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## **Gwinnett/Walton Habitat for Humanity, Habitat for Humanity International and 83 Habitat affiliates receive transformational \$436M gift from MacKenzie Scott**

Lawrenceville, GA, March 22—Gwinnett/Walton Habitat for Humanity, along with Habitat for Humanity International, and 83 U.S. Habitat affiliate organizations, recently received **\$436 million** in unrestricted giving from American author and philanthropist MacKenzie Scott.

**Of that, the Gwinnett/Walton affiliate received \$2 million.** This transformational donation will substantially help further our vision of a world where everyone has equitable access to a safe, decent and affordable place to call home. In addition, 10% of this donation will be tithed to build homes in Haiti.

Over the next 5 years, the Gwinnett/Walton Habitat team will use the donation as the lead gift to the BUILD BETTER Capital Campaign. The campaign plan includes the goal to build two neighborhoods and 30 homes in Gwinnett and Walton Counties by 2025. This incredible gift will enable the purchase of land needed to build more houses and provide housing for hardworking families in need and in search of affordable and decent housing.

Affordable housing is a major issue, especially in Gwinnett. Gwinnett County Commission Chairwoman, Nicole Love Hendrickson, mentioned this as the main issue facing the county now in the State of the County address at the beginning of March,

*“We have a lot of our constituents, ... residents who can’t afford to live in this county (and) we have a lot of our workforce who can’t afford to live in this county,” Hendrickson told reporters after her speech. “In order to own a home that is \$200,000, you have to make at least \$50,000, but we’re not building any homes that are in the \$200,000 price range so people are priced out of this community.”*

Four other affiliates in Georgia received a portion of this donation- Atlanta, Columbus, Houston County (Warner Robbins), and Southern Crescent (Jonesboro). [Habitat International will use it's \\$25 million portion](#) to prioritize advocacy and programmatic efforts designed to dismantle systemic racism in housing.

Executive Director, Brent Bohanan, states about the extraordinary gift, “This donation is a true answer to prayer and will allow us to achieve our goal of serving 30 more families with affordable homeownership over the next four years!”

About Gwinnett/Walton Habitat for Humanity

Driven by the vision that everyone needs a decent place to live, Habitat for Humanity found its earliest inspirations as a grassroots movement on an interracial community farm in South Georgia. Since its founding in 1976, the Christian housing organization has grown to become a leading global nonprofit working in local communities across all 50 states in the U.S. and in more than 70 countries. Families and individuals in need of a hand up partner with Habitat for Humanity to build or improve a place they can call home. Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. Through financial support, volunteering or adding a voice to support affordable housing, everyone can help families achieve the strength, stability and self-reliance they need to build better lives for themselves. Through shelter, we empower. The Gwinnett County affiliate was established in 1988, expanded to include the Walton County service area in 2021 and has offices and ReStore in Lawrenceville, GA. To learn more, visit [www.habitatgwinnett.org](http://www.habitatgwinnett.org).

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