



# THE FRAME

*Strong homes, families, and communities*

**Spring 2021**

**Executive Director**  
Sandi Risdal

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Jim Horstman  
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Randi Peters

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Dan Thomsen-Store  
Manager  
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Betty Beisker-Resource  
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Coordinator  
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"For a community to be whole and healthy, it must be based on people's love and concern for each other."  
— Millard Fuller, Founder of Habitat for Humanity

The Iowa State Habitat Chapter has faithfully helped us in the midst of COVID-19. Facing safety mandates and increased mitigation efforts from the University, this resilient group of young people found ways to stay active with our affiliate. They worked in small groups to help us prep the 10th Street house for demolition. The Habitat Chapter also aided in work on our home in Eldora. Currently they are working on fundraising through the sale of Habitat Bracelets. Through all the negativity that came with this past year, we are so blessed by the positive energy and work these students provided.



## GREEK WEEK 2021

More Iowa State students showed up to help us out with a fundraising project during Greek Week. They got together to paint terracotta pots that will later be filled with a succulent plant. Keep a look out on our web page for our upcoming April plant sale. Proceeds from this fundraiser will go to our new build on 10th Street.





## Greetings From Your Central Iowa Store

We are humbled by the success of our store through this pandemic. We have continued to safely receive donations and have a great group of volunteers that show up each day.

We continue our efforts of keeping our staff, volunteers, and shoppers safe by requiring masks in our store. Routine cleaning is done throughout the day as well. We take a great deal of pride in knowing that so far we have had not outbreaks or contaminations in our store. That being said, we will stay diligent in our safety efforts.

Currently our store is open Tuesday-Saturday, 10am-4pm. We are also accepting donation during those hours.

With Spring approaching we are working hard to fill our store back up. Specifically looking for yard tools and patio furniture, your donations can be a huge blessing to a family. We are also in need of appliances. Remember that donations are a tax deduction.

Also, when you shop and donate to our store you are helping us with our mission of affordable housing. Your dollars stay local and are put to great use. Thank you for your continued support.

**Upcoming Sale: Bag Sale April 6-10th. Save 15%!**

Questions, comments, concerns?  
Contact Dan Thomsen-Store Manager  
[storemanager@hfhci.org](mailto:storemanager@hfhci.org)



As we've maneuvered through this last year, "normals" have gone by the wayside in most areas of our lives. We didn't know what to expect for our Habitat affiliate or the Store. We are greatly blessed however. Our volunteers continued, as they felt able, to help us maintain Store hours. We have continued to be able to make pick-ups and deliveries through this time and have a steady supply of inventory for our customers. I visited with one Iowa Habitat affiliate and discovered that they have greatly struggled with having any volunteers continue through our pandemic.

Surprisingly, we have continued to have a few inquiries each month from individuals interested in joining our team. We have had many small training sessions and consequently - new faces with new name tags helping us keep the store stocked, organized, bright and shiny.

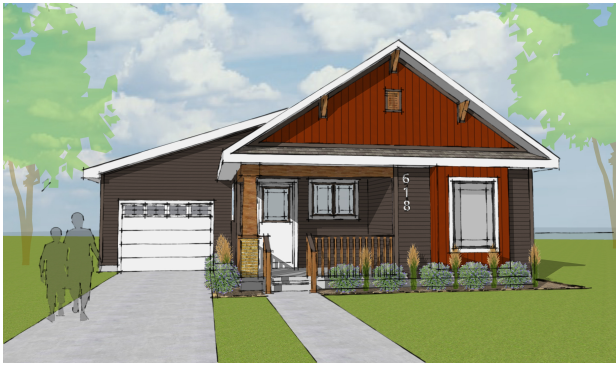
As a staff, we are most grateful to have been able to continue to operate and even grow through this last year and as we look forward to this spring and summer we are seeing plans begin for another home for a family in Ames. With all of us working together in the Store and out in the community, we continue to assist our community and local families for a happier future.

**Thank you to all of our VOLUNTEERS for your continued support for the goals and dreams of Habitat.**

**-Betty Beisker**







We are excited to announce that we have two new home builds ready to begin. The first located on 10th street and generously donated by the Driscoll Family, and the second on Grand, a partnership with the City of Ames. The house designs have some new features thanks to Dan Nutini.

"Due to the rising costs of construction materials, we took the approach with these homes to try to be really efficient with the design and footprint. This will keep the homes affordable, yet still provide the necessary amenities and spaces that a family would expect to see in a new home. These homes will have 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, full kitchen, living and entertaining space, an attached garage, and a front porch that will connect the home to the neighborhood. The total finished square feet of the homes is approximately 1,400. We are very excited to see these homes replace the dilapidated ones."-Dan Nutini

## Help Us Build 2 New Homes

We have set some very ambitious goals for this year. The pandemic has revealed the great need to provide affordable housing. With the increase in lumber costs, we need your help now more than ever.

Partner with us to build strength, stability, and self-reliance through shelter by making a donation to HFHCI in honor of our two home projects. Anyone who donates over \$100, if they wish, will be recognized by name in our next newsletter. As always, all donations made are tax deductible. We hope that you will follow us on our social media sites as well as our website for a behind the scene look at the building process. See how the houses are designed, constructed, and donated.

### Suggested Giving Levels:

\$25- Bundle of roof shingles

\$50 Bucket of nails

\$100 Kitchen sink

\$150 Window

\$200 Toilet

\$250 Door

\$500- Siding

## Goal:

# \$50,000

Questions about donating or  
employee gift matching, contact  
Sandi R. at 515-232-8815



**Habitat  
for Humanity®**

Central Iowa



How did we get the property on  
10th St.?

Meet the family that donated the  
property. Above is a picture of the  
family that donated the property.

"The lady on the left is Reva Fisher (the original house owner). The lady on the right is Martha Driscoll. Thad is on the right and Eric is in the back with Eric's baby Jackson in Grandma's lap. Reva moved to Ames in the 1940s and was a single mother of 2. She rented and owned multiple houses throughout the years in Ames. She worked her way through school and became a nurse at the age of 55. Martha was a retired social worker who volunteered for the Red Cross and other community areas. Martha and Ron moved to Ames in about 2002, after Reva passed. Both myself and Eric are/were volunteer Firefighters. I personally attribute my ability to volunteer because of my Mom and my Grandma; both great examples of contributors to our society."

-Thad Driscoll

Are you interested in applying for our  
10th or 12th Street property? Keep  
watching our website for details and  
dates to apply. [www.hfhci.org](http://www.hfhci.org)

## Join Our Team!

- Habitat for Humanity of Central Iowa is hiring! We are looking to hire a Construction Manager to oversee two of our upcoming building projects. Apply at [www.hfhci.org](http://www.hfhci.org)



### Contact Us:

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**Ames Iowa 50010**

**Office:** 515-232-8815

**Email:** [director@hfhci.org](mailto:director@hfhci.org)

**Web:** [www.hfhci.org](http://www.hfhci.org)

### Please visit us on:



Facebook: [Habitat for Humanity Central Iowa](https://www.facebook.com/HabitatforHumanityCentralIowa)



Pinterest: [Habitat for Humanity of Central Iowa](https://www.pinterest.com/HabitatforHumanityCentralIowa)



Instagram: [habitat\\_central\\_iowa](https://www.instagram.com/habitat_central_iowa)

## The Director's Corner



Dear Habitat Friends:

As I sit here looking out my office window, I notice a robin hopping around in the grass. What a beautiful sign of spring and rebirth. How welcoming to see this positive sign of nature. It certainly has been a long winter and a long year. The stress has been overwhelming at times. The loss has been tremendous. Unfortunately, during the past year, we have been witness to changes and many conditions that we never would have imagined a year ago.

Here at Habitat for Humanity of Central Iowa we are both hopeful and grateful. Navigating through the pandemic has been a daily struggle but we have made it through this difficult year. We are working hard and looking forward to resuming building and helping our families with their housing needs. Now more than ever Habitat is needed to help families struggling with affordable housing.

I am reminded daily that we could not have survived the past year without our dedicated staff, volunteers, and donors. Each of you played a role in helping us survive these uncertain times. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and generosity. We are so grateful to all our donors; both financial donors and material donors for our store. Your generous contributions have allowed us to continue our mission of building affordable housing in our area. We would like to say thank you to the Driscoll family and their generous donation of the property on 10th Street in Ames. In the coming months, we will be selecting a family for this project. They will join our other Habitat families and will realize their dream of home ownership.

Thank you so much for your continued support of our mission and vision.

Most Sincerely,

Sandi Risdal-Executive Director