of 2 volunteer crews. Anderson's morning crew of 10 volunteers assisted in repairing the damaged chimney stack on the exterior and assisted in sealing minute cracks in the wall around the fireplace and mantle to the interior of the home. Anderson's afternoon crew (10 volunteers) assisted in yard clean-up, various basic home repairs and painted the newly installed hardy plank siding on the home.

Subsequently, a third crew from 'Renewal by Anderson' returned and measured all the old weather-beaten windows around the home and replaced them with brand new, state of the art energy efficient Anderson windows as an in-kind donation. All this work, materials and effort has paid huge dividends to Ms. Pineiro's health and wellbeing, not to mention the value of her home. More importantly, this project has given her a new lease on life as she is much more comfortable in her home and able to enjoy her precious family time in a cozy warm setting.

Neighborhood Revitalization

Gwinnett Habitat for Humanity's first Neighborhood Revitalization project renovating the Harbins Community Center has just been finished. The Center was built in 1938 to consolidate four local one room schoolhouses into one. It is the second oldest school building still standing in Gwinnett! In 1958 Harbins Consolidated School merged its students into the larger Dacula School and the building was given to Dacula for use as a community center. The Harbins Community Center has been run and operated by volunteers from the community for over 60 years. With the building being 82 years old there were significant repairs needed. The larger and most pressing need of the center was a new roof. Due to water damage, the center had to close to the public in 2020 for the first time since 1938.

You would have a hard time finding any long time Dacula resident who has not attended some event at the Harbins Community Center. Family reunions have been held at the center; boy scout troops hold meetings; families host weddings, baby showers, bridal showers, birthdays, thanksgiving dinners, and Christmas parties. The center has been used for community-wide canning days, elections, quilting groups, community concerts and more.

"Building relationships and friendships is what it's all about – there is nothing like this space anymore."

Kathy Hinton

Gwinnett Habitat for Humanity was excited to head up the revitalization of the community center. We began by installing new framing and siding in many areas where the wood was rotten and hosted two service days for exterior painting. The Harbins Community Center Board provided all the drinks, refreshments, and lunch for the volunteers while local businesses provided discounted services and gifts in kind and the local volunteers came out to lend a hand.

Witt's Power Washing in Dacula pressure washed the center to get things ready for us to work. Hill's Ace Hardware in Winder provided lumber and siding for repairs. Lowe's Home Improvement Company awarded the funds to replace rotten roof sheathing so that Accent Roofing could install a new roof that had been gifted to the center by GAF Roofing. Valspar paint provided the paint for the exterior of the building and Beckmore Masonry provided supplies and labor to repair the chimneys. A local production company, Simply Aerial, came out to film the revitalization and do interviews with volunteers to bring more attention to the project. Local citizens have donated funds to pay for insurance and utilities to make sure the Harbins Community Center can remain open for everyone to enjoy. Due to the collaboration of local businesses and 48 volunteers who provided over 250 hours of labor, the Harbins Community Center is once again bringing the community together to build hope for a brighter future.



Volunteer Spotlight

The past year has been difficult for a lot of people in our nation. In the middle of uncertain times, we count on volunteers to help keep our mission alive. We enlist the help of many volunteers, but only a few answers the call to be hospitality volunteers. Hospitality volunteers are responsible for ensuring that all volunteers have a great experience from the start of the day to the end. A recent highlight began with a very shy volunteer who just wanted to make a difference.

Chiamaka recounts, "I've volunteered many times, often sporadically, in the past. Those service opportunities were great and I'm very appreciative, but they tended to be fleeting, and noncommittal, and my introverted-ness didn't allow me to fully get myself past greetings. Coming to Habitat for Humanity, I thought it'd be the same. But it wasn't. I got to know both homeowners, builders, and other hospitality volunteers rather well. That part alone has made it an enriching experience. However, the best aspect of Gwinnett Habitat that I've enjoyed is the reason for its existence. It gives me the joy to know that I'm a part of something that is so much bigger than me and that the very end goal of every project is for the betterment of the community and a family. It's a wonderful sentiment and it makes me so happy to be a part of building people affordable homes."

Register to volunteer at:
<http://habitatgwinnett.org/volunteer>



52 Gwinnett Drive, Suite B
P.O. Box 646
Lawrenceville, GA 30046

Email Us: sponsorship@habitatgwinnett.org
Call our Director of Philanthropy: 770-931-8080 x1025

habitatgwinnett.org

Make a Donation

Visit habitatgwinnett.org/giving
to learn about how you can partner with us.



*Gwinnett Habitat for Humanity is an affiliate of
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executive director's corner

With 2020 in the rearview mirror, we are moving forward on achieving our goals for 2021. Our main goal in 2021 is to continue to serve as many families as possible in our community with new homeownership and home preservation home repairs. To achieve this goal, we really need your help to succeed this year.

First, we need land to build additional homes in Gwinnett County. Our lot inventory is at an all-time low due to rising land prices and reduced inventory. We are looking for lots anywhere in Gwinnett County that we can build affordable 1,400 square foot homes.

Please contact me at our office if you know anyone that has property they could sell or donate to us or anyone that can help us locate appropriate properties.

Finally, we need you to attend and help promote our Gwinnett Lights virtual event on March 25th. Due to the pandemic, we decided to convert our annual Gwinnett Lights fundraising event into a video presentation. This presentation will not only raise funds to build more homes, but you will also see the transformation we create together first hand.

You don't want to miss this opportunity to learn the driving force behind our mission and hear from local leaders like Clyde and Sandra Strickland, Lawrenceville Mayor David Still, Gwinnett Board of Commissioners Chairwomen Nicole Love Hendrickson and Gwinnett Coalition for Health and Human Services founder Ellen Gerstein. Plus, guest appearances from NFL star Warrick Dunn and the Property Brothers, Johnathan and Drew Scott. Please plan to join us and invite your friends and family.

2021 promises to be a great year because of your support! Together, we will build strength, stability, and self-reliance through shelter in 2021 and beyond. God bless.

God bless,

Brent S. Bohanan

Executive Director



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