

***How can I become involved with
Transylvania Habitat for Humanity?***

There are many ways you can help Habitat for Humanity. We welcome individuals as well as groups to volunteer on the construction site. We are always in need of volunteers to staff our Thrift Store, both in the store and doing pick-ups of donated items. You can serve on the board of directors or on one of our committees. We have the following committees at our local office: Community Relations, Construction, Family Nurture, Family Selection, Finance, Fundraising, Site Selection and Thrift Store. You can attend a special fund-raiser, donate materials for construction or items for resale at our Thrift Store, or simply donate money.

To volunteer at our thrift store, please contact the store manager, Tommy Kilgore, at 862-4663 or email him at Store@TransylvaniaHabitat.org.

To volunteer for construction, please contact Luck Shepherd by e-mail at Construction@TransylvaniaHabitat.org or call him at 883-8910.

Dave Stackpole will be glad to give you information about our committees or serving on our board of directors and by e-mailing Volunteers@TransylvaniaHabitat.org.

For more information on getting involved, please contact our office at (828)884-3464

**P.O. Box 1071
Brevard, NC 28712**

**Housing Ministry
Phone (828) 884-3464
Web Site: TransylvaniaHabitat.org.**



FACT SHEET

Transylvania Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry seeking to eliminate poverty housing, and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat invites people from all walks of life to work together in partnership to build houses with families in need.



Building Homes for People in Need

Since its start in 1984, Transylvania Habitat for Humanity has built more than 51 houses throughout Transylvania County.

What does Transylvania Habitat for Humanity do and how does it work?

Habitat for Humanity is not a charity or a give-away program. Habitat for Humanity builds houses with Transylvania County families in need. Volunteer labor is used to build houses to keep building costs low for Habitat families. Partner families pay a down payment and a monthly mortgage payment. They also invest hundreds of hours of their own labor—sweat equity—into building their own houses and the houses of others. As Habitat homeowners pay their mortgages, the money goes into a revolving fund that helps build houses with other families. Unless the donor specifies their contribution is for local work only, Transylvania Habitat for Humanity gives 10 percent of contributions to help build houses in Romania.

How are partner families selected?

We accept applications from local families on a yearly basis. Our Family Selection committee reviews the applications and chooses families based on need, their willingness to become partners in the program, and their ability to repay the no-interest mortgage.

Neither race nor religion is a factor in choosing partner families.

Where are Transylvania Habitat's houses built and who builds them?

Houses are built throughout Transylvania County and in the City of Brevard. Availability and affordability of land is always an issue. Sewer and water vs. septic and well is a major consideration. Still, more than half of our homes are built in the county where septic and a well is always required.

Individuals and groups from Transylvania County donate their time and energy to help build the houses. Partner-families invest at least 300 hours of sweat equity into building their own house and others.

How big is a Habitat house and how much does it cost to build one?

Recent home costs have averaged nearly \$100,000 each. The cost of land is always a major factor. Because of terrain, foundation cost are usually a significant portion of the total. The typical 3-bedroom house built by Transylvania Habitat has around 1,092 square feet of finished living area. Most houses have three bedrooms and two bathrooms. These houses do not have garages or carports.

They are affordable to low-income families because we use volunteer labor to build our homes, there is no profit included in the sale of the house and no interest is charged .

Where do the funds come from for this organization?

Individuals, churches, organizations and businesses in our community regularly contribute both money and in-kind donations to help us accomplish our goal. Transylvania Habitat for Humanity holds fundraisers throughout the community. Many organizations have held fundraisers for us. Without the support of our community, we would not be able to continue our ministry. All donations received from the community are spent directly on building homes.

Transylvania Habitat for Humanity also operates a Thrift Store at 101 Old Hendersonville Highway in Brevard. The proceeds from the store cover all our overhead costs as well as buy materials to build houses. Repayment of home mortgages are the final source of revenue for this ministry.