



Chemung County
Habitat
for Humanity®

OCTOBER 2020

THE BLUEPRINT NEWSLETTER

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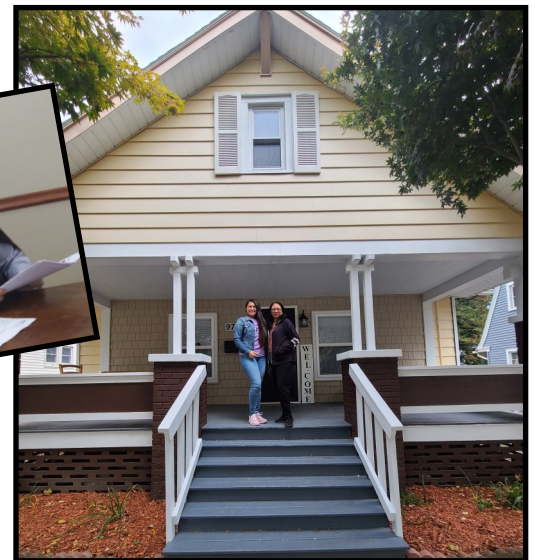
Website:

chemungcountyhabitat.org

Another local Habitat house completed; another family achieves homeownership

We're excited to announce the Zamora family recently moved into their Habitat house in Elmira. Zamantha and her mother put in hundreds of hours of "sweat equity" during the construction process, and they said it was worth every nail hammered and every wall painted. "This has been a life-changing experience for me and my family," Zamantha said. "We are so grateful to Habitat and all the volunteers who helped us build this house."

It truly takes a community to make the dream of homeownership a reality, including volunteers offering their time and talents, individuals and organizations donating money, and local businesses donating or discounting construction materials. Together, we build strength, stability and



Above: The Zamora Family stands on the steps of their new Habitat home. Inset: Zamantha signs closing documents to purchase her Habitat home. Congratulations!

self-reliance through safe and affordable housing.

To hear Zamantha talk about her journey toward homeownership with Chemung County Habitat, go to www.chemungcountyhabitat.org/the-zamora-family/



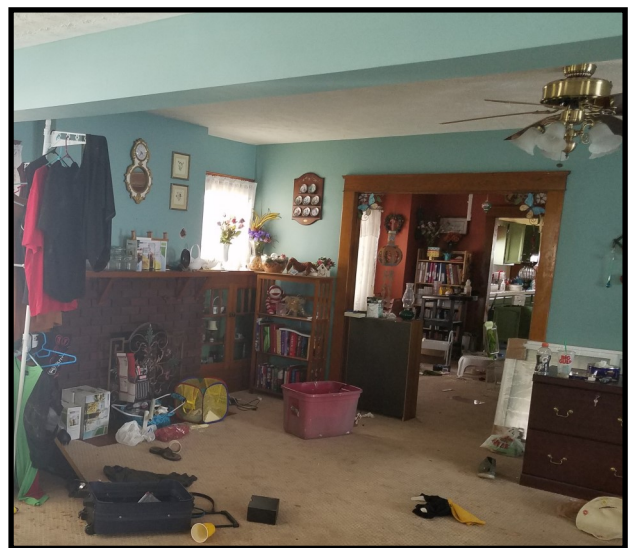
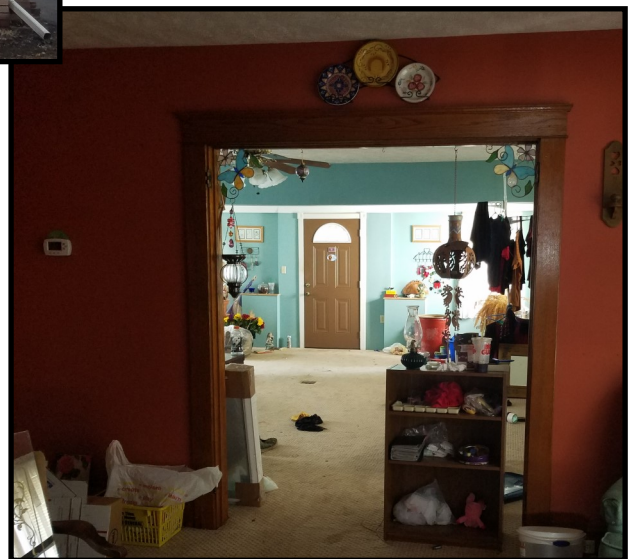
every door
opens up new opportunity.

FAMILIES who partner with us build their own homes alongside volunteers, pay an affordable mortgage and are grateful for your help.

A Habitat house



The photos at left show the transformation of the front of the house from an enclosed room (inset) back to the original open porch concept, similar to the style of other porches in the neighborhood. Below is the kitchen, dining room and living room before remodeling shown on next page.



becomes a home...



Before and after photos of a Habitat house recently completed in Elmira. A local family moved in last month after partnering with CCHFH.



Working through the pandemic

Now more than ever, habitat for Humanity's work is critical. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we continue to work tirelessly toward our vision of a world where everyone has a decent place to live while taking the following precautions.

For the safety of our dedicated volunteers and staff, we continue to limit the number of volunteers at our home build sites and the office is closed to the public. Currently we allow one or two skilled volunteers each day to work with our construction manager while social distancing, so thanks to them, progress on the next Habitat home continues slow but steady. We look

forward to a time when volunteer groups can help us build homes, communities and hope once again.

While the office is closed to the public, staff continue to serve clients during regular business hours from home. Several families have turned in applications over the past few months, and meetings are conducted by phone or online.

The first virtual Homeownership Orientation is scheduled for Wednesday, October 14 at 11 a.m. Anyone interested in registering may email or call Sheila@chemungcountyhabitat.org or (607) 734-1361.



Annual Appeal letter mailing soon; Why donate to Habitat?

When you see our appeal letter in your mailbox next month, consider giving to Habitat for Humanity, because affordable housing truly makes a difference:

[Housing can powerfully affect a child's ability to thrive.](#)

Studies show that kids who live in safe, affordable homes are healthier, happier and do better in school.

[Lower housing costs mean people can invest more in education.](#)

In 2015, researchers found that almost two-thirds of Habitat homeowners with children in Minnesota felt more confident about their ability to fund college for their kids.

[A safe place to live can have a significant impact on a family's health.](#)

According to the World Health Organization, families without decent housing face greater personal and environmental risks, are less nourished and have less access to health care.

[Habitat's work has long-term effects on family's economic opportunities.](#)

Habitat homeowners report they are better able to pay bills on time, build savings and invest in education and small businesses

HOW YOU CAN HELP

DONATE

No gift is too small. Your contribution goes a long way toward helping local low-income families achieve affordable housing. Ask us how you can sign up for recurring monthly gifts of \$5 or more. Thank you.

To donate online:

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

For more information on how you can be a part of our mission to build homes, communities and hope, visit our website at: www.Chemungcountyhabitat.org



Did you know when you shop Amazon they will donate to Chemung County Habitat without costing you a penny?

Just go to **Smile.Amazon.com** and use your normal Amazon login. Then select us from their list of approved non-profit organizations.

It's easy, and every time you shop Amazon will donate to CCHFH.

Give it a try! Thank you.