

Building communities where everyone has a decent place to live

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
MENOMINEE RIVER**

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Kingsford, MI 49802

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Habitat News

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ReStore, Iron River

Store Hours:
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“Every person can make a DIFFERENCE and every person should TRY” - John F. Kennedy

HABITAT NEWS



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Building Communities Where Everyone Has A Decent Place To Live

The Director’s Chair

A Reflection on 2019

2019 was an amazing year for our Habitat Affiliate.

Two homes were completed and sold to partner families—one in Vulcan in January and the other in Quinnesec in December. I wish both of these families well as they continue on their journey of **home ownership** with Habitat.

For **Owner Occupied Home Repairs**, 24 families were served in 2019. These projects ranged from minor repairs to critical repairs. More details of the 2019 repairs are on page 2.

Operation Shingle Storm was a repair blitz for veterans in our community last summer. As part of OSS, we had a video made by Mountain Media Works (Seth Anderson and Michael Johns). The QR Code links to the video on YouTube, I hope you have a chance to watch it!



Video link: <https://youtu.be/CyNU2Pknxdw>

We shared the video and also presented a session on Operation Shingle Storm at the Habitat Michigan AIM Conference in Lansing. Shown below are myself and Kathy Kulas presenting flags shaped like the UP to Michael Delarosa (HFHI Veterans Builds), Thom Phillips (HFH Michigan), and Jessica Halstead (HFH Michigan).



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We had incredible support from **donors** in 2019.

Thank you to all who responded to our Holiday Appeal in November—this year was our best appeal!!

A special thank you to the 100+ Women Who Care who chose Habitat as the recipient for the May 2019 meeting.

Thank you to all the businesses that supported Habitat—as sponsors for our golf outing and 5K race, as volunteers on our builds, and allowing their employees to volunteer on company time. And a huge thank you to BOSS Snowplow for their major support of the **Stanton Street Park Improvement** project. The pavilion and playset installation would never have been completed in 2019 without all of the BOSS volunteers. The park is not done yet... in 2020 a water fountain will be installed, and bushes/trees will be planted.

A dedication for the Stanton Street Park is also slated for the spring, with installation of a sign recognizing the park donors. Thank you to BOSS for designing the sign!

Darcy Pellegrini

Tool Box Needs

We are looking a few good volunteers!!

Board Members—Our board has a few openings, and we are looking for people with any of these backgrounds: lawyer, banker, business owner, retail experience or construction experience.

ReStore Volunteers—both ReStore locations are in need of volunteers.

Construction Volunteers—whether on our core crew (Mon/Wed 8:00 AM-noon) or for repairs (as needed) we are looking for those who want to swing a hammer to help our community.

Thank you to all who supported Habitat for Humanity in 2019!

We would not be able to work towards eliminating substandard housing without YOU!

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.” - Aesop

Congratulations Kronmueller and Wieland Families!

While the house in Vulcan was finished in 2018, it was sold to the Kronmueller family in January 2019. The dedication was held in June 2019 (when the snow was gone!).

The house in Quinnesec had a long construction journey. It was started in June 2017 by a mission team from Amery, WI. It was finished in the fall of 2019 and sold to the Wieland family in December 2019.



Core Crew Construction Hours

Monday 8:00 AM—noon

Wednesday 8:00 AM—Noon

Please contact the office to join this fun, energetic, and essential Habitat volunteer group!



Work is continuing on the new construction build in Iron Mountain. We anticipate the house being completed in the spring.

By the Numbers... 2019 Repairs

Homeowner Occupied Repairs are a growing part of our affiliate. In 2019, we helped 24 families with repairs to their homes. Just under half of these homes needed critical repairs. Critical repairs are things that impact on health and safety, and in 2019 included 7 roof replacements, 4 furnace replacements, 3 water heater replacements and 1 septic sys-

tem replacement. Several homes needed more than one critical repair!

The accessibility projects all involved wheel chair ramp installation.

The non critical repairs were everything else, and in 2019 included siding, windows, doors, and minor interior repairs.

Half of our families were veterans, and we were able to serve many of them through Operation Shingle Storm, a repair blitz last summer.

Many folks volunteered during Operation Shingle Storm—thanks to all of you!!!

	#	Veteran	Disabled	Cost
Critical Repair	11	7	10	\$64,364
Accessibility	4	2	4	\$2,039
Non Critical Repair	9	3	6	\$22,705
Total	24	12	20	\$89,108

“What is the essence of life? To serve others and to do good.” - Aristotle

What is Happening in the ReStore?

Both the Kingsford and the Iron River ReStore had a good year in 2019. Between them \$18,000 was donated to Habitat, and was used in our repair program.

Thank you to all who donated and/or shopped at the ReStores!

Both stores are in need of donations!!! Donations can be dropped off during ReStore hours, or call the ReStore at (906)774-2867

(Kingsford) or (906)214-5005 (Iron River) to discuss your donation.

YOUR contributions have an **enormous** positive impact on Habitat and the people whom we serve.

We invite you to visit, donate, buy from and volunteer with the Habitat ReStores in 2020!



Volunteers of the Year 2019

We are proud to announce the 2019 Habitat Michigan Volunteers of the Year!

DJ and Julie Lanthier have helped in most areas of the affiliate—volunteering at events, at the job site, doing any job that they are asked to do ...with a smile... Julie started with the 2011 Women Build and DJ with the golf outing that same year.

As volunteers of the year, DJ and Julie received a certificate of appreciation, signed by our local MI lawmakers.

Long time residents of Kingsford, they have two sons, Brian and Justin. They have passed on the tradition of volunteering to their son Justin, who also has many hours donated to Habitat.

One of the homeowners came up and gave Julie a hug... making the work all worthwhile.

Julie finished this interview by saying “It feels really good to help people.”



From left to right are Julie Lanthier, DJ Lanthier, and Nancy Pellegrini

First National Bank & Trust—Giving Back

The First National Bank and Trust has been a fixture in the Iron Mountain—Kingsford area since 1887. Through those years, they have been strong supporters of our local community. One of the local causes which they support is Habitat for Humanity.

“As a community bank we are proud to support the dedicated work of Habitat for Humanity Menominee River in helping people in this community with home ownership and home improvement opportunities,” said Matthew Lutz, CFO

of First National Bank & Trust. “We are always happy to partner with Habitat through financial sponsorships, such as the Raise the Roof Golf Outing fundraiser and also through employee volunteering efforts, such as the annual Women’s Build, and we look forward to continuing that partnership.”

We at Habitat thank First National Bank & Trust for their financial support, and also thank the dedicated crew of women who build with us every May!



“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time, they have the HEART.” - Elizabeth Andrew