



## Brookings Area Habitat for Humanity Request for Support

### Overview

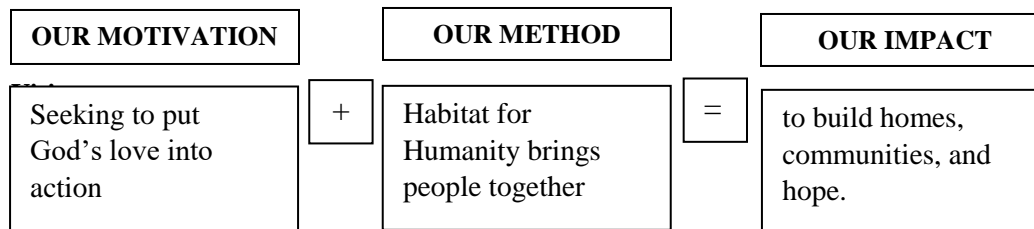
Let's build impact together.

The need for affordable housing never has been more urgent. The COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare what we have known for many years: decent housing is essential for all families.

One in 11 of South Dakota's families are paying more than half their income for housing; in Brookings, that means 800 of our neighbors. Additionally, over 2,500 families are paying in excess of 30% of their gross monthly income for housing. *That should be socially, politically and morally unacceptable.*

We must do more. We must do it faster. We must do it with more impact, and we must work with others to expand our reach and depth. Our methods will vary, but all of effort must drive us closer to the day when everyone has a decent place to live.

### Our Mission



### Our Vision

A world where everyone has a decent place to live.

### Our Principles

1. Demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ
2. Focus on shelter
3. Advocate for affordable housing
4. Promote dignity and hope
5. Support sustainable and transformational development

Motivated by the belief that each of us is called to act justly, love mercifully and walk humbly with our God, we seek to be a partner and catalyst in building communities where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

We believe that no one lives in dignity until everyone lives in dignity. When the broad community is engaged in addressing the urgent need for adequate, affordable shelter, we all become less vulnerable and more resilient. In bringing people together, we practice a philosophy of "a hand up, not a hand out," and build on existing community assets: financial, physical, natural, human, social, and spiritual.

In seeking truly transformed communities, we view bringing people together not only as a way to deliver a product – improved housing – but as an essential process for building hope and the belief that healthier communities are achievable and beneficial for all. When we work together, statistics become faces with names, stereotypes are broken, and everyone has the opportunity both to give and receive.

*Our mission, vision and principles are central to our theory of personal and community change.* We view our work as successful when lives are transformed and when positive and lasting social, economic and spiritual change is promoted within a community. Authentic transformation changes the lives of all who participate: those who need housing, volunteers, advocates, donors and, development practitioners.

*Housing as both a process and a product is necessary to create lasting family and community impact.* Housing as a product improves household health and well-being, leading to increased time on the job and in school, and thus contributing to family income and education, both essential to breaking the cycle of poverty. Housing as a process focuses on building community cohesion that in turn can lead to systemic change, more broadly reducing vulnerability to the cycle of poverty.

## **Opportunities for Support**

We are humbly asking for the City of Brookings to allocate \$110,000 to support our work.

This investment will return dividends in perpetuity and have immediate effect on one family who will move into their home before 8/1/2024.

Since our founding we have partnered with families over 80 families in Brookings, Brookings County, Madison and Lake County. Our work in Brookings includes the removal of four blighted properties, 924 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, 723 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, 311 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and a twin home on what use to be 919 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Three families are now living where blight existed before, and two more families will soon be moving into their very own homes.

Our work involves the creation of Pactola Cove where 15 families live within walking distance of the Camelot school and we have just begun on our largest project, River Run.

This investment will be turned into mortgages that families will repay. Those mortgage payments will be turned into new mortgages that will be invested into even more families who will, in turn repay their mortgages making it possible for even for families to live in safe and durable shelter.

Should you have questions, please contact:

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