



WOMEN BUILD

Women Build Receives Gift from National Sponsor

The national sponsor of Women Build, Lowe's Hardware, awarded Habitat's Metro Denver affiliate with a gift of \$50,000 to use toward sponsorship of this year's 2008 Women Build home! The gift came as a result of the hard work of Habitat's Development department over the years developing a relationship between Lowe's and Habitat for Humanity Metro Denver. Nationwide, twenty Lowe's stores that performed well over the course of the year were given this gift to designate to a Women Build program in their area. This gift not only increases the chances that the Women Build committee will be able to fully sponsor a home for the Byrd family this year, but it also provides the committee with some time to strengthen the foundation we've built with our fund raising plan and improve our Women Build experience for all involved. We are very appreciative to Lowe's for selecting us as their designated recipient of this gift and welcome their representative, Susan Schaub, as a member of the Women Build committee.

There's always an opportunity to Volunteer

Habitat Hustlers Take to the Streets

On Sunday, May 18th, fifteen men and women will run and walk through the streets of Denver in support of Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver Women Build and they need your support! Working in tandem with the Colorado Colfax Marathon Charity Partners program, Women Build has agreed to support the Colorado Kids Campaign by registering 15 participants in the marathon and raise funds for Women Build through sponsorships at the same time. We are not only seeking sponsors, but we're also looking for enthusiastic people who are willing to cheer us on along the route as we travel through City Park and beyond.

So, who are the "Habitat Hustlers," you may wonder. Here is a description of our tenacious team:

Habitat's Office Staff:

Heather Lafferty, Executive Director

Jeanne Fischetti, Volunteer Coordinator

Kimberly Urish, Development Associate

Nancy Suty, newly retired Family Support Manager

Women Build Committee members and Habitat volunteers:

Kate Hilberg - Women Build committee member and brochure designer

Fran Winston - Women Build committee member and Money Diva

Melinda Pollack - Women Build volunteer

Sarah Azibo - Women Build Chairwoman and RMSEL teacher

"RMSEL Runners" from the Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning:

Kim O'Malley - High School Humanities teacher running in her 27th marathon

Brooke Quinn - High School Math teacher, mother of two running a 5K leg of the relay

Judy Racine -- 2nd /3rd grade teacher, avid swimmer eager to run the 10K leg of the relay

Keri Melmed - Assistant Director, mother of two boys, running a 5K leg of the relay

Jason Segó - 10th grade student running to support Habitat and complete a personal fitness goal

If you would like to show your support for these fabulous 15 in person by volunteering along the route, please contact [Sarah Azibo](#) or 303-394-0945. If you are able to support us financially to reach our goal of full-sponsorship of the Byrd family home, visit the [Habitat Website](#), click "Donate Now". Remember to specify Women Build and the name of the runner in the "Special Designation box".

Adopt a Day Partnership Opportunity

An anonymous donor has committed to matching any Adopt-a-Day sponsorships up to \$10,000 for the 2008 Women Build home! One Adopt-a-Day partnership pays for the materials needed for one day on a build and welcomes ten volunteers from

the partnering group to help assist with the Women Build or a co-ed build as they choose. So if you know of a group of people (book club, church group, fitness friends) who would like to join together to help fund and build the Byrd family home or work for a company that may be interested in partnering with this Women Build home, please contact [Jeanne Fischetti](#). This matching gift opportunity will double your contribution to this effort.

Women Build Electric Corps of Volunteers

Thanks to all of you who volunteered with us this past Saturday at our Glencoe site - and we hope you enjoyed the day of learning new skills. We are excited to announce yet another upcoming Women's Crew Electrical Workday!!! Here are the details:

Date: Saturday, May 17

Location: 706 S. Lowell Blvd.

Time: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Tomboy Tools Women Build Fundraiser Mystery Host Event

Saturday, May 31st 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Community Room Upstairs Ross-University Hills Branch Library

4310 E. Amherst Ave. at S. Birch St.

Denver, CO 80222

A "Mystery Host" will be selected from the sales orders at the end of the day. The winner will receive the hostess benefits for the sale including half price tools of their choice and Tomboy Tools gift certificates. 20% of the total retail sales for the day will be donated to Women Build.

This is a great opportunity to learn more about Tomboy Tools (a local, women owned business), support and learn more about Women Build, stock your toolbox for summer and get a chance to win free tools.

For more information visit the [Denver Tomboy Website](#) or contact [Donna Horgan](#) at 303-369-7052.

POWER OF TEN UPDATE

Because we would not ask any other Women Build volunteers to do what we wouldn't do ourselves - The members of the Women Build committee have agreed to contribute \$10+ to the 2008 Women Build house and will ask 10 friends and/or family members to do the same. SUPER!

Every donation brings us closer to buying all the materials needed to build a home with Stephanie Byrd and family this Fall.

Want to know more about this fundraiser? Contact [Shannon Weaver](#)

Why I am A Women Build Volunteer

My name is Judy Browne and I have been volunteering with Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver in a number of ways since the fall of 2002. I first volunteered on the construction site for a house that was being partially sponsored by my church. I was instantly enamored with the experience and started volunteering once a week. That experience was so wonderful that in the summer of 2003 I quit my job and volunteered full time with Habitat through the Americorps program.

In June of 2003 I left a 20 year career as a Manufacturing Engineer and Project Manager to join Habitat in building houses for families in need. My life has been profoundly changed by this experience. Although everything I experienced throughout that year was memorable one house stands out as the one that fundamentally changed my life. That house was the 2004 Women Build home. This home was entirely built with the loving hands of women from throughout the Denver Metro Area. I spent 4 days a week working with the most incredible women I have ever met. They were of all shapes and sizes and had all ranges of skills and abilities. What impressed me most were the women who came to the site knowing little or nothing about construction and who left with a renewed sense of confidence and faith in her ability to accomplish anything she wanted. When my volunteer year was completed I couldn't imagine going back to my previous career.

I am incredibly blessed with the loving support of an amazing husband who encouraged me to search for something more meaningful. In October of 2004 I founded my own business, Workshop for Women. At Workshop for Women I teach basic home improvement skills to women in a comfortable, supportive and safe environment. All of the classes are hands-on and every day I get to share in the experience of women discovering wisdom and talents they never knew they had and at the same time learning skills they can use in their every day lives.

I am still actively involved with Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver and have served as both a committee member and chairwoman of the Women Build Committee since 2004. I don't get out to the construction site as often these days, but I

will never forget that Habitat not only changes the lives of the families that move into the homes we build but it changes the lives of the volunteers.

2008 WOMEN BUILD FAMILY



Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver is proud to introduce Stephanie Byrd and her three daughters, Brittany (14), Raven (11), and Aniaha (1). Stephanie has worked as a Quality Assurance specialist for CHP+ since 2003.

The Byrd family currently lives in a small 2-bedroom apartment where they have to share rooms. The apartment lacks adequate heating, a broken sliding glass door that cannot be locked, a stove and an oven that cannot be used at the same time, and mice and other pests.

Brittany and Raven are excited to have their own rooms where they can paint them their favorite colors. Brittany wants a back yard where she can play badminton with her friends. The entire family is excited to have a home that is warm in the winter and Stephanie is excited to be

able to finally afford a warm home for her family.

The entire Byrd family is very thankful for the opportunity to partner with Habitat and have a permanent place to call home. Stephanie's grandparents owned their home and she knew that at some point she would become a homeowner. However, she always thought that she would have to greatly sacrifice in order to afford the payments on that home. The day she got the call from Habitat that she had been accepted, she said, "I felt like I had won the lottery."

The Byrd family's home is being sponsored by Women Build. Stephanie can't wait to meet the women who are raising the money to buy materials for her home as well as participate in the building. Before Habitat, Stephanie never knew people who give back like Habitat volunteers. "Habitat volunteers made me feel so welcome. Seeing these volunteers motivates me to continue giving back."

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If you have general Women Build questions please contact [Sarah Azibo](#)