



## **Celebrate Valentine's Day AND Help With Paving Costs in Our Subdivision--Donate in Honor of Your Special Someone**



Looking for something unique and meaningful to honor the special Valentines in your life? Your Valentine gifts can help us raise funds to pave the road to our current subdivision, Hickory Hills. The road needs much attention, and having a paved surface will make it easier and safer for our homeowners to get to work, school, and community activities. Make a donation **HERE** and then print the appropriate Valentine graphic to present to your special someone -- we have a graphic for romantic partners, family members, friends, Habitat volunteers, and even for your fur baby Valentines! **We suggest a donation of at least \$20 per person (or pet) that you plan to honor!**

## **AND ONGOING PAVE THE ROAD CAMPAIGN**

Moving on past Valentine's Day, we will continue to raise funds towards this important paving project!

The Pave the Road Campaign addresses our highest organizational priority – providing safe access to Habitat homes in the Hickory Hill community of Jefferson, North Carolina. On a large plot of donated land, Ashe Habitat has already built five affordable homes for partner families -- including children and grandchildren -- with ten more homes planned for the hillside.

Currently, the only access is a private dirt road -- steep, rough, prone to erosion, and vulnerable to flooding. The roadway is difficult to drive in winter weather, challenging for emergency vehicles, a barrier for the transport of building materials, and a burden for volunteer construction crews.

With your support, the road will be transformed by proper grading, smooth asphalt, functioning drainage, erosion control, durable structural improvements to reduce maintenance costs, and natural enhancements to the gorgeous mountain landscape. The local nonprofit Keep Ashe Beautiful will help with roadside landscaping, and a local nursery has already offered to donate plants.

Ashe County Habitat for Humanity seeks philanthropic gifts from churches, businesses, civic groups, generous individuals, family foundations, and Donor-Advised Funds. To learn more about how to donate and/or to see some suggested giving levels, please visit our website [HERE](#).

## **Coming on February 21 -- Join us for a ReStoration Event at the ReStore**



**Can This Ugly Duckling Become a Beautiful Swan?**

## Find out at our ReStoration Event on February 21!

We are so excited to host our first ever ReStoration event on Friday, February 21. Jenifer Torgeson, owner of **Love It Again Furnishings, LLC**, will be at the ReStore demonstrating the process of rehabbing an old piece of furniture and turning it into something beautiful and modern! She will answer questions about the process along the way, and we hope you will stop by to see this work in progress. Feel free to stay for the entire project, or just pop in to see how things are going! We will have some chairs set up for those who want to stay a while!

If you follow us on social media, you can help pick the color that Jenifer will use -- voting will begin the week of February 10, so be sure to visit us on Facebook or Instagram that week!

Jenifer has a booth in The Marketplace at Curiosity in West Jefferson, and she is a faithful supporter of Ashe Habitat and former participant in our RePurposed for a Reason events! She says that she loves "taking old & unloved items and creatively breathing fresh life into them so that you can Love It Again."

## House 11 Nearing The Finish Line



Interior trim is painted!



*These gorgeous kitchen cabinets are now fully installed!*



Working on a safe entry for our partner family



Exterior lighting installation

It has been really cold outside, but the weather has not slowed us down as we approach the completion of house 11! Despite the cold, we have accomplished so much, and our recent tasks have included:

- Installation of cabinets in kitchen and bathroom
- Work on decking
- Work on installation of bathroom fixtures and tile
- Installation and painting of interior trim
- Installation of flooring
- Installation of insulation and vapor barriers
- Painting of interior walls
- And so much more...!!

We are so close to finishing this beautiful home and cannot wait until our partner family can move in and begin making memories there! If you have been meaning to volunteer with us, we still need you...read on to find out more about our work schedule and how you can help.

## **Jobsite Updates/How to Help Us Build a Home**

We are now wrapping up work on House 11 at Hickory Hill and we will begin working on critical repair projects over the next couple of months. These will focus on houses with damage from Hurricane Helene. Our current work schedule is on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9-3. If you have been considering volunteering with us, we would love to have you join us. No experience is necessary -- our

construction manager (and long-time volunteers) love to teach new skills, so come out and build with us! If you have questions or need more information, please email our Construction Supervisor, **JB Byrch**.

## **APEX Students Return to Ashe County in March**

We will welcome a group of 14 students from St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia from March 1-8. They will work with Ashe Habitat at our job site, in the ReStore, and at other community nonprofits and churches. We love having these students here each year and know you will welcome them warmly if you see them out and about. Look for a full recap of their time in Ashe County in our next newsletter!

## **Company/Business/Church Workdays**

Would your business/company or church (or other nonprofit) benefit from a team-building activity? We have the PERFECT idea for you - join Ashe Habitat for a day on our worksite. All materials and tools are provided, and our site supervisor, JB Byrch, will be there to provide instruction and guidance. We would love to chat with you and provide more details and get you on the schedule -- we will recognize your group on our social media and in our newsletter. Your team gets a day of fun and team fellowship and recognition in the community; team members can gain new skills or put existing skills to work for a great cause; and Ashe County neighbors get progress on affordable housing in our community. Reach out to **Beth Sorrell** to get your group signed up today!

## **Volunteer With Us**



If one of your goals for 2025 is to be more involved in our community, we can help you make that happen! Volunteers make our work possible, and we have a place for everyone! When asked what they love about volunteering with Ashe Habitat, our volunteers frequently mention that they feel a strong sense of family and that they enjoy knowing they are helping others through their work! If these are things that are important to you, we hope you will join us!

### **Immediate Needs**

**Resource Development Committee Members** -- We are looking for a few creative and energetic community members to work with us to raise funds needed to operate Ashe Habitat. Tasks of the group include fund-raising campaigns, grant writing, special fund-raising events, and cultivation of major donors. We would love to explore how you might contribute to this team -- email **Beth Sorrell** for more information.

### **Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities**

- At the ReStore to greet and assist customers, clean and price merchandise, and stage the store
- Furniture pickup volunteers to help with large item donations (this is an urgent need!)
- At the home sites to build the homes that our families will purchase (must be 18 to work at the construction site)
- Behind-the-scenes doing administrative tasks-- we could use a great photographer, and there are always office tasks that need attention
- Click **[HERE](#)** to sign up for ReStore opportunities

## Thank You to Our Corporate Partners

We wanted to say a huge thank you to Lowe's Home Improvement and Parker Building Supply, who have donated some fantastic items to stock our ReStore over the past couple of months. We love how many businesses in the community are helping us make affordable housing possible for families in our community!

## Your Donations Make our Work Possible!

Donations from the community fund much of the work we do -- here are a few ways that you can donate to us (in addition to donating your time as a volunteer, of course).

- **ReStore Donations** -- Please donate any household items that you no longer need to the ReStore. We accept gently used furniture, clean and working appliances, kitchen items, surplus building supplies and more! You can find the list of what we do (and don't) accept [HERE](#). We can arrange pickups for large items or you can drop your donations on Wednesdays from 10-2 and Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10-3.
- **Financial Donations** -- We promise that every dollar we receive is used wisely to help provide housing for deserving families. Please consider making a donation. Even better, consider setting up a recurring, monthly donation! You can donate using the button below, on our website [HERE](#), or you can mail checks to PO Box 392, West Jefferson, NC 28694.
- **Donor Advised Funds** -- You can donate to us through your Donor Advised Fund-- it's easy! Look for Ashe County Habitat for Humanity (**EIN 26-3107328**) on your funds website or contact our director, Beth Sorrell, at 336-902-8611 for more information.
- **Donate A Car** -- Reach out to us by email [HERE](#).

## DONATE

## Thank You to Our Lunch Sponsors

Thank you so much to the businesses and individuals who provided lunch at the build site and/or ReStore over the past few months. Their support is helping make affordable housing possible in Ashe County, and our volunteers love the delicious food!

### Third Quarter 2024 Lunch Sponsors

#### In the ReStore

- Little Caesar's
- Monte D Ray

## **At the Construction Site**

- Cuca Dean
- Briggs Greenwood
- Rick and Alberta Swain
- Patti Miller
- Linda McClintock
- Beth Sorrell
- Jeanine and Tommy Noblett
- St. Francis Knights of Columbus
- Bonnie Derr
- Caroline Chura
- Deb Patterson
- First Baptist Women's Missionary Union
- Havana Cafe

## **Help Us Tell Others About the Great Work We Are Doing!**

Following and interacting with Ashe Habitat on social media is a great (and free) way to help us share our mission of providing affordable housing. Your interactions with our posts make a HUGE difference in getting more views.

- If you don't follow us, please do that now -- we are @ashehabitat on both Facebook and Instagram.
- Once you are following, please LIKE our posts and leave comments as well.
- If a post seems especially important, we would appreciate it if you would share it so your friends can see the great work Habitat is doing in Ashe County.



## **Let's Keep In Touch**

### **ReStore Address**

127 Beaver Creek School Road  
West Jefferson, NC 28694

### **Habitat Office/ReStore Phone**

336-846-2525

### **Mailing Address**

PO Box 392  
West Jefferson, NC 28694

### **On the Web**

ashehabitat.org

## **On Social Media**

Facebook and Instagram @ashehabitat