

ALABAMA GIVES!



February 2nd is your opportunity to join fellow Alabamians in being part of a history making event that aims to raise millions of dollars for Alabama nonprofits (including Habitat) in just 24 hours. Alabama Gives Day provides Habitat an opportunity to showcase the impact of the work we do that helps improve the quality of life for low-income families in our community.

Every donation matters. Help show Alabama's unparalleled generosity to the world by making your tax-deductible gift on **February**

2nd, 2012. To donate, visit **www.alabamagivesday.org**. Click "Search for a Nonprofit"; then enter "Habitat for Humanity of Morgan County". **You can also text CHANGE [space] GOBUILD to 84465 to give \$10!***

COME ON ALABAMA... LET'S MAKE HISTORY TOGETHER!

*\$10.00 donation to Alabama Gives Day. Charges will appear on your wireless bill, or be deducted from your prepaid balance. All purchases must be authorized by account holder. Must be 18 years of age or have parental permission to participate. Message and Data Rates May Apply. Text STOP to 84465 to STOP. Text HELP to 84465 for HELP. Full Terms: www.mGive.org/T. Privacy Policy: www.mGive.org/privacy.

Students are Back!



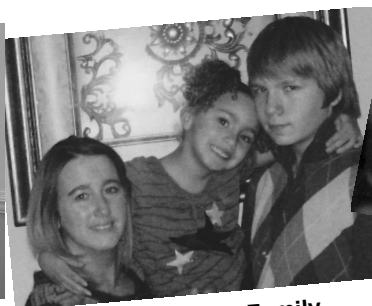
Mark your calendars—March 12th will kick off Habitat's 6th Collegiate Challenge/Youth United build. We will be building in Hart-selle this year for Beth Parker and her family. Harvard University (MA) will be framing the house, and St. Olaf College (MN) will be here the second week to put up the vinyl siding. Habitat will also be joined by students from Austin and Priceville High Schools. These students will come out to help paint and landscape the house. We can't wait to get started!



The Yarbrough Family



The Burt Family



The Kilgore Family



The Johnson Family



The Bolden Family



The Thomas Family



The Hood Family



The Parker Family

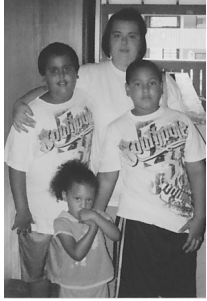


The Williams Family

The Jones Family

Make the "American dream" come true for these families. With your donation, we can build houses AND hope.

Family Spotlight: The Jones Family



Imagine you're 15 years old. Your mom's cooking dinner, and her boyfriend is sleeping on the couch. When she goes to wake him, she realizes he's dead from a drug overdose.

Kristen Jones knows what that feels like, because it happened to her. After that day, her mom sank into a deep depression and eventually lost her job. As her mom spiraled downward into drug abuse, life at home became overwhelming. Kristen dropped out of school and got a job. When she was 16, she met Matt (not his real name), and thought she'd found her soul mate. When she was 18, she learned she was pregnant. She and Matt got an apartment and for a while, life settled down. Unfortunately, the calm dissolved. Matt became verbally abusive and unreliable, disappearing for days at a time, and then resurfacing. News of a second pregnancy upset Kristen, and she grew depressed. Matt left a year after their second son was born.

Fast-forward to 2007. Her sons were 7 and 5. In May, Kristen started a new job in Huntsville. In October, she turned 26 and the next day, her mom died. Two weeks later, Kristen's daughter was born. It was a time of great emotional upheaval in her life.

Jump to 2011. Kristen had maintained her job, found another apartment, and held her little family together. Like many single parents, she felt fortunate to be making ends meet. Nevertheless, she was frustrated with the apartment she lived in. Maintenance men came and went with regularity, and nothing ever seemed to get fixed. A friend of hers had applied to the Habitat program and been approved. Kristen knew nothing about Habitat, but was curious. After talking to her friend, she decided to give it a try. She attended orientation with about 40 other people and later filled out an application. When she learned that she'd been approved out of all those people, all she could think was, "WOW!"

Is it possible to rise from the ashes? Well, apparently so, since Kristen is making every effort to do just that. She says, "The most important thing I've learned is, if something's important to you, you have to go get it. Nothing's free." She adds, "Besides that, it means more if you've worked for it." She says that being in the Habitat program has given her hope...and confidence to do other things. As she learns new skills, both on site and in the classroom, she realizes that if she can do those things, then she can do even bigger things. The sky's the limit! When considering what it will mean to be a homeowner, she says, "It'll be nice to have something of our very own. And the best thing is that I accomplished something, I worked for it. I never thought it could happen to me!"

If you're interested in bringing hope to another life like Kristen's, please use the enclosed envelope to make a donation. Every gift makes a difference.

If you know someone who is interested in applying to our program, please tell them about our upcoming orientation session:

Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. at Community Action Partnership - Conference Room A

1909 Central Parkway SW, Decatur

Please be on time. Doors will be locked after the meeting begins.

You **MUST** attend the orientation in order to receive an application.

Please call our office to pre-qualify: 256-340-9609.



A BIG "Thank You" to this quarter's contributors...we couldn't do it without YOU!!

CARPENTER'S CLUB

Rafter and Roof:

David & Debbie Barnett
Mark Moody
Mark Schwan

Joist and Wall:

Ramsey & Donna Huffman
Stu & Carol Strong
Lynn Temple
C.D. & Linda Tripp
Maben & Jan Yount

Brick and Mortar:

Cook's Pest Control
Michael Dishman
Hank & Linda Livingston
Lloyd Homes of Decatur
Majestic Homes
Randal & Emily Ray
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Hammer and Nail:

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Leissa Hill
Wally & Barbara Inscho
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Tom & Christy Lamb
Don & Sherri Moseley
Ran & Betty Pickell
Michael Smith
Mindy Thwing
Ken & Billie Wood

INDIVIDUALS

Robert Archer
Charles Betts
Loretta Bonner
John & Betty Brandon
Ray Cain
Norbert Dalizu
Nell Dirks
Greg & Deborah Etheridge
James Feezel

Jeremy & Holly Green
Al Hornsby
Samuel & Bettye Janis
John & Sandra Locke Godbey
Sherrie Maine
Mathew & Linda McKinney
James Murphy
Ray Norris
Ford Ray
Barrett & Tolly Shelton
Bill Shinn
Dan Thompson & Ellen Didier
Vance & Anne Vest
Richard & Mary Williams

CHURCHES

First UMC—Hartselle
Johnson Chapel UMC
Shiloh Baptist Church
Southside Baptist Church
Wesley Memorial UMC

CORPORATIONS/ ORGANIZATIONS

Bank of America
BBVA Compass
Cellular South
Decatur Jaycees
E & R Plumbing
Eaton Corporation
Good Search.com
MarMac Charities
MarMac Real Estate
McWhorter Communications
Nichols Aluminum
Publix Charities
Rotary Club Decatur Daybreak
State Farm Insurance
Taylor Swift Foundation
The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham
United Way of Morgan County
Valley Overhead Door, Inc.

SUPPLY/SERVICE

Bulldog Construction
Cathcart Heating & Air
Cell-Pak
Cerrowire
Dow Chemical
Gobble-Fite Lumber Company
Greenway Recycling
H & H Limestone
William Travis Hensley
Hernandez Concrete Finishing
Lowe's
Majestic Homes
J. Calvin McBride
National Roofing and Supply
Petty and Associates
Shelton Sign Company
Sherman Concrete
Sherwin Williams
Southern Controls
Square D
SWC
Trowelers Garden Club
Vest Plumbing & Gas
Whirlpool
Wolde Flooring
Yale Lock

Photo Gallery



When the April 27th tornado destroyed Larry & Beverly Pirkle's home, they couldn't imagine their "Dream Home" becoming a reality again. Enter Habitat. With the help of volunteers from near and far, Habitat supplied building materials as well as funds given by Senator Arthur Orr, Rep. Jeremy Odom, The Greater Birmingham Trust (Bama Rising), Kentucky Disaster Relief and Alabama Housing & Finance Authority. Joint efforts allowed the Pirkles to enjoy Christmas dinner in their new home which is a "replica" of their original home.



Habitat's Mindy Thwing and President Stu Strong (right) receive a check from John Cordle and Ken Jelonek on behalf of Publix Super Markets Charities.



Mindy Thwing addresses new homeowner Megan James at her November house dedication as County Commission Chair Ray Long and Somerville Mayor Darren Tucker look on.



Have you seen us around town? When we're building, we're taking our NEW tool trailer to our jobsites. Besides looking "cool," the trailer is useful for tool storage, security and onsite availability. And thanks to our Over-The-Hill Gang, the inside of our trailer is as "sweet" as the outside!



We don't like to see foreclosures but we like receiving them as gifts. Bank of America donated a foreclosed home on Larkwood Drive in hopes of making dreams come true for a tornado-affected family. We received the house last fall and renovations are nearly complete, but months of searching have yielded nothing. Luckily, we have many needy families in our pipeline. Kristen Jones and her family can't wait to move into their new home! Dedication is planned for February.



Courtesy of Decatur Daily



Megan James poses with her children on the front porch of her new home.



Find more photos at www.facebook.com/HFHMC.

The ReStore Corner



It's a Pinterest Party! For those of you who follow our ReStore page on Facebook (www.facebook.com/DecaturReStore), we hope you've seen some of the great ideas being posted about reusing everyday things for decoration. The ReStore thought it would be fun to gather everyone around a table and try out some of these fun ideas. If you'd like to join us, **we will be painting cabinet doors (similar to the one at left) on Thursday, February 23, from 6 pm until 8 pm at the Morgan County Association of Realtors (1501 4th Ave. SE) in Decatur.** The cost is \$20.00, and it will cover everything you need.

Come by the ReStore and sign up today!

And while you're there, be sure to check out all the great stuff that's arrived since your last visit!

Habitat ReStore

620 Wilson Street NE, Decatur

256-308-1160

Monday—Friday, 8:00—4:00

Saturday, 9:00—2:00



Federal employees: Donate to Habitat through CFC. Our number is 59800.



Habitat Staff
 Mindy Thwing, Executive Director
 Marion Morris, Construction Supervisor
 Mark Schwan, Construction Coordinator
 Lydia Beck, Family Services Coordinator
 Landis Griffin, Resource Development Director
 Laurie Davis, Financial Administrator
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 Joe Bachuss, ReStore Manager
 Roxzan Goodner, ReStore Operations Manager
 Ray Stewart, Procurement Specialist
 Megan James, Service Manager
 ReStore Staff:
 Anthony Goodner, Orlandus Griffin, Armando de Quesada, John Paul Puckett

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