Working with our many partners, Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity builds strength, stability and self-reliance through affordable homeownership in Hampshire and Franklin Counties. We are an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, an ecumenical organization that envisions a world where everyone has a decent and affordable place to call home.

Looking forward:

- April 29
  Lowes' Clinic
  Learn to frame a wall at the Hadley Lowes in preparation for Women Build Week.
  Hadley store, 9:00-11:30am
  Sign up with Mariah at 413-586-5430 or mariah@pvhabitat.org

- May 2
  Valley Gives Day

- May 5-14
  National Women Build Week
  Women’s volunteer days at new Amherst build site.
  Sign up to build with your Mother or a friend during Mother’s Day week!

- May 17
  FEAST for Habitat at Cowls Building Supply
  Amherst 5:30-8:00pm

- TBA: Dedication Ceremonies for Hawthorne Duplex, Amherst; and Wall Raising Ceremonies for Greenfield and Amherst Builds.

Building strength, stability and self-reliance through affordable homeownership in Hampshire and Franklin Counties.

Big Enough
Pioneering the Small Home Revolution in Western Mass

The Community Foundation of Western Mass has awarded Pioneer Valley Habitat an Innovation Planning Grant for a project we are calling “Big Enough”. Our grant is one of 7 awarded by the Community Foundation in this competitive opportunity.

We propose to launch more families into the middle class by becoming first-time owners of small, simple, green homes. Our goal is to complete designs for an energy-efficient $50,000 home. We expect that other non-profits and the for-profit housing market will build on what we learn, thereby reaching more people who want to decrease their footprint on the planet. We will research manufactured, modular and small footprint dwelling options. We will spend the next six months with our partners exploring the regulatory, financial, social and design opportunities and constraints, and will then outline a plan to put these ideas into homebuilding action. We seek a model that works for Habitat’s end-user — earners at 60% of the area median income — as well as one that meets the needs of homebuyers with means to pay more, allowing for broader access than is currently available for smaller, greener homes.

“Here are the values that I stand for: honesty, equality, kindness, compassion, treating people the way you want to be treated and helping those in need. To me, those are traditional values.”

- Ellen DeGeneres

Get Involved!
Scan the QR code or visit our website to sign up and volunteer!

“We the people should leave out none of the people.”

– Millard Fuller
Habitat for Humanity Founder
PVHH Board
John Ebbets, President
Anna Novy Cook, Vice President
Reverend Janet Bush, Treasurer
Steve Harrington, Clerk
Jane Andersen
Christine Aubrey
Marybeth Bridgem
Jeff Hutchins
Tom Jones
Libby McLarty
Stacy Metzger
Tara Palkoski
Keith Woodruff

PVHH Staff
LaVae Allard, Bookkeeper
Mariah Kurtz, Volunteer Coordinator
Amy Lundy, Director of Resource Development
Megan McDonough, Executive Director
Pam Kimball, Intern
Congke Li, Intern

Thank you to Mareika Phillips – graphic design extraordinaire – for helping us design our Annual Reports, Swim-a-thon brochures, FEAST booklets, and this very newsletter!
A special shout out to our weekly office volunteers:
Lucia Spio: archiving, bulletin board, office organization
Jodi Kirschen: recent orientation and log book entry
Del Blank: archiving of past orientation sheets
Lyn Heady: donation thank-yous and deposits
Muriel Codwise: filing cabinet organization

Dear Habitat Community,

Our vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live. This is a big vision. One part of this vision is increasing access to the dream of homeownership as a pathway out of poverty.

In an ideal world we wouldn’t have to do this work, opportunities to access the middle class would be available to all. By building homes with community support we bring greater equity to our communities — we give those struggling to access homeownership the boost they need to make that a reality.

But what if those barriers didn’t exist? I encourage you to work with us to provide access to affordable homeownership today and to challenge us to envision a world where the barriers are gone.

In solidarity,

Megan McDonough

Valley Gives Day
Donations made on May 2nd to Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity online through the Community Foundation of Western Mass Valley Gives Day may leverage additional funds! Visit valley-gives.org/designee/pioneer-valley-habitat-for-humanity

National Women Build Week
We invite women sign up on VolunteerUp on our website to participate in this year’s National Women Build Week after attending a new volunteer orientation. National Women Build Week is May 6th through the 14th. We will be building in Amherst during Women Build Week. Sign up to build with your Mother or a friend during Mother’s Day week!

FEAST for Habitat coming Wednesday May 17th!

For the $45 ticket price, partygoers will feast on delicious food, enjoy a beverage, meet new people, hear some jazz provided by local musicians, and find some hidden gems at the auction table. New this year will be birdhouses at the auction “decked out” by local artists.

Come join us this year to celebrate the good work being done by so many including our volunteers, building and housing community, and building supply donors.

To purchase tickets online, go to: www.pvhabitat.org/events/2017-feast-for-habitat.