## Spring 2022

## **Upper Valley** W Habitat for Humanity®

PO Box 1038, White River Junction, VT 05001 www.uvhabitat.org; info@uvhabitat.org; 802.295.1854

**Board of Directors** Emily McDonald, President Drew Miraldi, Vice President Brian Clancy, Secretary **Russell North, Treasurer** David Clark Mitchell Dunbar Jack Kauders Adriana Lucas Sean McIntyre Doug Staiger Justin Worth

Tuck Board Fellows: Samuel Gant & Yuta Ohashi **Executive Director:** Eva Loomis

## **House & Family Updates Galore!**

The news can move fast and a lot has happened in the last few months!

To start with, the Sargeant-Goodrich Family withdrew from the Homeownership Program in February as they will be taking advantage of an incredible opportunity to move out of New England and to warmer climes. It is bittersweet to be losing Shannon and her boys as they were an excellent family to work with, but we are thrilled for them and their new adventure ahead.

We will build the Lebanon home as-designed and accepted applications during the month of March to **find a new partner family**. It will take our Family Committee about 4 months to conduct a thorough review of qualifying applications. Construction will begin on the house before our next partner family is officially approved by the Board of Directors and the chosen household will then perform their 300 sweat equity hours on the project; work one-on-one with their financial coach to prepare for homeownership; and weigh in on smaller details of their home. Any sweat equity hours they do not get to log on their new home will be completed on our next project.

With our new online donations page, giving online is now much easier and you can select which fund to donate to, and easily make monthly recurring donations that you can cancel at any time. Visit https://www.uvhabitat.org/donate today!

Find out faster! **Subscribe to our e-newsletter** at https://www.uvhabitat.org/newsletters



# Help Us Unlock \$10,000!

The Gant Family Foundation has generously come forward with a gift challenge of \$10,000 for UVHFH - but we need your help to secure this gift! To unlock this gift, we need 100 new gifts between now & June 30 to unlock \$5,000 AND local organizations to contribute a total of \$5,000!

This is our first matching program in at least five years, and we are very excited for this incredible opportunity, but - WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please help us secure this gift:

- Donate online at https://www.uvhabitat.org/donate 1)
- 2) **Send a check** in the enclosed remittance envelope
- 3) Spread the word & ask a friend to donate (#UVHabitatChallenge)

Any amount counts! Your donation will support UVHFH's projects & programs and further our work to bring neighbors together to address the affordable housing crisis in our community.

Do you own or work for an Upper Valley organization that could make a gift to be matched dollar-fordollar, up to \$5,000? Your gift will help us reach the 100 new gifts to unlock an additional \$5,000!

Your gift will ensure that everyday working families have access to high quality homes through affordable mortgages and no longer need to sacrifice the health and safety of their families by renting overpriced, moldy apartments that are too small for their household size; live in mobile homes with rotting floors and holes in the walls; or live with the precarious uncertainty of rent increases or receiving an eviction notice because the apartment or house they rent is being sold.

"I choose to donate to UVHFH because the organization lives its values and creates the change it wishes to see in the world. Housing supply in the Upper Valley is extremely limited, and too many members of our community struggle to find safe, affordable places to live. I empathize with the stress and vulnerability that people without access to housing feel, because members of my own family have faced similar challenges. UVHFH leverages deep community ties and support and enthusiastic volunteers to create homes for those with the greatest need." - Sam Gant, advising donor & non-voting Tuck Board Fellow

## **New Team Building Program**





This build season, we will be rolling out a new program for businesses in which we will host teams of 8-10 employees per day on our Lebanon build site to work together, build comradery, develop strong ties & give back to their community. UVHFH provides lunch, tools, materials, construction oversight, and a great experience. In exchange, we request a donation of \$100 per employee to cover supervisor and material costs. Donations are voluntary but highly appreciated. uvhabitat.org/volunteer

### Sandy's Repair Project Update

The first phase of Sandy's repair project, which began in mid-January, wrapped up in early April. A total of 52 volunteers contributed 784 construction hours & lunch providers kept the repair crews going strong.

While there is still a lot of work to be done at Sandy's (and we will help repair the roof later this year), very generous volunteer crews transformed Sandy's house by covering all the open walls and ceilings with sheetrock, which they taped, mudded, sanded, primed, and painted; sorting out and connecting all the plumbing, water heater, and furnace; overhauling the wiring; installing an upstairs bathroom; re-doing the downstairs bathroom; and installing a functioning kitchen. (Fun fact: volunteer crews hung 72 sheets of sheetrock and used almost 1,500 feet of sheetrock tape!)

Thank you to all the construction and lunch provider volunteers who helped make this project happen for Sandy. We send a special shout-out to our "regulars" who showed up sometimes as many as 3 days a week to help. Thank you also to Sherwin Williams for donating all the primer and paint.

"There are not enough words to express how deeply thankful and humbled I am for what Upper Valley Habitat and all the amazing and kind volunteers have done to make this dream a reality! Where there was once only gloom and despair, there is now hope. They have transformed my uninhabitable house into a home. UVHFH and the many selfless volunteers that have worked countless hours have come together to make it a reality to have my home back. The house looks absolutely amazing, and I could not be more gracious. A special thank you to Eva, John, all the construction volunteers, lunch volunteers, and all the community and GoFundMe donors. My family and I are overwhelmed with your kindness, generosity and your eagerness to help. I will forever be humbled and grateful!" — Sandy, Lebanon

You can support Sandy by donating to her upcoming roof project at <u>https://gofund.me/ab7472d0</u>; online (<u>https://www.uvhabitat.org/donate</u>); or by mailing a check directly to UVHFH with "Sandy" in the memo line.

## **Certified Official Volunteers**

Dave Sherman and Todd Lloyd, who have been regularly volunteering at Sandy's (sometimes 3 days a week), have increased their level of commitment as volunteers by taking Habitat's "Competent Person" safety training. This designation allows them to work on site alone and also lead volunteers. Thank you, Todd and Dave, for taking this training and for all you have contributed to Sandy's project!

## **UVHFH Participating in NH GIVES**

For the first time, UVHFH will be participating in NH Gives, which is a statewide 24-hour online fundraising event designed to build community, connect donors to local nonprofits, and generate excitement about the nonprofit sector. This event takes place from 5pm June 8 until 5pm June 9. All funds raised during this time will be allocated to the Lebanon home build and you do not need to live in NH to donate. Last year alone, 588 organizations raised a collective \$3.8 million! Stay tuned for more details in your inbox and on social media!



## Volunteer Profile: Charlie Clark

This quarter, we highlight long-time Habitat volunteer Charlie Clark, who has been with us for over 20 years. Charlie, an Air Force veteran, is one of our strongest advocates and is an extraordinary example of all that a Habitat volunteer embodies.

Charlie, who built his own house in 1975, is a master electrician and Journeyman plumber and is working towards his Master's plumbing license. He has worked on nearly every Habitat home project in the last 2 decades, starting with the Martell house in Hartland in 2000 where he installed a boiler. In 2009, he traveled to Jonestown, Mississippi with a group of 10 UVHFH volunteers to help build a house. After Hurricane Katrina, he worked on a "House in a Box" with other UVHFH volunteers that was then deconstructed & shipped south.

Charlie serves on our Building Committee and volunteered a couple days per week at Sandy's most recently. Prior to that, he helped with Fran's bathroom renovations. He enjoys working alongside other volunteers & learning new things (he recently took a 24-week Tai Ji Quan class!). Charlie is also a member of St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Hanover and helped facilitate a recent gift from them.

Charlie shares his expertise with those in his community, but instead of charging them a fee for his services, he gives them a UVHFH remittance envelope & encourages them to donate to us instead. Charlie has inspired other Habitat advocates to do the same when they take on a side project, including previous Executive Director Andrew Grimson. When we asked Charlie how he has the time to work on his own personal projects, he said his own house is still a work in progress!

Charlie's remarkable generosity of his time & talents are an enormous gift to us & our homeowners. He goes out of his way to ensure our families are taken care of and will indefatigably hunt down answers & resources for them. We are grateful to have you in our corner, Charlie! You are incredible!

## Thank You, Donors!

Thank You, Winter 2022 Quarter Donors! Anonymous (2); Anne Baird; Robert & Patricia Barr; Linda Barton; Gerry & Susan Botha; Charles Byron; Marcey Carver; Brian Clancy; Ann & Richard Corr; Joan Cushman; Barbara DeFelice & Christopher Levey; Ann DeLoach; Ann & Jim Denholm; Don & Betsy Derrick; Mary Doherty; Nadia & Greg Gorman; Granite United Way; Robert & Honoré Hager; Art Harrison; Linda Johnson; Ann Jones; Irene Kacandes; Jack Kauders; Mr. & Mrs. Francis Kennedy; Barbara Krinitz; Rich Lammert; Barbara & Joel Lazar; Todd & Jill Lloyd; Adriana Lucas; Dr. Bud Lynch; Lee Lynd; Wendy Manganiello; Charles Robertson McClung; Joanne & John McCormick; Emily McDonald; Sean McIntyre; Jane Kitchel McLaughlin & Peter McLaughlin; Sheila Moran & David Millstone; Andrew Miraldi; New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's Lilla Family Fund; Our Savior Lutheran Church; Stephen Powell; Jean Sangdahl; Sarah Shipton; Elizabeth Simons; Doug & Beth Staiger; Zdenek Svindrych; David & Susan Taylor; C. Harrison Trumbull; Greg and Nancy Tsongalis; Bill & Jackie Underhill; Upper Valley Food Co-Op; Bruce Waters; K. Sandra Anderson & Reeve C. Williams; Doris & Robert Wohlfort; & Vanessa Young. Thank You, In-Kind Donors! The Co-op Food Stores; W. Lebanon Domino's Pizza; Xanthe Hallman; George & Suze Imbrie; Lebanon Village Pizza & Grill; Todd Lloyd; Ramunto's Brick Oven Pizza in Hanover; Dave Sherman; & The West Lebanon Home Depot.



Sandy mudding sheetrock in her house after work.

