



# From Public Housing to Proud Homeowners

Twin Cities  
 **Habitat for Humanity®**

# Habitat

HERALD Vol. XXXVII #1 Winter 2026

*Fifteen years ago, Angeline and Allen couldn't have imagined themselves as homeowners.*

They were fighting for stability with Angeline living in her car and Allen sleeping on family couches. Each day felt like an uphill battle. Then Angeline received a call from Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA): her family had been approved for housing.

Angeline and Allen's rental was more than a roof over their heads. It was a safe place for their children and grandchildren, giving them space and stability to dream again.

Angeline and Allen advanced their careers, boosting their income. By 2023, they qualified for *Pathways to Success*, a new partnership between MPHA and Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity that supports renters working toward homeownership, financial growth, and education.

"The *Pathways* team believed in us even when we didn't," Angeline said. "They helped us buy our home."

Angeline and Allen attended workshops and received one-on-one financial coaching and tailored tools. The couple built their confidence and credit, closing the gap between dream and reality.

And then, life stopped. In May 2024, Angeline and Allen's youngest daughter passed away unexpectedly. Their world shattered, and they paused their homeownership process.

"It was hard to see a future," said Angeline. "You ask yourself, is it even worth it?"

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"It feels so good to own our home. To make it really ours, it makes me happy."

**Angeline**  
*Homeowner since 2025*



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With support from family and the *Pathways to Success* team, though, they returned to their journey of purchasing a “forever home.” In spring 2025, after months of hard work, they were mortgage ready. A few months later, they closed on their own cozy house on a tree-lined street in the northwest metro.

“It feels so good to own our home,” said Angeline, beaming. “To make it really ours, it makes me happy.”

Homeownership has brought new joys, from picking out paint colors to visiting the hardware store. The house is more than property; it’s their new safe haven.

Looking around her living room, Angeline reflects on how far her family has come: from homelessness to public housing to homeownership. Their home isn’t just for them. It’s for their children and grandchildren, including the one they lost.

“I didn’t think homeownership was in the cards for me,” she said. “But now, we own a home. Not just for us but for generations to come.”



Allen and Angeline surrounded by family at their new home.

## Upcoming Events

### Strategic Plan Town Hall

Tuesday, February 3, 2026 | 4:00 p.m. CST via Zoom

Learn how your support changes lives! Tune in to hear inspiring stories from staff across all areas of our work and get a glimpse of what’s on the horizon for Twin Cities Habitat.

[tchabitat.org/townhall](https://tchabitat.org/townhall)

### Habitat on the Hill Minnesota

Friday, March 27, 2026 | Minnesota State Capitol - St. Paul

Rally together with Habitat supporters! This is your chance to raise your voice to support affordable homeownership for your neighbors. Your advocacy is crucial—we hope you’ll join us!

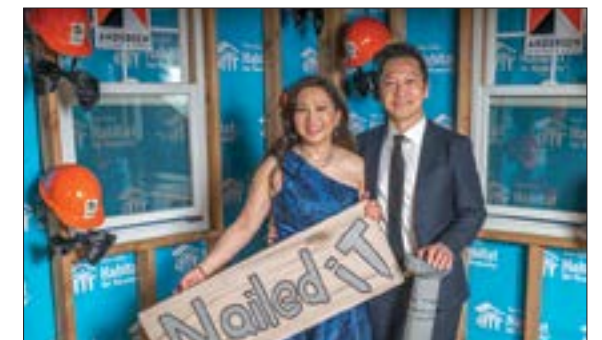
[tchabitat.org/hill](https://tchabitat.org/hill)

### Hard Hat & Black Tie Gala

Saturday, April 25, 2026 | The Depot – Minneapolis

Get your table or tickets now for Hard Hat & Black Tie—the gala that’s always a little less formal and a lot more fun! Experience fabulous auctions, delicious dinner, and a rockin’ afterparty—all while making a real difference for your Twin Cities neighbors.

[tchabitat.org/gala2026](https://tchabitat.org/gala2026)



Krista (pictured right) had a great time raising funds for Habitat’s mission. What could you do?



## “Don’t overthink it.”

As a real estate professional, Krista understands the power of home. So when she wanted to make a meaningful impact, it’s no surprise she found Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity.

“Home has always been a place of comfort, safety, and pride for me. It’s also a way to grow wealth,” Krista said. “Habitat’s work resonates with me—making sure more people have that foundation.”

Last year, Krista hosted a high-energy, fun-filled Bingo night for her clients and network. Thanks to more than 100 attendees and Krista’s generous matching

donation, the event raised nearly \$10,000. Krista is also on the Hard Hat & Black Tie Gala planning committee and volunteered on a build site for the first time last summer.

Krista demonstrates the many ways to support Habitat’s mission: “Don’t overthink it. The first step is always the hardest, but there will be someone there to guide you. I feel blessed to have connected with Habitat and can’t wait to see what happens next.”

Krista’s next bingo fundraiser is February 26, 2026!



Volunteer Spotlight

# Randy Builds Community and Homes

Randy, a retired pediatrician, has volunteered with Twin Cities Habitat since 2010. He was working at HealthPartners, which was sponsoring a week of building for the 2010 Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project in the Twin Cities. Randy served as the volunteer coordinator for his group of coworkers, and that was all it took.

“Building a house takes hard work, but it’s also fun,” he said. “People—including myself—develop skills and understanding that we use on site and at home. It’s empowering!”

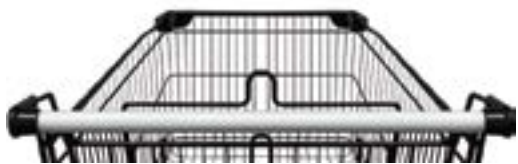
Until retirement, Randy spent one to two weeks per year on site as a volunteer coordinator for HealthPartners’ builds. Then, in 2024, Randy and some former colleagues started a HealthPartners Retirees Regular Crew that is still growing. He was also a volunteer crew leader at the 2024 Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project. He enjoys working with others toward a shared goal that has real-life impact.

“I don’t think of Habitat as ‘them.’ It’s just ‘us.’ We’re all part of the mission,” Randy said. “At the end of the day, you’re going to be tired, dirty, maybe even hot and sweaty. And you’re going to feel great.”



### Become a Winter Warrior!

Volunteer three or more times from January to March OR build on Winter Warriors days and get special swag. Sign up to volunteer at [tchabitat.org/winter](https://tchabitat.org/winter)



[restore.tchabitat.org](https://restore.tchabitat.org)

January is Thankuary! To thank you for your support, enjoy this exclusive offer at Twin Cities ReStore Home Improvement Outlets **through February 26!**

**10% OFF**  
all red-tagged items

**20% OFF**  
everything else in store

Offer valid through February 26, 2026, at Twin Cities ReStore Home Improvement Outlets (see website for store locations). Limit one per customer. Cannot be combined with other offers.

Code: **HERALD26**