A preserved Heritage Oak tree at Esperanza Place in Walnut Creek
LETTER FROM THE LEADERSHIP

Sustainability has always been built into Habitat. It is not a fad attached to the latest green technology, but one of our core principles—one that has guided us in many more ways since our founding.

At its heart, sustainability is about vision—and what it takes to achieve it. It is a recognition of the fact that our decisions today ripple forward, and a challenge to make the choices that result in the future we want to see.

Habitat is clear-eyed about that vision: a world where everyone has a decent place to live. We are committed to making the choices that make our vision a reality.

This means keeping sustainability at the forefront in a myriad of ways. When we contemplate the future of our planet, we opt to ensure it thrives. When we look to the future of our communities, we make choices that strengthen their fabric and nurture opportunity for each resident. And when we consider our own ability to serve, we choose financial sustainability and mindful stewardship of donor dollars—so we can see maximum impact for generations to come.

So, you’ll find sustainability in many of our decisions. When we install solar panels or plan the next innovation in climate-smart building. When we grow access to homeownership, especially among those left out by systemic disenfranchisement. When we keep our neighborhoods intact and our neighbors in their homes. When we serve—more people, in more ways. With these actions, we move closer to that vision of an equitable and abundant future—for our planet, our communities, and the people who live here.

Sustainability calls to us from tomorrow, and our response must come today. Today, we must choose to build a society that exemplifies justice and opportunity, so that all of us can enjoy its benefits for untold tomorrows.

We commit to that future with our work toward it. And when you support Habitat, your engagement with us brings that vision closer. Thank you for embracing our vision, for believing in it, and for being a part of our journey toward it.

In partnership,

Vince Salinas  Janice Jensen
Board Chair  President and CEO
begins long before breaking ground. You can spot a green-built Habitat home easily from the rooftop photovoltaic arrays. But our sustainable building efforts go far beyond the solar panel. We approach each housing development considering a few key factors: site selection, construction materials and innovations, energy efficiency and production, and water conservation. It all comes down to whole-systems thinking that centers the health of our homeowners, our local ecosystem, and our planet.

Learn more about our climate-smart construction practices at HabitatEBSV.org/Sustainable-Construction

Environmental sustainability is an essential value of ours. It’s more than the principles we’ve adopted—from installing our first solar panels 20 years ago, to building our Zero Net Energy neighborhood in Walnut Creek today. Sustainability is, and always has been, built into us.
... because of our solar panels and because our home was built so efficiently, our utility bills are considerably lower. When we talk with our friends, their bills are so high in the summer.

- SARA, HABITAT HOMEOWNER MARTINEZ, CA

RESTORE

Sustainability is at the core of ReStore. Reselling quality home improvement goods gives them a second life, opens a vital funding stream to sustain Habitat’s work, and keeps more than 10 million pounds of usable materials out of landfills every year.

We opened our first ReStore 20 years ago, and we have grown both in size—with three Bay Area stores—and impact. Through partnerships with CalRecycle and others, we now take sustainability further by diverting more materials like wood waste, mattresses, and paint, while improving our infrastructure and educating our community.

NEXT INNOVATIONS

CARBON CAPTURE
We continue to push the envelope on sustainable, affordable housing and are piloting the nation’s first carbon-negative homes in San Leandro. Using a groundbreaking technology to encapsulate carbon within concrete, these homes actually offset the carbon used in their production, and then some.

HOME ELECTRIFICATION
We’re also launching HEEP—the Home Electrification Equity Project, made possible through a grant from ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability with funding from Google.org. HEEP will pilot a new model to help four East Bay cities (Berkeley, Fremont, Hayward, and Oakland) identify homeowners with limited incomes who are ideal candidates for holistic electrification upgrades, solar power, and other key repairs. HEEP will prevent displacement, cut energy costs, support health and safety, and strengthen our regional energy infrastructure.

SCALING THE TECHNOLOGY
Both of these innovations will serve our neighbors, and also form a model to be scaled nationwide.
When Habitat approaches homebuilding, we weave our services into the community’s fabric. Long before we break ground, we keep community at the forefront as we consider where to build, how our work contributes to the neighborhood’s existing legacy, and the way Habitat homeowners can carry that legacy forward.

Community-centered design means we gather community feedback, design homes that integrate seamlessly with the surrounding area, and find ways to augment the amenities a neighborhood has to offer. Whether we can preserve existing housing, build near the mass transit people rely on, or transform an infill lot to revitalize a neighborhood—we design today for a community that will remain strong tomorrow.

A COMMUNITY IS SUSTAINABLE WHEN EACH PART IS WOVEN TOGETHER, INTERCONNECTED, SUPPORTING EACH OTHER—AND EACH RESIDENT.

Our whole-systems thinking goes beyond the environment to community sustainability. The choices we make today build the community we want in the future. And we choose a future with robust neighborhoods, where people have stability, opportunity, and equity, and where neighbors feel connected to the social fabric.

COMMUNITY-FOCUSED DESIGN blends color and style with the existing neighborhood aesthetic.

PRESERVING TREES maintains neighborhood character, offers passive cooling, and contributes to water conservation.

COMMUNITY-FOCUSED DESIGN blends color and style with the existing neighborhood aesthetic.

SPACIOUS COMMUNAL AREAS with courtyards, benches, and playscapes provide residents places to gather and play.

TRANSIT-ORIENTED SITES with access to transit, EV charging stations, and bike lockers help link residents to the larger community with a smaller footprint.

We want residents to enjoy the spaces we create, feel more connected to their community, and live better lives. We want our addition to the community landscape to make the sum greater than our individual part—and build into the community’s future.
At Habitat, we believe that everyone in a community should have decent, affordable, stable housing regardless of their income. Yet, one in five Californians spends over half their income on housing, while the state's supply of affordable homes continues to decline. This is why we advocate. For policy and systemic change that eliminates barriers to adequate, affordable housing. For a robust housing supply with affordable options for everyone. This year, the only state funding program for affordable ownership housing production, CalHome, was secured in the state budget for the first time. This $350 million in vital funding is the result of coalition building and thousands of mobilized advocates.

Housing for all requires all of us. When we come together to advocate, we can build the sustainable community we want to see.
We preserve our planet so that future generations have healthy and abundant resources. We build robust communities so that neighbors can keep planting deep roots and living fruitful lives.

Everything comes back to people. Sustainability demands we ask, what world do we want to live in? We choose a future in which all people can thrive.

At Habitat, that access and opportunity start with safe, decent, affordable housing, and families reap the benefits that come along with it—improved health, financial, and academic outcomes, and the ability to build generational wealth.

Equity is the way forward. A sustainable future depends on everyone having access to the resources and benefits of our society, and the opportunity to build upon them.

In addition to building and preserving affordable ownership housing, we serve the most people every year through our Housing and Financial Counseling Program. The ability to thrive starts with a solid financial foundation—financial wellness and economic empowerment open the door to homeownership and beyond. Through counseling, we have helped thousands to prepare for a home purchase, repair credit, knock down debt, start anew after hardship, build security, and lay the foundation for their kids. There are as many unique circumstances as there are clients, and as many futures they aim to build—and we offer the tools, support, and education to choose that future, today.
Rose has a list of life goals folded up in her wallet, an eye always on the future. She’s newly married, just moved her youngest children into their dorms for their first year of college, and next year she looks to check two more items off of that list: her oldest son’s graduation from college, and her own master’s degree.

Before that, the present had loomed much larger than the future, with climbing rent, single parenting, and an untenable living situation making her feel like she was “drowning.” Becoming a homeowner through Habitat—and the Housing and Financial Counseling Program that helped her achieve it—shifted the balance.

She felt the shift the moment she officially became a homeowner, Thanksgiving Day of 2014. That night, she says, “I’ll never forget. Me and the kids came home, and nothing was set up yet. We were all on the floor. But it was the best night of sleep ever.”

Affordable homeownership has transformative power. In a safe, healthy, and affordable home, Habitat homeowners can become the agents of their own transformation—creating something that will sustain generations to come.

I’ll never forget. Me and the kids came home, and nothing was set up. We were all on the floor. But it was the best night of sleep ever.

—ROSE, HABITAT HOMEOWNER
SAN PABLO, CA
BY THE NUMBERS

We sustain our planet, our communities, and each other by building a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Here’s a look back—and a look forward.

2022 ACHIEVEMENTS

GLOBAL PEOPLE SERVED

- 51M+ since 1976
- 12M+ FY2022

LOCAL PEOPLE SERVED

- 17,500 since 1986
- 1,880 FY2022

VOLUNTEER HOURS

- 108K since 1986
- 37K+ FY2022

RESTORE POUNDS DIVERTED FROM LANDFILLS

- 94M since 1986
- 11M+ FY2022

5-YEAR PIPELINE

NEW HOME DEVELOPMENT
- ANTIOCH: 6 homes
- BAY POINT: 29 homes
- PLEASANT HILL: 11 homes
- WALNUT CREEK: 42 homes
- SANTA CLARA COUNTY: 290 homes
- ALAMEDA COUNTY: 300 homes
- CONTRA COSTA COUNTY: 325 homes

HOME PRESERVATION
- ANTIIOCH: 6 homes
- BAY POINT: 29 homes
- PLEASANT HILL: 11 homes
- WALNUT CREEK: 42 homes
- SANTA CLARA COUNTY: 290 homes
- ALAMEDA COUNTY: 300 homes
- CONTRA COSTA COUNTY: 325 homes

HOUSING & FINANCIAL COUNSELING
- 5,000+ people throughout our service area
- ANTIOCH: 6 homes
- BAY POINT: 29 homes
- PLEASANT HILL: 11 homes
- WALNUT CREEK: 42 homes
- OAKLAND: 95 homes
- SAN LEANDRO: 3 homes
- HAYWARD: 32 homes
- SANTA CLARA: 15 homes
- SAN JOSE: 26 homes
- SUNNYVALE: 1 home
- SANTA CLARA COUNTY: 290 homes
- ALAMEDA COUNTY: 300 homes
- CONTRA COSTA COUNTY: 325 homes
At Habitat East Bay/Silicon Valley, we care about being responsible and effective stewards of our donors’ generosity. This means we invest donor dollars intelligently, allocating only a small percentage to overhead expenses, and leveraging those gifts for maximum impact through our housing programs. We’re proud to consistently earn high ratings on Charity Navigator and GuideStar, and we are recognized as a Habitat for Humanity Affiliate of Distinction.

**FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY**

At Habitat East Bay/Silicon Valley, we care about being responsible and effective stewards of our donors’ generosity. This means we invest donor dollars intelligently, allocating only a small percentage to overhead expenses, and leveraging those gifts for maximum impact through our housing programs. We’re proud to consistently earn high ratings on Charity Navigator and GuideStar, and we are recognized as a Habitat for Humanity Affiliate of Distinction.
When you consider Habitat East Bay/Silicon Valley in your estate plans, your legacy creates advantages and even lifetime income. Many Planned Giving is a blueprint for how charitable Valley in your estate plans, your legacy creates...
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY EAST BAY/SILICON VALLEY

We believe that everyone deserves a decent place to live. By creating, preserving, and expanding access to affordable housing, we provide families with the opportunity to transform their lives, gaining the strength, stability, and self-reliance they need to build a better future.

Our innovative model builds partnerships with families who contribute sweat equity, volunteers who give their time, and donors who contribute financially. We reinvest mortgage payments and leverage donor dollars to maximize our impact. Families gain economic stability and build a foundation for the future—for themselves, their children, and generations to come.