

The Habitat Scoop



Your support helps us to achieve so much!

THANK YOU.



**More than
2,300 families
served**

We serve families in so many ways! Through our Home Purchase Program, Housing Preservation Program, plus financial, technical and educational support.



**206
Community
Spaces
Revitalized**

Our Community Preservation Program engages volunteers to beautify and paint community spaces across the city, including common areas like lobbies and hallways of existing affordable housing buildings.



**We led the advocacy
that resulted in
Governor Hochul
signing into law the
Affordable
Housing
Corporation
reform bill**

This legislation increased funding for affordable housing construction and helps to expand homeownership opportunities for New Yorkers.



**2,498 tons of
landfill waste
diverted by
the ReStore**

Reusing and repurposing items reduces waste, keeps sidewalks cleaner, and our earth greener!

And we need your help to continue making an impact for hard-working families in 2023. Your faithful giving and partnership fuel our mission.

Make a gift today at: habitatnycwc.org/newsletter

Thank YOU for helping to build a more equitable New York in 2022

In October, we hosted our 2022 Habitat House Party: Building a More Equitable New York. It was a tremendous success, allowing us to continue our work building a more equitable future for New York families and communities.

Thank you to everyone who joined us in-person and online. We kickstarted the event with a dynamic performance by the Brooklyn United Music and Arts Program marching band. Our CEO, Karen Haycox, hosted a wonderful night amplifying our collective impact in creating, preserving, and advocating for affordable homes and the generational equity building opportunities that homeownership provides. Exploring the night's theme, Karen said, "Our work hasn't changed. But how we talk about our work, had to. To truly address our region's affordable housing crisis and the inequity that keeps communities of color in poverty, we need to be explicit about closing the racial wealth and homeownership gap...As an historically and disproportionately white organization, we acknowledge our past shortcomings in the areas of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice (DEIJ). And we commit to embedding DEIJ in our organizational DNA."

We were honored to hear in-person from two Homeowners—Voncille C., a Habitat homeowner in Queens, and Kianah A., a resident of 2178 Atlantic Ave. in Brooklyn. Their powerful stories of resilience, determination and triumph are well-known to our Habitat family—Voncille's dream of homeownership became a life-changing reality in 2015, and the 2178 Atlantic Ave board spent over a decade fighting to save their building from foreclosure.



But what happens after the victory moment? Voncille and Kianah both shared about their continued partnership with Habitat NYC and Westchester to keep improving and stabilizing affordable housing for current residents and future generations. As Kianah stated, "Stories like ours are happening in Black and brown communities every single day, all over this city. We've seen countless neighbors experience circumstances just like ours, but they were not able to overcome them. **So, "building a more equitable New York" means flipping the statistics so that a victory like ours becomes the norm, not the exception.**" They really brought the house down!

Then the House Party culminated in a thrilling live auction. The bidding was spirited and generous, and so supportive of advancing our mission and programs. You can see photos from the night on our Facebook page.

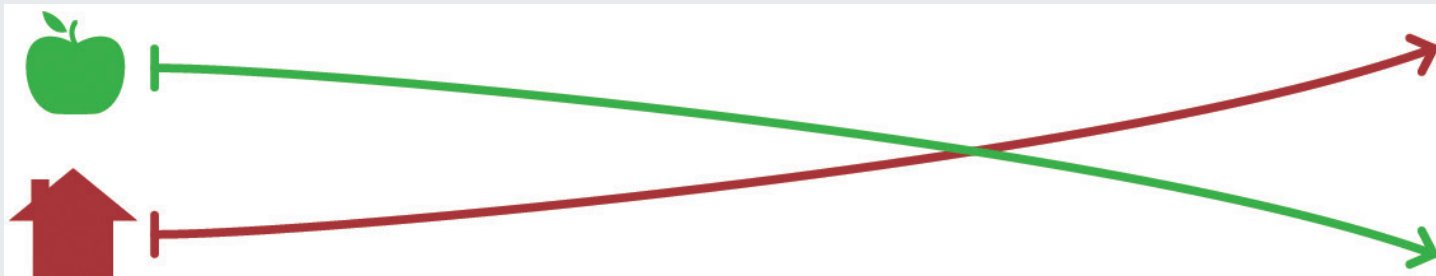
2022 was eventful, and there is much that we are proud of. Thank YOU for being part of our mission addressing our region's affordable housing crisis and deep racial disparities in homeownership. **The ripple effect of your support—your donations, time, advocacy and expertise—is immeasurable.** ■

Left: The Brooklyn United Music and Arts Program marching band kicked off the night with a high-energy performance

Below: Kianah, a resident of a co-op building in Brooklyn, told the story of how she and her neighbors saved their building from foreclosure



Supporting seniors with safe, energy-efficient environments



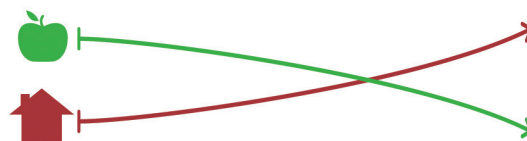
Since expanding into Westchester County, we have been exploring how to best begin extending our impact in this unique region. Our new Aging in Place home repair program is the vehicle for that impact. The generous support of our donors is what makes it all possible! Providing home assessments, repair assistance and modifications, Aging in Place will support low-income seniors to live with dignity and independence by making upgrades that improve their home's safety and energy efficiency, and that reduce their out-of-pocket energy costs.

Aging in Place is seeking clients, partners and funders.

For more information, contact us at aginginplace@habitatnycwc.org or call 914.240.7003. ■

DID YOU KNOW?

Older adults who struggle to afford housing spend 62 percent less on health care, often forgoing healthy food or delaying buying medication, which impacts their health.



COMMUNITY PROGRESS MAKERS

2022-2023

Citi Foundation
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Community Progress Makers

Habitat NYC and Westchester was selected as part of Citi Foundation's 2022-2023 Community Progress Makers cohort. The Community Progress Makers initiative supports organizations working to connect low-income communities and communities of color to greater social and economic opportunity. We secured a multi-year grant that will fuel and strengthen our housing justice work with a specific racial equity lens. ■

Auctioning art to advance affordable housing

We love innovative ways of raising critical funding and awareness to advance the cause of affordable housing. In September, the Habitat NYC and Westchester Women Build Council hosted a first-of-its-kind art event: the Women Build Art Show. It was a marvelous evening with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, live DJ sets, a silent auction, and live art auction.

All of the spectacular artwork was received via corporate and private donation to our ReStore, a reuse store that sells diverse, high-quality merchandise at a fraction of retail price, while diverting reusable household items and building materials from landfills.

Women Build is a community of strong, dedicated women and gender non-conforming folks, uniting to transform our communities by building, investing and advocating for affordable housing. Want to get involved? Contact Jocelynn Ricard at jricard@habitatnycwc.org or call 646.779.8884.

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