



2021 Annual Report



Habitat for Humanity[®]

NW Metro Atlanta

letter from our ceo & chairman of the board

In 2021, our affiliate celebrated its 35th anniversary! Coming out of a difficult season in 2020, we worked twice as hard to serve as many people as possible in need of affordable housing.

Because of your support, we welcomed back our dedicated partners and were joined by new ones; most importantly, together served a total of 91 individuals in the community with repairs and new houses built, partnering so they could have decent shelter.

We had many “firsts” in 2021, including the construction of the first two-story home in partnership with the Cobb Catholic Coalition, welcoming new partner Berkadia to build a whole house, and hosting our first annual benefit concert, Harmonies for Homes, with Bercher Homes as Presenting Sponsor, raising more than \$120,000 to build more new homes!

In the first quarter, when we were able to build again, but without volunteers, our “Gray Ghosts” stepped up and used their skills to not only finish the two-story house sponsored by the Catholic Coalition, but also complete major home repairs for another Austell homeowner nearby (before and after pictured below). And when NFL all-star and former Atlanta Falcon, Warrick Dunn, saw what we were doing, he surprised another one of our single parent homeowners with new furniture and \$5,000 in down payment assistance.

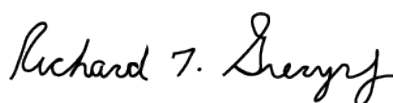
When we were able to bring back volunteers starting in June, a total of 995 people in our community gave their time to volunteer in building eight homes.

We continued our strong partnership with longtime sponsors including the Home Depot Foundation, Cobb EMC, and the Atlanta Regional Commission, who together funded 38 critical veteran and senior home repairs.

When increasing land prices, rising material costs, and the deteriorating condition of our oldest communities challenged our efforts, we partnered with local leaders to identify where our affiliate could have a tangible impact on the economic and social welfare of a specific community. As a result, we made significant strides in revitalizing the Sweetwater Mission neighborhood in Austell.

Our staff completed Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training from the University of South Florida and renewed our commitment to the mission of providing affordable, quality homes for everyone to live in, continuing to strive to bring an end to generational poverty.

Thank you to our generous donors and sponsors, selfless volunteers, and dedicated staff who rose to the challenges to keep our operation moving forward, one house and one partner family at a time.



Rick Gieryn
Chairman, Board of Directors



Jessica Gill
Chief Executive Officer

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A Brief History of the founding of Cobb County Habitat for Humanity

In January of 1985 - (Jan. 19) Chrys and John Street met Millard Fuller through mutual friends in North Georgia. The Northeast Georgia affiliate originated at that meeting. Millard challenged Chrys to start an affiliate in Cobb County. He mailed 10,000 bulletin inserts for local churches for the Sept. 15 Habitat Sunday 1985. Chrys managed to distribute 8,000 to area churches including St. Jude's Episcopal Church in Smyrna. Fr. Sam Candler urged her to call a meeting. The first gathering was held at St. James Episcopal Church September 26. (Fr. Candler didn't make it - his wife was having a baby). Fifty-five people attended and twelve of them volunteered for the original board, including Henry Brooks, Rev. Mike Carey, James Dodd, Lynwood Floyd, Toni Floyd, Marci Gober, Dick Hillman, Clara Jenkins, Rev. Jimmy Lewis, Rev. Michael Owens, Joe Patrick and Chrys Street. The first Board meeting was at Chrys's home December 2, 1985. Plans were made. On April 1, 1986 Rev. Michael Owens, Joe Patrick and Chrys Street went to Kansas City to petition for Cobb County's affiliation with Habitat for Humanity International. We agreed to carry out the Habitat vision and to contribute one-tenth of our income for Habitat Overseas a practice which this affiliate has continued for eighteen years.

Our first two houses were framed by the Building Construction classes of Marietta High School and South Cobb High School. If two nails were needed these kids put in ten. They worked before and after school and during lunch hour. The teachers were delighted that their classes could actually frame a whole house.

Two existing houses were donated by O'Neill Development Co and moved across Highway 41 to Smyrna and to Marietta. We moved four houses in about six months time! It was necessary to contact the City and County police, the telephone company, gas company Georgia Power etc. Vulcan Products Co of Birmingham sent over the component parts of a metal house that Millard asked us to try to build. It was very difficult - had to be put together with screws. So we were working on five houses! We were able to buy two lots from the City of Marietta. For the Marietta High house and the O'Neill house for \$1,000 apiece. The South Cobb High house was built on land owned by Sheryl Lemmon.

An "angel" had donated \$60,000. The Board of Directors made donations and raised money. For eighteen months we ran a recycling store on Washington St (Saus plumbing) Kirk Street volunteered his time and his truck (which was stolen by a "volunteer"). We mostly gave away what he was able to pick up. The Marietta Housing Authority sent us folks who needed household goods. They had no money. We were offered office space in the old Wright Street grammar school by Cobb Senior Services.

There is a great need for a recycling store - many folks would like to donate. The NE Georgia and Rabun County stores do a lot of business and partially fund their houses.

Chrys Malone Street

our 35th anniversary

From humble beginnings born out of Chrys Street's idea to bring the Habitat model to Cobb County in 1986; to today, the mission to provide a hand up to those in need of decent shelter has remained the same.





In 2021, we built the first new construction two-story home in our affiliate's history. The new home design and architectural plans were donated to Habitat by Marietta-based Caldwell-Cline Architects and Designers and Bercher Homes. The home designs came out of a community project by the Cobb Chamber of Commerce Leadership Cobb Class of 2018.

homeownership

Although their home started construction amidst the pandemic in 2020, Layla and her family completed construction and had their home dedicated in March 2021. Layla was our third single parent homebuyer to receive a special surprise from [Warrick Dunn Charities](#) - \$5,000 in down payment assistance and a fully furnished home from Aaron's.



AUSTELL NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION



Getachew, Tizita, and their 2 year old daughter left a one bedroom apartment in Clarkston for a three bedroom Habitat home in Austell, sponsored by the Cobb Catholic Coalition. Their move significantly reduced Getachew's commute to work in Lithia Springs and gives plenty of room for their growing family.

new sponsor joins us

The Atlanta office of [Berkadia](#), a Berkshire Hathaway and Jefferies Financial Group company, joined our affiliate as a new full house sponsor. Berkadia is a leader in the commercial real estate industry, offering a robust suite of services to multifamily and commercial property clients.

Thanks to generous support from Berkadia, Gabriela and her son have a permanent place to live and thrive.

The family had been living in her father's townhome and keeping their belongings in her car because it was not possible to find an affordable apartment when her lease ended during the pandemic.

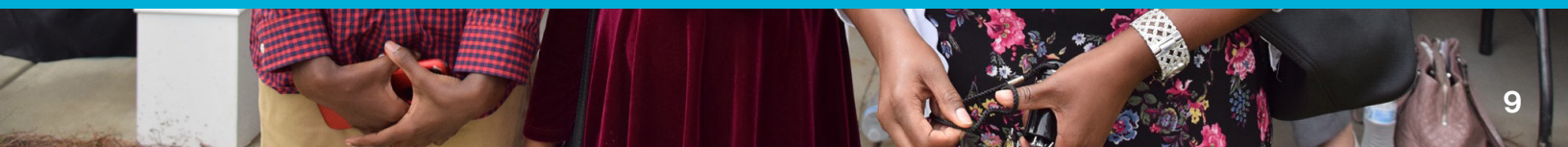




On Veterans Day, our long-term partner Lockheed Martin dedicated a home to 61-year-old Army veteran, Wilbert, who suffers from injuries sustained while serving as a cannon artillery crew member. “I worked with the big guns,” said Sherrod. “It is an experience you can only get being in the military.”



Originally from Kenya, Rachel has been a Cobb County resident for 13 years. She works as a caregiver at a residential community for senior citizens. Her two children, age 12 and 13 are excited that they won't have to share a bedroom in their new Habitat home, sponsored by the Cobb Interfaith Habitat Coalition.





Aaliyah & Porcha, both Douglasville natives and veterans of the US Army, now reside in new homes at Veterans Place funded by the Community HOME Investment Program grant.



continuing to grow in Douglasville

One of our greatest inspirations of the year was a group of students from [Alexander High School](#) in Douglasville.

Starting with a singular goal, they formed a school Habitat Chapter, and slowly, one bake sale and car wash at a time, raised the money to build a home for a U.S. Veteran in our Veteran's Place neighborhood in Douglasville.

Local attorney Frank Winn was so inspired by their efforts, he made a gift from his family's fund, the [Winn 3 Charitable Foundation](#), to put them over the finish line.

Enduring Covid delays in 2020, finally, in August of 2021, the students hammered the first nails on the home for US Veteran Steve and his partner Jane, who have worked their way from homelessness to homeownership.



home repairs

In 2021, the Atlanta Regional Commission awarded funding to Habitat for Humanity to provide critical home modifications and repairs for older adults with the greatest economic need.

This funding, along with grants from The Home Depot Foundation, Cobb EMC, sponsorship from the Cobb Catholic Coalition, and gifts in kind from Retro Roofers allowed us to ensure that 38 northwest metro Atlanta households are safe, warm, dry and accessible.





15 home repairs
for veterans



23 home repairs
for seniors



Atlanta Regional Commission
regional impact + local relevance



Harmonies for Homes

In 2021 we hosted our inaugural fundraising event, Harmonies for Homes, a benefit concert held under the stars on the 18th green of the Atlanta Country Club on August 9. The concert featured music from well-known artists Edwin McCain, Emily Saliers of the Indigo Girls, and Clay Cook of Zac Brown Band. The event was a huge success, raising more than \$120,000 to build homes.

The concert was a part of our 35th anniversary celebration and the fundraiser's Presenting Sponsor was local custom home builder, Bercher Homes. The concert is now our affiliate's signature annual event to continue raising awareness and funds to support our mission.



Presenting Sponsor



Habitat Hero Sponsors

Gieryn Family Foundation Young Contracting Foundation Anonymous Sponsor

Hope Giver Sponsors



The
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School



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Anonymous Sponsor

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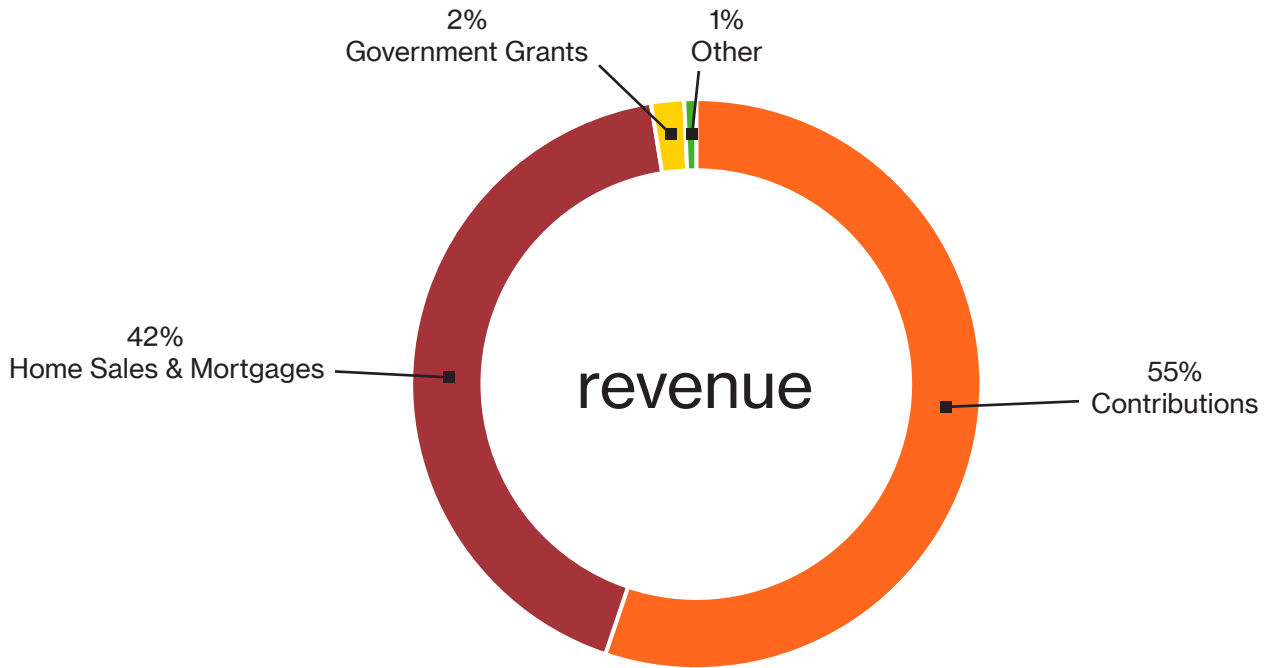
 **995**
VOLUNTEERS



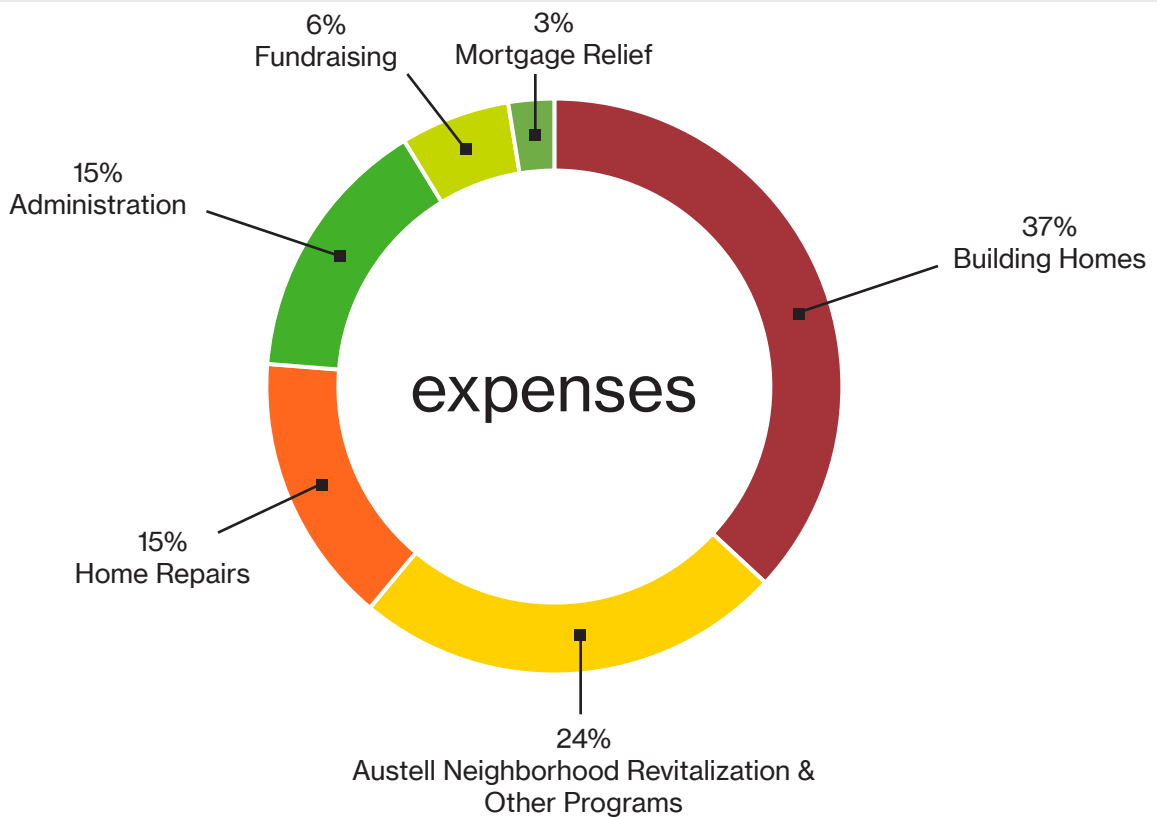
financial information

Revenue	\$2,135,468
Contributions	\$1,178,055.00
Home Sales and Mortgages	\$903,034.00
Government Grants	\$39,933.00
Other	\$14,446.00
Expenses	\$1,971,048
Building Homes	\$727,647.00
Austell Neighborhood Revitalization & Other Programs	\$475,882.75
Home Repairs	\$299,478.66
Administration	\$296,006.00
Fundraising	\$121,360.00
Mortgage Relief	\$50,673.59





All contributions fund home building and home repairs!
(unless otherwise specified by the donor)



Based on our Form 990 (2020).

sponsors

\$100,000+

Atlanta Regional Commission

Berkadia

Cobb Catholic Coalition

Catholic Church of St. Ann

Holy Family Catholic Church

St. Catherine of Siena Roman Catholic Church

St. Clare of Assisi Catholic Church

St. Joseph Catholic Church

The Catholic Church of the Transfiguration

Cobb Interfaith Habitat Coalition

Bethany United Methodist Church

Covenant United Methodist Church

East Cobb Islamic Center

First Presbyterian Church of Marietta

Log Cabin Community Church of Vinings

McEachern Memorial United Methodist Church

Smyrna First United Methodist Church

St. Catherine's Episcopal Church

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

Temple Kol Emeth Synagogue

Unity North Church

West Cobb Islamic Center (Masjid Al-Furquan)

Atlanta West Carpets

Moore Colson CPAs & Advisors

Pinkerton & Laws Construction of Atlanta

Site Selection Solutions, Inc.

Textron

Truist Bank

Wells Fargo

Community Development Block Grant

Community HOME Investment Program*

J. Bulow Campbell Foundation*

The Home Depot Foundation*

\$10,000+

AXIS Capital

Bercher Homes

Citigroup

Cobb Community Foundation

Dale and Becky Bercher

Dr. Seymour L. and Elizabeth Halpern

Memorial Fund

Genuine Parts Company

Gieryn Family Foundation

Nissan

Publix Supermarkets Charities

Reliance Worldwide Corporation (RWC)

SelectCobb*

Walton Communities

Young Contracting Foundation

\$5,000+

Alayne and George Sertl

Alexander High School

Bennett Thrasher Foundation*

Cobb High School Coalition

Campbell High School

Hillgrove High School

Pope High School

Walton High School

Frances Hollis Brain Foundation*

KeyBank

London and Jerry Andes
Mary Elizabeth McLaughlin
S.A. White Oil Company
The Walker School

\$2,500+

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Cobb County Friendship Club
Cobb EMC Community Foundation*
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MNI Direct
NG Turf
Ply Gem Windows
Retro Roofers
Ring
Schneider Electric
Square D
Whirlpool
William A. Wills
Yale

you helped make homeownership affordable

\$317,200

median price of a single family home in metro Atlanta in 2021
(Source: National Association of Realtors)

\$188,000

median price of a Habitat NWMA home in 2021

*Grant funding

contributors

Organizations

Abbott Laboratories
Allstate
Amazon Smile Foundation
Ameriprise Financial
Antrading Corporation
Atlanta Regional Commission
Atlanta West Carpets, LLC
Bank of America
Benevity Fund Donation
Bennett Thrasher
Bercher Homes
Berkadia Commercial Mortgage, LLC
Bethany United Methodist Church
Brooks Built Homes, LLC
Catholic Church of St. Ann
CCIC, Inc. (East Cobb Islamic Center)
Charities Aid Foundation Of America
Cisco
Cobb Community Foundation
Cobb County Friendship Club
Cobb EMC Community Foundation
East Cobb Lions Club Foundation
Elemica
Georgia Liquor Barn LLC
Greif, Inc.
Habitat for Humanity International
Hartley, Rowe & Fowler, PC
Hastings Family Trust

IBM Employee Services Center
Jeanette Lim Esbrook Fund
Knights of Columbus
Kroger Community Rewards
Lake Forest Builders, Inc.
Massage Chair Max, Inc.
Mauldin & Jenkins
Mcfarland Wine & Spirits
McLemore Family Fund
Meredith Corp
Modern Woodmen Of America
Mount Olivet United Methodist Church (Bruce Salley Class)
Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church
Novelis
Reliance Worldwide Corporation
RSI
Sherri Godwin & Co. Inc.
Sigman Bottle Shop
South Cobb Lions Club
Southern Lighting Source
St John Vianney Knights of Columbus
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Sunset Park Sunshine Committee
The Coca-Cola Company
The Growth Coach Of Metro Atlanta
The Home Depot Employee Giving
The Lutheran Coalition for

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Thomson Reuters
Thrivent Builds
TPI Integrated Services, Inc.
Truist Foundation
United Community Bank Foundation, Inc.
United Way Worldwide
Unity Church of Practical Christianity
Vetter Family Giving Fund
West United Methodist Church
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