



Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity  
2800 N. Hampton Rd  
Dallas, TX 75212

Dear Volunteers:

Thanks for volunteering with Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity! We look forward to working with you as we continue to build a community of hope, dignity, and self-worth through the construction of quality homes, family nurturing, and education.

**Please read this entire packet. It contains important information to make your day on site great! You'll need to bring the included release form filled out with you on your volunteer day!**

Your willingness to help others help themselves is true compassion demonstrated in service. I am here to make your experience as meaningful as possible, so if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. On behalf of our families, thanks again for your dedication to such a worthwhile cause!

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Knoeber  
Director of Volunteer Services

### **Age Restrictions**

Under 14: Not allowed on the site at all during the construction process and will be asked to leave.

14 & 15: Can help with landscaping and clean up on the last day of the build. **We require one adult over 21 per EACH youth in this age bracket.**

16 & 17: Can help with construction, but not operate power tools or get on the roof. **We require one adult over 21 per FIVE youth in this age bracket.**

**RELEASE FROM LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT**

I, (please print) \_\_\_\_\_, acknowledge that I have volunteered to participate without pay on the construction site and in other activities with the Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity, Dallas Texas. I understand that these activities are not conducted in the course of trade or commerce and do not involve the lease or sale of goods or services.

I am aware that construction is a HAZARDOUS ACTIVITY. I am voluntarily participating in the activities of construction, which include but are not limited to, the construction of residential buildings, loading and unloading materials, painting, finishing, framing, transporting to and from building sites and other related activities with the knowledge of the danger involved and with the knowledge that medical facilities may not be available in the event of illness or injury to myself. I hereby agree to accept any and all risk of injury, illness, or death and verify this statement by placing my signature below.

As consideration for being permitted by Dallas Habitat for Humanity to participate in the activities and use their tools and facilities, I hereby agree that I, my assignees, heirs, distributees, guardians and legal representatives will not make a claim against, sue, or touch the property of Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity or Administaff Companies, Inc. and their directors, officers, agents, employees, volunteers, suppliers, contractors, or subcontractors for injury, illness or damage resulting from my participation in Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity activity. I HEREBY RELEASE DALLAS AREA HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AND ADMINISTAFF COMPANIES, INC. FROM ALL ACTIONS, CLAIMS OR DEMANDS THAT I, OR MY REPRESENTATIVES, NOW HAVE, OR MAY HEREAFTER HAVE, FOR INJURY, DEATH, OR DAMAGE RESULTING FROM MY PARTICIPATION IN DALLAS AREA HABITAT FOR HUMANITY ACTIVITIES INCLUDING ACTIONS, CLAIMS, OR DEMANDS RESULTING IN WHOLE OR IN PART FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF DALLAS AREA HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, ADMINISTAFF, OR THEIR DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, AGENTS EMPLOYEES, SUPPLIERS OR CONTRACTORS. THIS RELEASE IS INTENDED BY BOTH PARTIES TO BE BROAD IN ITS EFFECT.

I further understand Administaff is an offsite staff leasing services company that is in no way responsible for my actions or the actions of the agents or employees of Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity. I understand that Administaff has no duties or obligations to provide or implement any safety policy or safety training to the volunteers, including myself, for participation in construction site projects for Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity.

I have carefully read this release from Liability and Assumption of Risk Agreement and I fully understand its contents. I am aware that this is a release of liability and a legal contract between me, Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity, and Administaff Companies, Inc. and that it affects my legal rights. I am signing this document of my own free will.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Participant Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Print Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Emergency Contact Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**E-mail Address**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Emergency Contact Phone**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Address**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of parent or Guardian  
if volunteer is under 18**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**City, State, Zip**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Organization**

**Please SIGN your name on the first line and PRINT all other information. Please fill out this form completely. Thank you!**

Dallas Area Habitat surveys volunteers via e-mail. If you prefer not to receive these e-mails, please contact Faith Cohen at [fcohen@dallas-habitat.org](mailto:fcohen@dallas-habitat.org) or Jennifer Knoeber at [jknoeber@dallas-habitat.org](mailto:jknoeber@dallas-habitat.org).



## Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity Fact Sheet

### Mission Statement

Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity, an ecumenical housing ministry in partnership with families, volunteers and others, builds communities of hope, dignity, and self-worth through the construction of quality, affordable housing and the nurture of decent, safe neighborhoods. Our goal is to eradicate substandard low-income housing in Dallas County.

### General Information

Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity is a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization founded in 1985. It is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, founded in 1976 to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness worldwide and make decent shelter a matter of faith and works.

Today, Dallas Area Habitat is the seventh largest homebuilder in Dallas and ranks sixth in homebuilding among U.S. Habitat for Humanity affiliates. Dallas Area Habitat has built nearly 600 homes, housing more than 1,700 people, in partnership with 10,000 volunteers as well as faith groups, civic organizations, corporations and foundations. In 2007, we will build 70 homes.

### How It Works

Using volunteer labor and donations of money and materials, Habitat builds simple, decent homes, working hand-in-hand with low-income homebuyers we know as partner families. Habitat homes are sold with no profit added to the sale price and no interest charged on the mortgage.

Habitat is not a give-away program. Families must qualify for our program. First, the family must have the *need* for a home, the *ability* to pay for a home, and the *willingness* to participate in our program. The families must be permanent residents of the United States, have good or no credit history, and have proof of steady income for the past 2 years. Also, the family must earn between 25-50% of the median income of the area.

Partner families invest 400 hours of "sweat equity" in building their own home and homes of others. Then the families buy their houses and make monthly mortgage payments. These payments are put in our "Fund for Humanity," a revolving fund that helps build more houses.

### An Affordable Home

There is an overwhelming need for affordable housing Dallas. A 2002 report by the Mayor's Task Force on Affordable Housing cited a shortfall of more than 30,000 affordable housing units in Dallas. Failure to address the needs of lower income, working families "will jeopardize our current and future employment base and perpetuate the conditions of our most distressed neighborhoods," the report warned. The need for affordable housing is as diverse as Dallas' population, and no single solution can address it all. Nonetheless, scant opportunity for affordable home ownership is at the heart of Dallas' housing need.