



Meet Our Newest Partner Family!

Greetings!

Despite COVID-19 restricting our in-office operations and volunteer opportunities, Upper Valley Habitat staff and incredible volunteers have been working remotely to plan upcoming projects. This Spring, I am excited to **introduce our newest partner family and share updates.**

We are looking forward to the **renovation of an existing Habitat house in Lebanon, which will be purchased by Isil Chin and her two children, Jacinda (10) and Draco (8).**



Meet our newest partner family! Jacinda, Isil & Draco

When Isil first applied for homeownership with us, her family was living in an undersized apartment that was poorly insulated. The thin walls iced up in winter, mice let their presence be known, and loud neighbors kept them up at night.

Since then, she has completed 6 months of one-on-one coaching with Katy Almstrom of [Almstrom Financial Coaching](#) and a homeownership course. She is steadily reaching her savings goals and is eager to purchase her home (which is within their current school district) in Spring 2021.

The family is very creative and a home of their own will allow them the space to delve into hands-on projects. Draco loves inventing, constructing, and building while Jacinda is drawn to music and art. Isil, who works full time at Alice Peck Day, has also been devoting more time to her artistic talents since being furloughed from her second job due to the pandemic.

“Owning our first home would be a dream come true for me and my children. My goal is to provide a safe and secure place for them to grow and express themselves and show them that hard work will always pay off. A home of our own would begin a new chapter for us and allow us to start building new and positive memories for years to come.”

—Isil Chin, future homeowner

Donate to the Chin's home renovation project!

We anticipate starting renovations on the Chin house in Fall 2020. Our Building Committee is busy planning for the construction of a new home on a lot adjacent to the Chin's property in Lebanon.

We received a variance to build a duplex at this site, but it came with a zoning restriction we could not meet. We have been working hard to identify the best type of home for the community and the neighborhood and our Board of Directors ultimately opted to **build a single-family home at this site in Lebanon**. We hope to break ground in Spring 2021 and will look forward to building a multi-family home at a different site in the future.

Our **Board and Officers** have grown and changed in the last few

months as well. We are fortunate to have on our team: Jack Kauders at the helm as President; Nate Hill as Vice President; Bill Martin, Treasurer; Stefanie Gulick, Secretary; Rick Biddle, Interim Building Committee Chair; Colby Clarkson; Emily D’lorio; & Jesse Vazzano, Family Committee Chair.

Emily D’lorio has been working with **Dartmouth College students to re-boot the campus Habitat chapter**. Even though the students are studying remotely, they are meeting virtually, writing their constitution, and are enthusiastic about the revitalization of their club. We are, too!

While we don’t know when in-person projects will resume, we are always looking for volunteers to serve on our committees and Board of Directors. [Contact me if you’d like to become a volunteer](#). **Thank you, volunteers—you truly are the heart of Habitat!**

I hope everyone in our community – and our Habitat Family of homeowners, volunteers, donors, partners, supporters, suppliers, and contractors – are staying well during these challenging times.

While many of us are experiencing a new type of uncertainty as we shelter in place in comfortable homes, this isn’t a new feeling for those who are used to living on the edge or in housing that is moldy, unsafe, or overcrowded. For those families, staying home (if they are able to) may be even more challenging now. Stable and safe housing for our neighbors is even more critical today.

Thank you for your support of organizations like ours serving those in our community in need of help.

Kind regards,



Eva Loomis, Executive Director

P.S. — Thank you for considering a donation to the Chin home renovation project!

[Donate Now!](#)



