

## NEWS RELEASE

### Contacts:

Kathy Kulas, [hfh@habitatmr.com](mailto:hfh@habitatmr.com), (906) 779-5377

### Habitat for Humanity Menominee River and Thrivent Financial Partner to Help Local Family Obtain Dream of Home Ownership



IRON MOUNTAIN, Mich. (March 23, 2016) – Habitat for Humanity Menominee River and Thrivent Financial are partnering in Quinnesec to build a home alongside a local family through the Thrivent Builds Homes program. Thrivent members and others will volunteer alongside the homeowners to help build the home. To support safe, decent, and affordable housing in Dickinson County Thrivent has awarded \$57,500 to support construction and local Thrivent members will also help raise additional funds.

Habitat for Humanity recipient families come from different backgrounds and have different stories, but they are all similar in their desire for a safe, decent place to live. Habitat for Humanity Menominee River works with such families in the local community to provide a “hand-up” in regards to permanent housing solutions. This year they are partnering with Thrivent Financial to help another family build a foundation for a brighter future.

Thrivent Builds Homes is one of three Thrivent Builds programs which partners the financial, volunteer and advocacy resources of Thrivent Financial together with the affordable housing construction leadership of Habitat for Humanity. Thrivent Builds Homes focuses on building new homes alongside Habitat partner families who pay a no-profit mortgage for their home as well as contribute hundreds of sweat equity hours in the construction process. Thrivent Builds Repairs is a program that focuses on helping complete external repairs on existing homes and Thrivent Builds Worldwide sends teams of volunteers across the country or across the globe to build homes with recipient families.

Jason Anderson, a Financial Associate with Thrivent Financial, said “The Thrivent Builds program provides us with more options to serve our area. The support we receive from the local community for projects like this is overwhelming and we look forward to working together in 2016.”

“The Thrivent Builds partnership is helping Habitat for Humanity Menominee River increase the number of families served in our community by helping increase our capacity,” said Affiliate Spokesperson Nancy Pellegrini, Executive Director. “We are so grateful for Thrivent’s support of our efforts to both build homes and repair homes in partnership with families in need of safe, decent, and affordable housing. Together, we are changing a family’s life and strengthening the community.”

Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity is an ongoing partnership between Thrivent Financial and Habitat for Humanity International. From the national partnership’s inception in 2005, Thrivent Financial and its members have now committed more than \$226 million and more than 4.7 million volunteer hours. This has resulted in thousands of families and individuals living in safe, decent,

and affordable housing as well as hundreds of communities banding together to make a positive impact on local residents.

To learn more and get involved, visit [www.ThriventBuilds.com](http://www.ThriventBuilds.com) and [affiliate website](#). Share your Thrivent Builds experience online: #ThriventBuilds #LiveGenerously

**Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity** is a multi-year, multi-million dollar mission partnership between Thrivent Financial and Habitat for Humanity International. Thrivent Builds is designed to involve Thrivent members and Christians in helping provide a “hand up” to people in need of affordable housing, offering them a path to greater economic independence. Excluding government funding, Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity is Habitat's largest single source of funding, constructing and repairing more than 4,800 homes in the U.S. and around the world since 2005. For more information, visit [ThriventBuilds.com](http://ThriventBuilds.com).

#### **About Thrivent Financial**

Thrivent Financial is a financial services organization that helps Christians be wise with money and live generously. As a membership organization, it offers its more than 2.3 million members a broad range of products, services and guidance from financial representatives nationwide. For more than a century it has helped members make wise money choices that reflect their values while providing them opportunities to demonstrate their generosity where they live, work and worship. For more information, visit [Thrivent.com/why](http://Thrivent.com/why). You can also find us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

**Habitat for Humanity International's** vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Anchored by the conviction that housing provides a critical foundation for breaking the cycle of poverty, Habitat has helped more than 4 million people construct, rehabilitate or preserve homes since 1976. Habitat also advocates to improve access to decent and affordable shelter and supports a variety of funding models that enable families with limited resources to make needed improvements on their homes as their time and resources allow. As a nonprofit Christian housing organization, Habitat works in more than 70 countries and welcomes people of all races, religions and nationalities to partner in its mission. For more information, to donate or to volunteer, please visit [Habitat.org](http://Habitat.org), or follow us <http://www.facebook.com/habitat> or at [Twitter.com/habitat.org](https://twitter.com/habitat.org) or join Habitat's blog community at [Habitat.org/blog](http://Habitat.org/blog).

**Habitat for Humanity Menominee River** is a faith-based Christian nonprofit housing ministry. We believe in helping our neighbor by giving a hand up... not a hand out. There are three components to Habitat for Humanity—partner families, volunteers, and donors. All three are needed to successfully accomplish our goal of eliminating substandard housing in our community. We offer three programs—home ownership, neighborhood revitalization, and the Habitat ReStore. Locally, the Menominee River Affiliate has housed over 40 families since our beginning in 1994. Our homes are Energy Star certified, which results in lower utility bills for our families. We also build to green building standards. Three of our recent homes were rehabs of donated houses. Partner families purchase their home with an affordable mortgage. The money from the mortgage payments is used by the affiliate to construct or renovate additional affordable housing as well as in our neighborhood revitalization program.

Thrivent Financial Associates Jason M. Anderson (far left) and James Quayle (far right) present a Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity check to Habitat for Humanity for \$57,500..

Accepting the check (l to r) is Habitat for Humanity Board member Pastor Thomas Mackey, Habitat Director Nancy Pellegrini, and Habitat Resource Development Coordinator, Kathy Kulas.



-END-