Volunteer Information

There are several ways to volunteer with Habitat Birmingham:

- **CONSTRUCTION (new house construction, home rehabilitation and repair, and disaster recovery)** volunteers assist with construction tasks from framing to landscaping led by a Habitat Construction Supervisor. No prior construction knowledge or experience is necessary. Habitat Construction Supervisors demonstrate and teach volunteers, ensure safety and oversee quality control. If you have construction skills and experience and enjoy teaching and leading others, then you may be interested in a **The Go-To Gang**. Please call us at (205)780-1234 if you are interested in this type of volunteer leadership role. **The minimum age for volunteering on an active construction site is 14 years old.**

- **HABITAT RESTORE** volunteers stock shelves, price merchandise and help with general cleaning.
- **HABITAT OFFICE** volunteers assist with answering phone, cleaning and general office duties.
- **WORKSHOP LEADER** volunteers with expertise in banking, social services and insurance lead education classes to potential homeowners.
- **ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** include recycling, fundraising, and community service activities.

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** Volunteers are encouraged to register online at www.habitatbirmingham.org. Volunteers can also call Habitat Birmingham at 205-780-1234. On your scheduled volunteer day you will be asked to sign in on site and wear a name tag.

**SCHEDULE:**

- **Construction and Rehabilitation** - Construction takes place Thursday through Saturday between 7:30 am to 4 pm. Work begins with a safety orientation and prayer. It is important to arrive promptly at your scheduled time in order to achieve building goals for the day. **We ask that volunteers on construction sites commit to a minimum of a four-hour shift.**
- **Habitat ReStore (7952 Crestwood Boulevard, Irondale)** – The ReStore is open Monday – Friday, 8 am to 7 pm and Saturday, 8 am to 5 pm. Phone: 951-1234
- **Habitat Office (4408 Lloyd Noland Parkway, Fairfield)** – Open Monday – Friday, 8 am to 5 pm. Phone: 780-1234
- **Workshop Leaders** – Homeowner education classes are offered monthly.

**TOOLS:** Tools are available on site. However, volunteers may bring basic tools such as a nail apron, hammer, tape measure, utility knife and pencil if they prefer using their own. Work gloves are helpful. Habitat accepts tool donations if you would like to leave any you do bring to site.

**ON SITE PROVISIONS:** Water, portable toilets, construction materials and work supervision are provided. Lunch, snacks or transportation are not provided. If you take pictures of your volunteer day, please feel free to send one or two of your best pictures to our volunteer coordinator. We can add them to the photo cd that we share with our families and maybe even post to Facebook.

**CLOTHING & SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:** Wear clothes appropriate for construction activities – Do not wear open-toed shoes or sandals, large earrings or over sized clothing. Remember that you may get dirty, so keep that in mind when getting dressed. **Please note: all Habitat construction sites require the use of hard hats. Volunteers may bring their own, or use available ones on site.**

**WEATHER:** In case of inclement weather contact the construction site supervisor.

_Habitat reserves the right to remove any volunteer from the worksite if, in the opinion of a Habitat staff member, the volunteer is acting in a manner that creates risk of injury or harm to that volunteer or others._
Key facts about Habitat Birmingham:

- Non-profit 501(c)3 Christian organization that builds and repairs homes to support the affordable housing and disaster recovery needs of Jefferson, Shelby, Walker and St. Clair counties.
- Houses are sold to low-income families at cost and financed at zero percent interest; houses are not given away.
- Prospective homeowners qualify via three criteria: (1) a need for quality, affordable housing; (2) a willingness to partner with Habitat Birmingham (minimum 300 “sweat equity” hours and 10 hours of homeownership education workshops); (3) and an ability to repay a no interest mortgage.
- Habitat is opening its education and repair workshops to the public at a Homeowner Workshop Center, located at the ReStore.

Habitat Birmingham’s impact:

- Our affiliate is ranked 4th out of over 1,500 affiliates in the US by Habitat for Humanity International based on its capacity to serve the community.
- In 2012, Habitat Birmingham assisted 268 families in our area by:
  - constructing 52 new houses – over 500 families since the organization began in 1987;
  - repairing 216 houses – more than 450 repairs completed through Habitat’s critical repair program, which began in March 2006;
  - and rehabilitating eighteen foreclosed homes in the community through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. Habitat Birmingham has acquired and rehabilitated over 75 abandoned and foreclosed homes in the Birmingham area.
- Aided 2,500 men, women and children served with quality, affordable housing and improved living conditions.
- Provided housing for 24 families internationally through Habitat’s tithe program in the past year.

Habitat Partnerships:

- Families: Habitat’s program is a hand up for families in need of affordable housing solutions, not a hand out. Families fall within 25-60% of the area median income and work toward their goals.
- Volunteers: Habitat depends upon thousands of volunteers to help partner families achieve their dreams of homeownership; volunteers donated 110,988 hours of service to Habitat in the past year. The value of those service hours totals $2,004,443.
- Sponsors: Habitat relies on support from companies, churches, foundations and individuals to continue its programs. The cost to fully sponsor a family to live in a house starts at $50,000.
- Collaborations: Habitat is a United Way agency. Following the tornados, Habitat Birmingham added disaster recovery to its programs to assist impacted families with their housing needs. Habitat Birmingham is a Central Alabama Long-Term Recovery Committee partner, overseeing the construction element in recovery and assisted 172 disaster impacted families in the past year.
Release Waiver

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name ___________________________________________ Nickname ____________________
Address __________________________________________________ City ____________ State ______ ZIP ________
Home Phone ____________________ Work Phone ____________________ Cell Phone ____________________
Email Address __________________________________________ Birthday _____ / _____ / _____
Name of Group (if applicable) ______________________________________________________________________
Place of Worship ___________________________________________ Employer _____________________

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Emergency Contact Name __________________________________ Relationship ________________
Primary Contact Number ____________________ Alternate Number ____________________
Medical conditions / allergies __________________________________________________________
Insurance ____________________________ Policy number __________________

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY

Please Read Carefully. This is a Legal Document that affects your Legal Rights. This Release and Waiver of Liability (the “Release”) executed on this _________ day of ______________________, 20_________, by __________________________________________ (the “Volunteer”), and (in the case of a minor child) ____________________________________________, the parent having legal custody and/or legal guardian of the volunteer (“the Guardian”), in favor of Habitat for Humanity International, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, and Habitat for Humanity of Greater Birmingham, Inc., an Alabama nonprofit corporation, their directors, officers, employees, and agents (collectively, "Habitat").

Any Volunteer under 18 must have parent / guardian signature

Signature of Volunteer: ___________________________________________ Date: ______________
Signature of Parent / Guardian: ______________________________ Date: ______________
(if volunteer is under 18 years old)

ATTENTION MINORS / Under Age 18

(age appropriate activities will be determined for volunteers under 18)
Additional parent / guardian signature is required to operate power tools and / or participate in roof construction.

Volunteer has permission to work on roof.
(signature of parent /guardian) ______________________________________________________

Volunteer has permission to operate power tools / equipment.
(signature of parent /guardian) ______________________________________________________
The Volunteer (and Guardian) desires that the Volunteer work as a volunteer for Habitat and engage in the activities related to being a volunteer (the “Activities). The Volunteer (and Guardian) understands that the Activities may include constructing and rehabilitating residential buildings, working in the Habitat office, working in the Habitat Warehouse, and living in housing provided for volunteers of Habitat. The Volunteer (and Guardian) hereby freely, voluntarily, and without duress executes this Release under the following terms:

**Release and Waiver.** The Volunteer (and Guardian) does hereby release and forever discharge and hold harmless Habitat and is successors and assigns from any and all liability, claims, and demands of whatever kind or nature, either in law or in equity, which arise or may hereafter arise from Volunteer’s Activities with Habitat. The Volunteer (and Guardian) understands that this Release discharges Habitat from any liability or claim that the Volunteer may have against Habitat with respect to any bodily injury, personal injury, illness, death, or property damages that may result from Volunteer’s work for Habitat, whether caused by the negligence of Habitat or its officers, directors, employees, or agents or otherwise. The Volunteer (and Guardian) also understands that, except as otherwise agreed to by Habitat in writing, Habitat does not assume any responsibility for or obligation to provide financial assistance or other assistance, including but not limited to medical, health, or disability insurance in the event of injury or illness.

**Medical Treatment.** Except as otherwise agreed to by Habitat in writing, the Volunteer (and Guardian) does hereby release and forever discharge Habitat from any claim whatsoever which arises or may hereafter arise on account of any first aid, treatment, or service rendered in connection with the Volunteer’s Activities with Habitat or (in case of a minor child) with the decision by any representative or agent of Habitat to exercise the power to consent to medical or dental treatment as such power may be granted and authorized in the Parental Authorization for Treatment of a Minor Child.

**Assumption of the Risk.** The Volunteer (and Guardian) understands that the Activities included work that may be hazardous to the Volunteer, including, but not limited to, construction, loading and unloading, and transportation to and from work sites. Volunteer (and Guardian) hereby expressly and specifically assumes the risk of harm in the activities and releases Habitat from all liability for injury, illness, death, or property damage resulting from the Activities.

**Insurance.** The Volunteer (and Guardian) understands that, except as otherwise agreed to by Habitat in writing; Habitat does not carry or maintain health, medical, or disability insurance for any Volunteer. Each Volunteer is expected and encouraged to obtain his or her own medical or health and auto insurance coverage.

**Media Release.** The Volunteer (and Guardian) does hereby grant and convey unto Habitat all right, title, and interest in any and all photographic images or video or audio recordings made by Habitat during Volunteer’s Activities with Habitat, including, but not limited to, any royalties, proceeds, or other benefits derived from such photographs or recordings.

**Other.** The Volunteer (and Guardian) expressly agrees that this Release is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the State of Alabama, and that this Release shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Alabama. The Volunteer agrees that in the event that any clause or provision of this Release shall be held to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity of such clause or provision shall not otherwise affect the remaining provisions of the Release which shall continue to be enforceable.

A completed Release Waiver is required for each volunteer. Waivers are valid for 12 months.

Please bring signed Release Waiver with you on your scheduled volunteer day.

(205)780-1234 / www.habitatbirmingham.org
Help build it!