

# Blueprints Newsletter

## Federal Prison Camp Recognized as Supporter of the Year!



Julie Dykstra, HFHYC, with Jill Sternhagen & Georgina Macias-Caron, Federal Prison Camp, 2014 Yankton Supporter of the Year, and Randy Olawsky, President, HFH-SD



Tami, Ruzicka, the first Habitat Homeowner to pay her mortgage in full, shared a heartwarming message with the guests.

On October 4<sup>th</sup>, the Yankton County affiliate hosted the Statewide Fall Event at Bella's Restaurant located in Historic Downtown Yankton. The main purpose of this annual event is to recognize supporters of the year from each affiliate across the state of South Dakota and to highlight the accomplishments of the 13 affiliates that carry out the mission of Habitat for Humanity International.

Yankton County's 2014 Supporter of the Year was presented to the Federal Prison Camp, FCP. Since 1999, Habitat and the FCP have worked in partnership to make a difference in the lives of Habitat partner families, the community of Yankton and the lives of the inmates that assist the affiliate.

The partnership with FCP has been instrumental in the success stories shared by the Yankton County affiliate. Throughout the past 15 years, FCP has helped to make a difference in the lives of 40 of

the 46 families served through homeownership and home repair projects.

The evening started with great musical entertainment provided by "Two White Squares", Matt and Amy Morrison from Sioux Falls and daughter and son-in-law of Jim and Marilyn Lofflin.

Master of Ceremony, Bernie Hunhoff, a great supporter of affordable housing, entertained the guests with humor and the history of our great city. The guests were blessed by a video presentation created by the most recent Habitat homeowner, Nicole Myers.

Nicole's video was titled, "My Journey to Home Ownership." She states, "I would never in a million years give back this experience, it has shown me what hard work really is and how teamwork can be so productive."

Upon completion of the video, a heartwarming message was shared by Tami Ruzicka, also

a Habitat homeowner and the family mentor for the Nicole and her family.

Tami, the first Habitat homeowner to pay her mortgage in full, started her presentation by stating, "The dream of Habitat is to unite people, communities, churches and businesses in a spirit of a true partnership by building homes with families in need." Tami feels that by mentoring incoming partner families she is able to inspire and encourage the next generation of Habitat homeowners to become more involved with and continue to remain involved with Habitat's Christian housing ministry, even after they purchase their home.

God's grace is why volunteers work so hard for Habitat. These two amazing women are true examples of how decent, affordable housing can lay a foundation of hope for families in need.

### Special points of interest:

- Supporter of the Year
- Jeep Raffle Winner
- Help Build
- President's Letter
- Bike Team
- ABWK Applications

## Wells Fargo Bank and 903 Pearl Street Progress

The construction site was an active location on October 15 and 16, as Wells Fargo Bank employees from Yankton, Vermillion, and Beresford rolled up their sleeves to help hang siding. In addition to the many hours of labor, Wells Fargo presented Habitat with a check for \$15,000 to help pay for construction costs associated with building the home located at 903 Pearl Street.

The siding will be by the end of November. The affiliate took a break from new construction so that they could lend a hand to families in need of home repairs. The kick-off for the home repair projects was during Make a Difference Week in conjunction with United Way. All home repair projects will be completed by November 15.

Sewer and water were dug in during the last weekend in October. In addition, the heating

system has been installed.

The next big project will be in January as members of United Church of Christ come together to hang sheetrock. UCC contributes both financially and with volunteer labor annually.

The anticipated completion should be in the spring of 2015, weather and all unforeseen circumstances permitting.



Photo: Courtesy Press and Dakota

Wells Fargo presents \$15,000 designated for 903 Pearl St.!

## John Pesek...WINS IT, the CJ7 Jeep Raffle!



Top: John and Janet Pesek  
Bottom: Habitat presenting keys to jeep winner John Pesek!!

The five 1980 CJ7 jeep raffle finalists joined Habitat for a night of celebration at the Statewide Fall Event. The finalists drew numbers to see who would choose a gift bag first. The winning bag contained a photo of the jeep, while the other bags contained \$100 in Chamber Dollars. The luck of the draw fell on John Pesek, a jeep enthusiast, from Tyndall.

Congratulations finalists, Holly Loyd, Todd Sheldon, Jim Lofflin, and Terry Rye! Thank you to all who supported this great fundraiser by purchasing your chance to "WIN IT." We are also very grateful for the generous donations of time, talent and financial support received from the jeep partners, to include, the anonymous donor, KK93 Radio and Riverfront Broadcasting, Riverside Auto Body, Ferdig Transmission, Signs by Design, Broadway Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep and Ram and First Dakota National Bank. This fundraiser raised a total of \$16,070, which allowed Habitat the opportunity to serve 6 families in 2014, a record breaking year!!

## Help build or renovate a home ...



\_\_\_ \$15, hammer  
When a hammer meets the head of a nail, anything can happen. In the hands of a Habitat volunteer, it provides shelter that change lives.



\_\_\_ \$25, nails  
They don't look like much, but without them a home will fall apart. The average Habitat home uses 40,000 nails.



\_\_\_ \$60, light fixture  
Jesus is the light of the world. Help fill a Habitat family's home with light for a brighter tomorrow.



\_\_\_ \$100, toilet  
The most practical of all gifts, a toilet is a key component in Habitat's mission to build decent affordable homes.



\_\_\_ \$150, front door  
Nothing says "you're home" like the front door, for Habitat homeowners, the front door signifies a goal met and a new beginning.



\_\_\_ \$225, window  
The window is the gateway to the world and God's beautiful creation.



\_\_\_ \$400, insulation  
Keeping homes energy efficient with adequate insulation keeps the family comfortable and energy bills low.



\_\_\_ \$1,000, drywall  
If the walls could talk they would say "hope" lives here. Drywall is essential to safety and aesthetics, covering wiring, plumbing and insulation.



\_\_\_ \$1,500, lumber  
It takes about 300 studs to build an average Habitat home. Habitat's solid construction keeps families out of the cold.



\_\_\_ \$3,500 flooring  
Quote from Abraham Lincoln "Be sure to put your feet in the right place and then stand firm." Help a family plant their feet firmly.



\_\_\_ \$5,000 roof  
A roof overhead keeps the good times in and the bad weather out. "The sky's the limit when you have a roof over your head."



\_\_\_ \$ endless possibilities  
"Everything that is done in the world is done by hope."  
Martin Luther

And build a brighter future...

### Give a Carpenter Club Gift of "Hope"

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Gift: \_\_\_\_\_

### This gift was purchased in honor of

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

*Habitat for Humanity will send a card to your gift recipient acknowledging your gift.*

*In addition, name will be published in annual donor recognition.*

### Send order form and information to:

**Habitat for Humanity of Yankton County**  
610 W. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street Ste. 11  
Yankton SD 57078

### Gifts can be made online at:

www.habitatyanktoncounty.org

Note: Gifts are representative of what can be purchased with your donated funds.

*Thank you!!*

## Presidents Letter- Dan Gergen



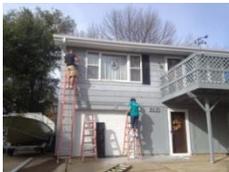
Until last year, Habitat for Humanity of Yankton County (HFHYC) counted the number of families served by tallying up the number of families who moved into newly built or newly reconditioned homes. This was approximately two to three families per year. Families qualify for new and reconditioned homes based on income guidelines, their current housing conditions, and their ability to pay for a no interest loan. Sweat equity is also required. During 2014 three families have moved into new or reconditioned homes.

This year, with the introduction of A Brush With Kindness program (ABWK), HFH of Yankton County has been able to expand the number of families served to six. ABWK targets families who are unable to qualify for home improvement loans, but are able to repay a no interest loan. These improvements are mainly focused on the exterior of homes, including paint, siding, roofing, landscaping, etc. Homeowners participate, when physical abilities allow, with sweat equity in their project. HFH building personnel assess the project, order the necessary materials, and work with volunteers to complete the project. A no interest loan is set up to reimburse HFHYC for materials used in the project.

An outcome of the ABWK program is that it adds value to the owner's home. Repair of the exterior prevents deterioration to the structure, improves curb-appeal, contributes to neighborhood improvement and increases pride of ownership. Another outcome is the involvement of the friends, family, neighbors and church members, in a project to help a homeowner with what they cannot do by themselves. During 2014 three families will have been served by the ABWK program.

So a Habitat affiliate has ways of measuring goals and achievement of those goals. But the exciting and most rewarding measurements are the smiles, joy and tears of appreciation of the Habitat families.

All of this is possible only through the generous gifts of time, talent and treasure from our community. We truly believe that we are providing an excellent program for our targeted population and that we will be able with your help to continue this service into the future. May God bless you for your generous gifts.



**Top:** Farm Credit Services America painting 1805 John Street  
**Bottom:** Deb Bodenstadt, Fascia work at 417 Green Street



Habitat of Yankton County is pleased to announce that the hospitality received by the cyclists from our community partners, First United Methodist Church, KK93, Kopetsky's Ace Hardware and our volunteers, our affiliate was awarded \$2,200 in grant funding from the Bike and Build organization. This incredible group of young adults rode their bicycles from Providence Rhode Island to Seattle Washington to raise awareness for affordable housing and to raise money to support affordable housing organizations throughout the United States.



bike.  
home.

## THANK YOU... YANKTON BIKE TEAM!!

The Habitat 500 Bike Team set another record breaking fundraising year for the Yankton affiliate! Collectively, the team and many dedicated volunteers helped to raise \$23,975 to support Habitat's Christian housing ministry in Yankton County! The team raises money throughout the year to participate in the annual 500 mile bike ride and to raise money for affordable housing.

The fundraising efforts kick-off with the Bike Team Annual Rummage Sale hosted at First United Methodist Church. In 2014, the rummage sale/warehouse sale raised around \$11,500. In June, the team hosted their Annual Habitat How Down at Riverside Park featuring Boyd Bristow, Jan Schiferl, Guy Anderson, Ron Gardner and Ken Prussa. Thrivent Financial sponsored this event helping the team to raise an additional \$3,500.

The rest of the money raised by the Bike Team is done through their personal asks. Habitat for Humanity would like to say thank you to all that contributed to this successful fundraiser. We would also like to extend a great BIG THANKS to the 2014 riders; Tom and Jane Gilmore, Guy and Liza Larson, and Barb Olson!

**Mark your calendars....**

**Habitat Bike Team Rummage Sale – March 27 and 28, 2015!!**

Photo to the right...Tom and Jane Gilmore, Day 7 Finish Line



**Top:** Guy Larson  
**Bottom:** Liza Larson





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YANKTON, SD 57078

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SEEKING ABMK APPLICATIONS FOR 2015!



### A Brush with Kindness – Restoring a sense of PRIDE in homeownership!

Do you own and occupy your home?

**Does your home located on land owned by you?**

Does your home need painting?

Are you living on a limited income, or unable to work on your home due to age, disability, or circumstance? Habitat can help through our home repair program.

**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO MIGHT QUALIFY? PLEASE REFER FOR HELP!!**

## About Habitat's Christian Housing Ministry

Habitat for Humanity of Yankton County seeks to put God's love into action by addressing urgent housing needs in our communities, nation and world.

**Our mission:** Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity of Yankton County brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.

**Our Vision:** Increase community awareness and support to ensure adequate housing and neighborhood revitalization for the residents of Yankton County.

Since our beginning in 1996, the Yankton County affiliate has built and sold affordable homes to 37 families, recycled 3 homes and completed 4 home repair projects in partnership with our partner families, volunteers and our community. Habitat for Humanity of Yankton County has served **44 families in need of a "hand up"** so that they have the opportunity to live in a safe affordable place to call "home."

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