# the builder \*\*\* Habitat for Humanity\*\*

Fall 2021

# **Build Hope Now**



For Zaid home meant a small, crowded basement apartment in terrible disrepair. He didn't have his own room, he shared a bedroom space with his parents and his little sister, Suri. It wasn't the home Zaid's parents wanted to provide for their children - it was what they could afford.

The first time Zaid walked into his new Habitat house on North 3rd Street, he said he felt like he was walking into a mansion. For the first time, both he and his sister have their own rooms, and Zaid's parents can finally provide their children with a safe, stable, affordable place to call home.

Zaid shared his personal journey with the crowd of 50 Habitat supporters at our recent Fall House Dedications on North 1st Street on October 2nd. House dedications are a favorite event among Paterson Habitat supporters when the culmination of the hard work and dedication of our homeowners, volunteers, staff, and donors results in the dream of homeownership being realized and a house becoming a home.

Holding back tears, with his little sister, Suri, by his side, Zaid thanked the Habitat community for putting forth such great effort into building his new home. For Zaid, the Habitat community is a beacon of light and hope for his family and the City of Paterson.

The four families whose homes we also dedicated that day shared the same sentiments as Zaid. Tanya's family, who hosted the dedication ceremony in their driveway, endured many trials and tribulations, health scares, and financial hardships. They faced an obstacle so many Paterson Habitat homeowner families face - the high cost of rent was stretching the family finances too thin. They asked themselves, "What are we going to do?". (Continued on pg 3)



## A New Day Dawns

On August 25th, Paterson Habitat family and friends joined together with the City of Passaic, Mayor Hector Lora, and members of VFW Post 10117 at 135 Summer Street in Passaic. It was a day of new beginnings and newfound hope. Hope not only for the four families who will have their dream of homeownership realized, but hope for the veterans and auxiliary of VFW Post 10117.

The demolition of the building has been completed, preparation for the new foundation is underway, and we are planning to open the doors on a brand-new two-story mixed-use building in the Fall of 2022. The ground floor will be the new home to VFW Post 10117. The hall will also serve as a meeting place for the community, ensuring the continuation of the VFW program which supports 67 veteran members, the largest in the state. The second floor will become home to four families. This project marks many firsts for us. It is our first mixed-use project in our 37-year history and our first solo project outside of Paterson.

We are proud to partner with the City of Passaic, Mayor Lora, the Albert Lawson Memorial VFW Post, and YOU. As we, together, not only bring hope to four families, but bring hope to the veterans and the families of VFW Post 10117 and the entire City of Passaic.

If you are interested in applying for one of these homeownership opportunities, please visit patersonhabitat.org/passaicproject.







## **A Note from Scott**

CEO, Paterson Habitat for Humanity

For all you master gardeners out there, you likely already knew that Fall, not Spring, is the best season to plant. For those of us, like me, who do not have anything remotely resembling even a shade of a green thumb, this may come as somewhat of a surprise. But it's true, according to Google at least, that Fall is a season of planting, and that is exactly what we are doing this Fall, we are planting. In our case, planting means foundations for new homes, and by the end of the Fall season we will have planted six foundations!

But, in order for these plantings to bloom come springtime, we need your help. Please partner with us to Build Hope Now for the six families who are eagerly waiting to turn these houses into homes during 2022. As we turn our attention to the holiday season and the end of 2021, we each have the opportunity to spread joy and help continue planting seeds of hope for these and so many more families in need of a safe, stable, affordable place to call home. Thank You!





(Continued from pg 1)

It's been a long road for Tanya and her husband Tedy. As she stood in the driveway of her very own home, Tanya proudly proclaimed to the crowd that her children are now homeowners and she could not feel more blessed and thankful.

These five homes would not be possible without the support of people like you, and your continued support will mean Paterson Habitat can continue to Build Hope for even more families like Zaid's and Tanya's.

Thank you to our home sponsors who helped us Build Hope for two of these 5 homes through their generous support of the 2019 Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit Program: Blue Foundry Bank, Kontos Foods Inc., Lakeland Bank, PSE&G Foundation, Provident Bank, Railroad Construction Company, Inc., Sealy, and Thomson Reuters.

You can watch the full video from our Fall House Dedications by visiting: youtube.com/patersonhabitat







# **Breaking Ground for Governor 5**

Earlier this month Paterson Habitat for Humanity began our year-end campaign, Build Hope Now, with a **goal to raise \$900,000 by December 31, 2021**. Build Hope Now will ensure we enter 2022 with a firm foundation and are able to continue to build homes, communities, and hope in Paterson, as well as our newest initiative to build affordable housing and a new home for the Albert Lawson Memorial VFW Post in partnership with the City of Passaic. Build Hope Now means by the end of 2022 ten families will no longer be forced to stay in unsafe, unhealthy, and unaffordable housing



situations. Build Hope Now means that ten families will be empowered to build a better life and a stronger future for themselves and their communities.

Five of these 10 families will realize their dream of homeownership come true on Governor Street in Paterson's 4th Ward. Paterson Habitat's Governor 5 endeavor broke ground on November 22nd, just three days before Thanksgiving. Once Governor 5 is completed five more families like Zaid's will have a decent place to call home and to build hope for their futures.

Your contribution provides families with safety, stability, and self-reliance through the HOPE of HOME. With supporters like you Build Hope Now is possible!

You can track our year-end campaign progress by visiting: patersonhabitat.org/buildhopenow







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### Legacies are what you leave behind

Gift planning is for those who wish to build a legacy—regardless of age or income.

Contrary to popular belief, gift planning can be simple to do and cost very little. Whether you are in your 30's, 90's, or anywhere in between, you can get started today.

#### Now is the time to take action

With year-end rapidly approaching, now is a good time to review and update your financial plans in light of any changes that may have occurred in your life. An effective plan can help your loved ones and make possible meaningful gifts to charitable interests you wish to support, such as Paterson Habitat for Humanity.

#### You can ensure your legacy and our future

Where to start your review:

- · Will or Trust Beneficiaries
- · Retirement Assets Beneficiaries
- · Life Insurance Beneficiaries
- Investment Assets
- · Real Estate

We can help! Please contact us today at (973) 595-6868 ext 106 or Phillip@patersonhabitat.org for a no obligation discussion on ways to plan your legacy.

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