Meet Ruby
future homeowners

At the Golden Crescent Habitat for Humanity, we strive to help families and individuals break the poverty cycle by providing them with a hand up, not a handout.” The most rewarding outcome of our program is the stories we are blessed to share with you today. It is because of the involvement and dedication from the community that we can showcase the immense impact acts of kindness have on the lives of others.

Ruby is a single mother of three beautiful kids currently residing in an older four-bedroom home with one shower. Recently, Ruby was introduced to Habitat by a co-worker who encouraged her to apply for the New Homeowner Program. Once Ruby was accepted, she was filled with joy and excitement. For her, this is an ample opportunity for her kids to feel comfortable in a long-lasting home. She mentioned that “the opportunity to have a new home is empowering.”

“As a single mom, it's sometimes tough to juggle three kids, a full-time job, and a house to keep up with. You think you can't find time for these extra things like building a house!” Ruby is driven to cross the finish line so the kids can “paint their rooms,” making them feel welcomed in the new home.

Ruby’s story is a heart-touching one, but her journey is not over quite yet. She continues to push through the Habitat program requirements and works hard to build a new family home. By December, her dreams for the kids will finally become a reality when it's time to move in.

The Texas Tenors in Deep in the Heart of Christmas

ReStore
4103 N. Navarro St. Victoria, Texas
we pickup
361-570-4700
Tues - Fri: 9am-5:30pm
Sat: 9am-3pm

November 13 at 7:00pm
Victoria Fine Arts Center
Thanks To Our Sponsors:

Sponsor a stud for $100

It's easy...
take your stud home
decorate it
return it to us

www.goldencrescenthabitat.org/stud-sponsors

Hope Builders

Become a Hope Builder and join this special group of individuals and organizations who regularly support our efforts—monthly, quarterly, annually—you decide how often!
goldencrescenthabitat.org/hopebuilders

4th Annual Backyard Boil Saturday April 15 Club Westerner Doors Open at 5pm

Featuring music from Scott Taylor and Honeybourne
Golden Crescent Habitat for Humanity Welcomes New Executive Director

In April, the Golden Crescent Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors named Brian McClane as the new Executive Director after Cynthia Weiky announced her retirement last year.

The hiring committee interviewed several qualified candidates, but Brian distinguished himself as the clear choice due to his education, experience, and extensive community involvement and leadership experience.

Brian and his wife, Amy, moved to Victoria in April from Plano, Texas where they served as lead pastors of North Upland Church for over 15 years. They have three daughters and five grandchildren.

Brian has a master’s in business administration from Texas A&M, a master’s in theological studies from Southwestern, and a bachelor’s from Southwestern. He and Amy received the certificate in nonprofit management from the University of Texas at Austin.

After 15 years as a pastor, Brian felt the Lord calling him to a new path. He felt Habitat was the right opportunity as the organizations mission is technical and provides services like his previous church offered.

In Plano, Brian worked with the city to implement the Love Where You Live program similar to the HarborChase program providing exterior repairs such as roof repair, side siding, and exterior repairs. He also helped with community events and fundraisers.

As a pastor, Brian focused on helping people get to the next level by providing a hand up and not just a handout. He said he was pleasantly surprised to learn that Habitat used the same philosophy.

"People think of Habitat as a home builder, but we really are a help builder. We build homes for those who may not have the opportunity to become homeowners if not for our mission," McClane said.

Brian said what drew him to Victoria was that the community reminded him of where he and Amy grew up in Wichita Falls, Texas. He said he feels that Victoria has a warm, hometown feel.

"In the short time I’ve been in Victoria, I’ve already seen the generosity of the people here, and it has been different ways the community comes together to support the homeowners and the mission of Habitat," he said. "I look forward to meeting more people and working together to build homes, communities, and hope. Because the need is so great, we must acquire more land and raise more funds."

The Strength of a Nation Lies in the Homes of Its People

Since the dawn of time, people have sought to create a sense of place, a home. Around the world the books of homes vary, from high rise condos to thatched roof huts, castles to modest farm houses, but they all achieve the same goal - a feeling of security, a retreat from the outside world.

In our great country, homeownership is the defining measure of the American dream - the idea that an individual can work hard and save a little money and, with hard work and self-determination, put a safe, secure roof over their head.

Unfortunately, in this time in our country, we are experiencing an affordable housing crisis most of have never experienced in our lifetime. Building prices are up almost 40% in the last two years and builder confidence is down. In Victoria, the average sale price for a house rose from $198,995 in 2020 to $223,400 in 2021. A 15% increase in just one year’s time. This means that, for working middle class, the backbone of our society, can no longer afford shelter.

A crisis in affordable housing presents a devastating long-term threat to our communities and the American dream. Abraham Jacoby recognized this more than 130 years ago, saying, "The strength of a nation lies in the homes of its people." When people cannot afford safe homes, you risk undermining their financial security, the community stability, and the nation’s economy.

Thankfully, Habitat for Humanity’s program building and repairing decent affordable homes offers an obtainable, measurable solution. By involving volunteer labor and charging no interest, Habitat helps keep homes affordable, even in the face of all rising costs. This community-driven solution is a solution that helps of all taxpayers who have been the backbone of our communities since the founding of our country.

At a historic low, the need for housing for a single family can seem insurmountable, but in communities across the nation, people come together to make solutions possible. Habitat for Humanity’s mission offers a straightforward, time-tested solution: neighbors coming together to help other hardworking neighbors build a fresh start.

The importance of affordable homeownership is virtually immutable. It strengthens families, encourages civic responsibility and provides a solid foundation for communities.

Now, more than ever, we need your support to continue this vital community driven mission.