



Chemung County  
**Habitat**  
for Humanity®

OCTOBER 2019

# THE BLUEPRINT NEWSLETTER

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Sylvie E. Farr

**Board of Directors:**

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## Annual Appeal launches in November

Now is the time to support your community through a dynamic non-profit right here in your own neighborhood—Chemung County Habitat for Humanity (CCHFH).

Our Annual Appeal fundraising efforts will kick off in November with an online and direct mail campaign to donors, volunteers, and local businesses.

This past year, we helped three Chemung County families achieve homeownership, and we currently have four additional families awaiting a Habitat home. We're asking everyone to get involved to help us finish at least two additional homes in 2020.

At Habitat for Humanity, we know that a family should never have to spend more than 30 percent of their income on a home. But consider that today 1 in 5 New York households pay half or more of their income on a place to live. That is unacceptable.

That means 1 in 5 families are denied the personal and economic stability that safe, decent and affordable housing provides. Instead, 1 in 5 families are forced to make impossible choices. Safe homes. Nutritious food on the table. Health care. Access to good schools. Reliable transportation. Which would you choose?

This year, CCHFH set its Annual Appeal goal at \$10,000 to help us carry out our mission of building homes, communities and hope. Please help us make that possible. Help us make the cost of home something we all can afford.

**TO DONATE:**

Mail check payable to Chemung County  
Habitat for Humanity  
PO Box 3110, Elmira, NY 14905  
or give online at our website  
<https://chemungcountyhabitat.org/donate>

## Vulcraft donates utility trailer to CCHFH



Chris Gibbs presents Sylvie Farr and Sean Mathers with a donated trailer from Vulcraft of New York, Inc.

Our construction manager, Sean Mathers, met Chris Gibbs, Quality Assurance Supervisor at Vulcraft of New York, Inc., through volunteers at one of our build sites. Sean happened to mention the need for a utility trailer to haul tools and supplies, and Chris made it happen. Vulcraft, a local manufacturer of steel joists and girders, had a trailer they were no longer using, so they decided to donate it to Habitat.

"I'm very happy that Sean and I crossed paths, and we were able to help," said Chris. "It is important to me and my company that we have a positive impact on our local community."

THANK YOU, Vulcraft, for your generosity and spirit of giving.

# Thrivent and volunteers help Habitat “Build on Faith”



At left: Volunteers at Linear Park landscaped the Japanese garden and cleaned up the park.

Below: Volunteers helped build a shed at a Habitat home.



We reached out to Chemung County residents and the faith community to recruit more than 50 volunteers for BUILDING ON FAITH 2019. This annual community event is a partnership effort between Thrivent and Chemung County Habitat for Humanity (CCHFH) to address housing issues.

Volunteers joined us on two days for two different projects. On Friday, September 13, an industrious group built a storage shed at one of the Habitat properties in need of storage space. The property did not come with a garage or basement, so the Habitat homeowners now have some extra space.

On Saturday, September 14, a large group gathered at Linear Park to revitalize the Japanese Garden installed several years ago to commemorate the Horseheads’ relationship with their sister city in Japan.

“The timing could not be better, said Nathan Nagle, Village Manager, Village of Horseheads. “Our sister-city partners will be visiting us during the last week in October.”

Volunteers did an incredible job of bringing that area back to life. Progress was also made on trimming hedges and weeding along a section of the park pathway that we weren’t able to finish during Building on Faith last year.

Several local residents stopped by to admire the work and offer their gratitude for sprucing up the neighborhood.

“It’s exciting to watch friends and families work together as one community on a project where the accomplishment can be measured at the end of the day,” said Nagle. “We thank Habitat for Humanity, its staff and volunteers for two successful project seasons.”

CCHFH would like to thank the following local businesses for their participation and support of this year’s Building on Faith:

- Coca Cola**
- Dandy Mini Mart**
- J&B’s Bulldog Café**
- CFJP Bistro**
- SignCrafters**



## The E.D.’s Corner

By Sylvie E. Farr, Executive Director

With the season of thankfulness upon us, I have been reflecting on the many things I am thankful for...

- My staff who show commitment to Habitat’s mission every day in not only carrying out their jobs, but going above and beyond to make things happen,
- Dedicated volunteers who give us their time and talents,
- Donors, sponsors, and grantors who support our mission, and
- CCHFH’s Board of Directors who are committed to making this a successful organization.

Happy Thanksgiving!

*Sylvie*



# We Volunteers



First Pres. Church of Elmira—April 15



Travelers Insurance—September 25



Corning, Inc., United Way Day of Action—June 21



Five Star Bank—June 18



Travelers Insurance—Sept 11



Corning TPE—September 30

Pictured here are some of the many volunteer groups and individuals who put their hearts and hands to work at Habitat homes this year. Hundreds of hours were put in at our build sites to help make Habitat homes affordable for our partner families. We couldn't make this happen without so many people willing to give their time and talents to Habitat for Humanity. THANK YOU!

# Chemung County Habitat for Humanity to participate in first Finger Lakes Day of Giving

FLXGives is a fun and exciting 24-hour online giving day on November 15, 2019, organized to help connect donors with nonprofits in the Finger Lakes Region. FLXGives celebrates the joy and love of giving by encouraging gifts of any size from seasoned philanthropists to people who have never made a donation before.

Chemung County Habitat, along with other area non-profits, is registered to receive gifts during one single day of philanthropy. Find our FLXGives donation page online at: <https://www.flxgives.org/organizations/chemung-county-habitat-for-humanity>

every gift  
makes a difference.

## *A Message from the President*

By Christine K. Snyder



### **Becoming a Homeowner**

I became a member of the Chemung Habitat for Humanity Board because I firmly believe that everyone deserves a decent place to live.

When families partner with Chemung County Habitat for Humanity they are given the opportunity to start down a new path.....a path to home ownership. Affordable housing opens the door to a new beginning for qualified families.

To qualify, a partner family must be active participants in building a better home and future for themselves and their families. They must also demonstrate a need for safe affordable housing. Once selected, they must partner with Chemung Habitat for Humanity throughout the entire process as well as being able and willing to pay for an affordable mortgage.

Please contact the Chemung County Habitat for Humanity today to see if your household qualifies to be one of our next homeowners.

# HOW YOU CAN HELP BUILD HOPE

### **DONATE**

No gift is too small.

Ask us how you can sign up for recurring monthly gifts of \$5 or more.

To donate online:

[www.chemungcountyhabitat.org/donate](http://www.chemungcountyhabitat.org/donate)

or mail a check to:

Chemung County  
Habitat for Humanity  
PO Box 3110  
Elmira, NY 14905.

### **VOLUNTEER**

Lend a hand at one of our home build sites. All skill levels welcome. Individuals or groups can sign up by calling our office at: (607) 734-1361 or visit [www.chemungcountyhabitat.org/volunteer](http://www.chemungcountyhabitat.org/volunteer)

### **REFER A FAMILY**

If you know a family that might benefit from our homeownership program, send them our way... [www.chemungcountyhabitat.org/homeownership](http://www.chemungcountyhabitat.org/homeownership)