

Plymouth America's Hometown

A magazine for the residents of Plymouth, Massachusetts



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Cover Photo by Tara Woomer

Hearts & Hands at Work with Habitat For Humanity

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Emily Denton teaches a new volunteer, Liz Allen

It's 8:00 a.m. on a Saturday morning in Manomet, and the construction crew for Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth is already hard at work building the next Habitat home for a local family of four. Since the fall, our dedicated teams of volunteers and community partners led by Construction Director Doug Ballum have donated their time to bring Habitat's mission to life: to bring people together to build homes, communities, and hope in a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

The spirit of volunteerism and community support have been palpable throughout this journey. Local individuals, businesses, organizations, and civic groups have offered their expertise, services, time, and supplies. This outpouring of generosity has been overwhelming! Their dedication is a testament to the power of collective action and community support.

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth was incorporated as an official affiliate of Habitat International in 1997. Since then, this local organization has built 14 homes that have housed more than 76 people; completed several large renovation projects for medically-compromised residents; and provided more than 75 critical repairs, weatherization, and disability ramp projects through the Brush with Kindness program. The Habitat for Humanity ReStore was opened in 2007 in Carver and helps to fund the mission while reducing environmental impact through reuse of furniture, appliances, cabinets, and more.

All of this work has been made possible by our extremely dedicated and selfless volunteers. Whether it was one exciting day out of the office for a group build with their colleagues, a weekly commitment helping with the ReStore, or serving on one of many committees, Habitat volunteers are at the heart of our work and success.

Long-time volunteer Emily Denton has been showing up to construction sites almost every Saturday for nearly two decades and serves as a mentor for new volunteers.

"I first joined Habitat for Humanity because it is a worthy cause helping people to become homeowners, but I continued coming back because of the other volunteers I work with. I particularly like teaching women who have little background in construction because they can often feel intimidated in this field," said Emily.

At the Habitat for Humanity's ReStore in Carver, Mark Hayden has been volunteering for about a year and a half. He prepares furniture for sale, assists customers with their purchases, and helps with the cabinet deconstruction program.

"This is a place where you can really be useful just by being earnest. It feels particularly good when I interact with future Habitat homeowners and see the impact that our work has on them," said Mark.

We are looking ahead to the completion of the project in Manomet with feelings of hope and anticipation. The keys to this new home represent not only a physical possession but also a doorway to a brighter future filled with endless possibilities and transformational effects that will carry through to future generations. To read more about the Manomet family, see our 2024 newsletter at hfhplymouth.org/news-events.

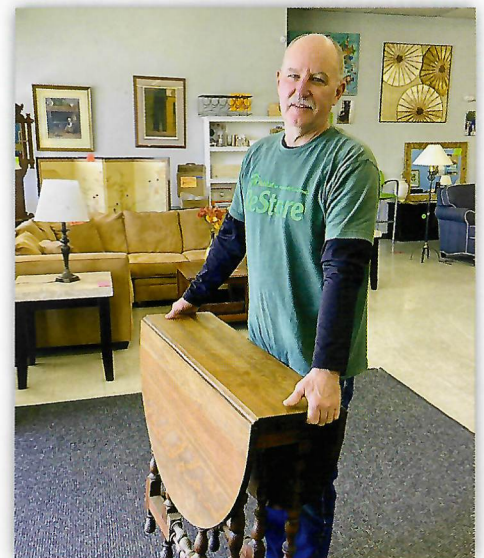
For more information about volunteering, please visit hfhplymouth.org. We would love to have you join us!



Construction Director Doug Ballum with volunteer Elise Fox



Andy Risio working on the siding



Mark Hayden volunteering at Habitat's ReStore in Carver

