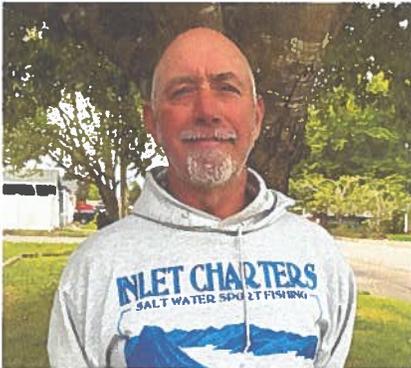


**NEW CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISOR**

After a long career owning his own construction company and a short stint at retirement, Jeff Council



was approached to become the Construction Supervisor for Newberg Area Habitat for Humanity. He was well qualified for the position since he started his construction business in 1978 and was a successful businessman for more than 40 years. When he decided to close his business, he was not ready for full retirement so he went to work for another company as a carpenter. Over the years, Jeff has had extensive experience with framing, siding, building decks on custom homes, doing finish work, and working on remodeling projects. When Doug Vondrachek needed to hang up his hammer with Habitat as the supervisor, he turned to his old friend, Jeff Council, as the perfect fit.

Jeff started with Habitat in January of 2024. He is currently supervising the home builds that are

being constructed on College Street close to the railroad tracks and the convenience store. As Jeff stated, “My role is to make sure as we build that we meet codes and standards. I deal with engineers and attorneys that are also assisting with the home.” Jeff is also quick to thank our community partners that help make these home projects possible. “Hampton Lumber donated all the lumber for one of the homes and that was a \$27,000 donation. Parr Lumber also gives Habitat a discount.”

There are specific construction tasks that are hired out to subcontractors like sheetrock, roofing, concrete, and carpeting. This leaves many other tasks that need to be completed by volunteers: framing, siding, setting windows, interior trim, setting cabinets, painting, handles/fixtures, and installing laminate. He stated that there is a dedicated group of volunteers that show up on the build days of Monday and Wednesday but “We are always looking for others that could volunteer even one day a week or one or two days a month.” On Saturdays, which are slated as community build days, the designated homeowners and different groups come to assist. Since there are three homes planned for this College Street site, Habitat would like to scale up their volunteer pool.

Jeff is firmly rooted in the Newberg community. He married his high school sweetheart, Terri, and

together they raised two children who are now adults in this community. In his free time he fishes, hikes, coaches a grandson’s baseball team, and loves spending time with his family. And we appreciate in these years that he could have fully retired to spend all his time with family, he instead accepted the job with Habitat and modeled the importance of its mission. “It is nice to build for someone who needs and works for their home. They are so excited to own a home after living in an apartment for close to 20 years. They understand this home will be theirs, and that makes all the difference.”

**Volunteer on the Build Crew or Repair Work For Healthy Homes**



**Mondays and/or Wednesdays  
9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.**

**For more information, contact us:**

**Email: [info@newberghabitat.org](mailto:info@newberghabitat.org)  
Phone: (503) - 537-9938**



**Habitat Office**  
620 N Morton Street  
Newberg, Oregon  
Monday - Friday  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
503-537-9938

**Habitat Staff**

Shannon Selah - Executive Director  
Libbie Bailey - Administrative Assistant  
Jeff Council - Construction Supervisor  
David Reeder - Healthy Homes Repair Manager

**ReStore Staff**

- ReStore Manager  
Joel Ricks - Assistant ReStore Manager

**Officers of the Board of Directors**

Norm Daviess - President  
Paula Kriz - Vice President  
Chandler Schur - Secretary  
Storr Nelson - Treasurer

## DAVID REEDER BECOMES HEALTHY HOMES SUPERVISOR

Habitat Area Newberg and Habitat McMinnville were fortunate to hire David Reeder when, after



reaching out to Forest Grove and finding their position had been filled, he contacted McMinnville Habitat.

David started volunteering for Habitat for Humanity in Yakima after leaving his position as a mental health professional. During those years he realized that building furniture and additions to homes was a passion so he made the leap of doing construction on high end custom homes. It was during these years that he also volunteered for Habitat, and this propelled him into accepting the Site Supervisor position in Yakima within a few years.

The Healthy Homes program in Newberg is funded by a grant from HUD. In fact, Newberg Area Habitat for Humanity was one of five affiliates chosen for this grant. Although McMinnville was not chosen for the same grant, they already had a program that helps citizens with home repairs. Both Newberg and McMinnville saw the need for a supervisor for these programs but each did not have enough funds to pay for a full position. Therefore, Executive Directors Katie Curry from McMinnville and Shannon Selah from Newberg, partnered together so David could work for both Habitat offices and serve citizens from both communities.

When David is called to a home to make repairs, he first start with an assessment that outlines the issues under the Eight Principles of a Healthy Home. As he states, “A lot of people don’t realize how unsafe their living home is. Usually the assessment takes about one and a half hours. I want to get to know the homeowner, their concerns, and ask permission to walk around taking pictures to gather information with them. Then I have to prioritize.”

There are three homes being assessed currently. One needs work primarily on the outside, another the thermostat is not working and the air flow needs attention, and the last has mold, window issues and needs other repairs. There is a limit of around \$10,000 per home. After the assessment, David will need to develop the scope of the work to be completed and what is most important. There will be subcontractors brought in for some work and Newberg is hoping to encourage volunteers to help as well. As David stated, “Volunteer opportunities with Healthy Homes are repair work. It is not on a weekly schedule. People can volunteer on their availability.”

David and his wife moved from Washington to be closer to family and his grandson. He rides his sports touring bike, plans backroad trips with friends, and spends quality time with his family on his off hours. As he said, “I am a native Oregonian. I was born in Medford and this is like returning home.”

When visiting with David, it is easy to learn he has a passion of helping others. This position is a calling to him. “I love working with families and also teaching volunteers about construction. I want to make sure people have a positive experience with Habitat. I also want those who volunteer to feel like they have made a difference and they are appreciated so

they come back again. That’s what I experienced.”

### The Eight Principles of a Healthy Home

1. Keep it dry.
2. Keep it clean
3. Keep it safe
4. Keep it well ventilated
5. Keep it pest-free
6. Keep it contaminate-free
7. Keep it well maintained
8. Keep it thermally controlled



### Application and Selection Timeline For Next Home To Break Ground

June 17 - 21

Home Visits for Family Finalists

June 24 - 28

Recommend Family to the Board



## MORALES FAMILY WORKS HARD FOR THEIR SUCCESS

After moving their family a few times, their sixth grade son voiced that he did not want to move again. Considering the well-being of their four young children, Claudia and Calixto Morales decided to move back to Newberg to be close to family. "Family was our number one priority."

Since homes were so expensive, they lived with his mother and other family members which became a total of 14 people. With four children and Claudia a stay at home mom, it became evident that they needed another plan. They decided to apply for a home through Newberg Area Habitat for Humanity. Calixto remembers, "It was a struggle. We had concerns about the application, and I was not going to get my hopes up." They recall the family visit and how more and more family members kept entering the house. When they were notified that they were the family chosen to receive the next Habitat home, they just couldn't believe it.

Both Claudia and Calixto worked far more than their 500 sweat equity hours. Claudia remembers working at the ReStore and also building a deck for a church in Sherwood. They were thankful to

relatives and George Fox volunteers who also helped them build their house. Calixto realized he could ask questions, offer his ideas and then use his skills as a carpenter to realize his dream. He fabricated the countertops, roofed the house, and built all the cabinets for the kitchen, bathrooms, and laundry room with help from his Amcraft employer. He also laid all the floors throughout the house.

The benefits of a Habitat Home were felt by the entire family as soon as they moved in. "All the kids had their own space. We weren't sharing with relatives, and we were here as a family. My kids could get involved in sports and activities. And, boy, they got involved!" Claudia stated. Calixto added, "I saw the change in the attitude of my kids. Since this was our house, our kids could invite their friends over."

The Habitat for Humanity application asked for lots of different information in the application. That did worry the family but after being part of the process, Calixto realized that the Home Selection Committee wanted to award the home to the most deserving family who applied. "My

advice, just apply, and complete the paperwork. Ask questions along the way." "I also appreciated the financial class that Habitat required me to take. That gave me the information I needed when owning a house," said Claudia. Calixto added, "Owning a house gives you discipline. You begin teaching your kids to treat it nicely. You develop more respect for yourself and for your home."

They continue to give back to the community. Calixto has helped people within the community roof homes when asked. Claudia works for the school district and helps high school students realize their goal of finishing high school. Lucky for Newberg Area Habitat, Claudia will join the staff this summer as she fills the roles of Volunteer Coordinator, Social Media Specialist, and translator.

They are both extremely grateful for the change that owning a home has made in their lives. "It has helped us focus on our kids. They are settled, and I can focus on what my kids need to be successful." One of those successes they celebrated together was when their second son



- ReStore Manager Needed**
- 32 Hours Per Week
  - In Store Hours - Thursday through Saturday 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
  - Other Hours flexible during the week
  - Looking for an individual:
    - Who understands inventory management
    - Who is willing to manage volunteers and staff
    - Who embodies the mission of Habitat
  - Applications Open Until July 5

If interested please contact **Shannon Selah**, Executive Director,  
at 503-537-9938, Newberg Area Habitat Office



**Habitat ReStore**  
801 N. Meridian Street  
Newberg, Oregon  
(971)-832-8153  
Thursday, Friday, Saturday  
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM