Newberg Area Habitat for Humanity® Vol 1. Issue 8 **Newberg Area**

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A World Where Everyone Has A Decent Place To Live

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AMERICORPS PARTNERS WITH NEWBERG AREA **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

Newberg Area Habitat for Humanity (NAHFH) has posted and is actively seeking individuals who are interested in serving with Habitat AmeriCorps to fill two new positions: Community Outreach Coordinator -National, and Volunteer Services Development VISTA. Both positions are advertised as ten and a half months (101/2) service opportunities with the focus on strengthening the volunteer commitment in the local community. Both positions are made possible through the partnership between AmeriCorps and Habitat for Humanity International.

The Community Outreach Coordinator will work closely with volunteers with the Newberg affiliate. This member will provide outreach to different community agencies in order partner and recruit needed to volunteers. This person will be responsible to engage and enroll 50 new volunteers to fulfill NAHFH's goal of building four homes per year by the end of 2026. Another task under this position will be brand management and working on digital platforms for marketing purposes.

The Volunteer Services Development VISTA will research the current volunteer manuals and training documents for NAHFH. After research, this member will evaluate the gaps and identify best practices. They will create a new volunteer manual and training model and then implement that volunteer program assessing its sustainability moving

forward. This member will work with the affiliate and also strengthen the community partnerships in the entire service area.

Both Habitat AmeriCorps positions are currently posted and



accepting applications. Might you or an individual you know be interested? Initially, anyone interested will need to register through Habitat AmeriCorps. What characteristics are needed to be a good fit? The applicant must be a person with a passion for service and a commitment to others, must have an interest in community building, must be a US citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident who is 18 years or older, and must possess a high school diploma or GED.

AmeriCorps is a federal agency that connects individuals with community organizations throughout the United States. Its particular goal is to grow the national movement that fuels the work done by individuals to

strengthen community service and development. There are many different categories which individuals serve AmeriCorps: can through economic opportunity, disaster response,, education, environmental

stewardship, healthy futures, and veterans and military families. The partnership between AmeriCorps and Habitat narrows that focus to serving in the field, assisting with building projects and/or engaging the community.

As an AmeriCorps member you can be part of raising awareness of social issues. learn skills that can be a foundation for future iobs. strengthen community for families though service. and

gain valuable hands-on management experience. The members are given a living allowance, an education grant once the year commitment is completed, and other stipends depending on the affiliate and its location. Interested and need further information? Contact the Newberg Area Habitat for Humanity office at the number below or visit https://www.habitat.org/volunteer/long -term-opportunities/americorps to read more information and find the formal postings for each position.



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 Miche McCausey- Construction Supervisor David Reeder - Healthy Homes Repair Manager

ReStore Staff

Jerome Spencer - ReStore Manager Joel Ricks - Assistant ReStore Manager **Officers of the Board of Directors**

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VALUED RESTORE VOLUNTEER WORKS BEHIND THE SCENES TO BUILD COMMUNITY

After a long career working with children and families, Janette Williams knew her service was not done. She had been a voice for so

many children working at Head Start, Child Welfare, and then for the Developmentally Disability System. Her role meant that she had to be front and center as an advocate and her experiences put her in situations where she needed to be the vocal leader in the room to make sure services were offered when and where needed. As she said, "I can talk to people. That is what I did all through my career. I wanted to continue helping without having to be the person doing the talking." Janette knew she

wanted to work for Habitat for Humanity as part of her retirement. She was just looking for the right fit before jumping in. By chance she heard that the McMinnville Habitat had a person working the back room of the Mac ReStore. They sorted and marked items and rarely worked out front. That was exactly the position she was hoping to find. Janette filled out a volunteer form for Newberg Area Habitat for Humanity (NAHFH) and specifically told them that she wanted to work in the back room sorting, cleaning items, and pricing. NAHFH was thrilled because that is exactly what they needed!

Janette's roots run deep when it comes to volunteering and service. She started a food co-op when she had kids of her own and then later in life volunteered at the food bank. Her mantra, whether as a mother, an employee, or a citizen, has always centered around working for the public and fostering community service. "It is important to give back to the community. You need to get outside of yourself and give time. You might even find out that it is fun."

Jimmy Carter became a role model for Janette. "He modeled something that I believe in. We are working to make a stronger community. The fact that we are taking donated items and reusing and then putting that money to build houses for those that don't have houses. That philosophy of Habitat is why I am here every week." Her dedication to that ideal keeps her



committed to working at Habitat ReStore at least 16 hours for about 45 weeks throughout the year.

Where can you find her on the weeks that she is not at the ReStore? In the spring she travels to Phoenix for spring baseball and has for about the last 10 - 12 years. Also during the spring and summer, she travels and enjoys exploring different waterways with her kayak. If she is at home, she works in her garden. After her respite, she then can be found right back at Newberg ReStore making sure items are priced and ready for the next display.

Janette has been active at NAHFH for the past six years. She works an eight-hour shift on both Thursdays and Saturdays. Her main focus is the ReStore, and she is also an active member of the Family Selection Committee. "Volunteering at Habitat makes you feel good about your community and it makes you feel good every time you do it."

Although she says she mostly does sorting and pricing, on the day we met, she was also directing four George Fox students who were also volunteering. Her experience of mentoring students was evident as she directed them to their next tasks. As the students set to work. Janette walked to the back room and then checked in with another volunteer while starting her task of sorting garden tools that had been a donation. Janette has been instrumental in helping her community with her volunteerism, but what became most evident was Janette is key in building family within the community of employees servicing at Newberg Habitat ReStore.



Social Goods Market and Ben Rice PDX Hustle

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

