



Habitat
for Humanity®
Northern Ireland

Winter 2017

Building Hope

Inside:

'House to Home'
in Belfast

ReStore builds
confidence

A better future
in Ethiopia

Welcome



Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter.

Change often begins small. Habitat began on a small farm in Southern Georgia which lived in radical Christian witness to the deeply segregated community around it. Habitat's mission, to

demonstrate the love of Christ by bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope, grew from that small place. Habitat began with one home and has served 10 million people.

Change begins with a single voice and gets stronger with more people who stand up, speak out and work together for change.

This newsletter shares some of the stories of change that your support makes possible. On p4-5 read how change is happening locally, from Habitat ReStore to our latest project with the Welcome Organisation.

Our partnership with Habitat Ethiopia continues to transform the future for many people in need, including families affected by disability. Read more on p6.

In a world where 1 in 4 people live in poverty housing, and where vulnerable communities are disproportionately affected by disaster, there is so much more to do.

When people like you fundraise, volunteer and pray, lives are changed. Read about some of the ways faithful supporters join us in mission to end poverty housing on p8-11.

Change can begin with you!

Together, let's help build a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

In partnership,

Jenny Williams

Jenny Williams,
Chief Executive

Front: Rohini (21), a Habitat beneficiary from India

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Above: Relief kits being distributed in communities worst-affected



Above: a community devastated by the flood, inside: relief kits being distributed.

South Asia floods response

More than 40 million people have been affected by recent severe floods in South Asia.

There is widespread destruction. Entire communities have been devastated. Homes have been destroyed and livelihoods shattered.

Habitat has been working in the region for more than 30 years. Our colleagues are on the ground in India, Nepal and Bangladesh, in the worst-affected communities, getting help to those who need it most.

In India, our response includes distributing 15,000 relief kits with essential items such as tarpaulin, rope, mosquito nets and water purifiers. We are helping communities to clean up so families can return home as quickly as possible.

In the long-term, we'll support families to rebuild homes and livelihoods and increase their resilience to future disasters.

To donate to the Emergency Appeal visit habitatni.co.uk

Dev (40) lost his home in the recent Nepal flood but thankfully his shop, his only source of income, is still standing. A relief kit from Habitat has helped turn his small shop into a makeshift shelter for his family. "The tarpaulin sheet has given us a temporary roof over our heads and relief during the natural disaster," he said.



Dev with the relief kit



Raymond with ReStore Lisburn Manager, Niall



House to Home

We are excited to deepen our partnership with the Welcome Organisation to support some of the most vulnerable people in our community.

During the summer we launched the 'House to Home' initiative. Welcome already provide long-term support for vulnerable people as they seek to sustain tenancies. We add extra construction support, and work alongside volunteers, make a house a place for a fresh start.

Our volunteers are from all backgrounds. As they work together onsite, barriers are broken down between different communities and they gain a better

understanding of some of the challenges the most vulnerable face. Volunteers do not need special skills to take part as our construction supervisors, Danny and Rab, are onsite to keep everyone right.

"Habitat's work everywhere is an opportunity to put faith into action. Sometimes we don't know how best to help but this very special project is supporting some of the most vulnerable people in our community. There is work for everybody and plenty of laughs onsite too, so get involved," said Rab.

We will be working on a number of properties over the coming months and need volunteers to get involved. Email info@habitatni.co.uk or visit habitatni.co.uk for more information.

Gaining confidence

Every week, almost 100 volunteers of all backgrounds and abilities help out in our Habitat ReStores.

Raymond Ross has been volunteering in our Lisburn store for 4 months. After being diagnosed with severe anxiety and depression, his councillor suggested he start volunteering.

"At ReStore, it's just like a big family. I've seen such a massive change in myself since I've been here. I've gained so much confidence. I would never have been able to talk to strangers or knock on someone's front door for a donation collection. Overcoming my depression is a long journey but ReStore has directed me down the right path."



Our ReStore in Ballymena has launched a new partnership with Mid and East Antrim Borough Council's Recycling Centres. Reusable DIY materials that come into the Centres are being donated to ReStore.

We are excited to work with the Council to divert tons of quality, reusable materials from landfill while providing local families with low-cost materials to improve their homes at a price they can afford.

Pictured above is our ReStore Ballymena Manager, Isobel, with the Mayor and Sinead, Council employee and Habitat volunteer.



Above and top: volunteers working onsite

SHOP • DONATE • VOLUNTEER

Lisburn: Riverside Centre, Young Street
Tel: 028 92 635 642
[Facebook.com/HabitatReStoreLisburn](https://www.facebook.com/HabitatReStoreLisburn)

Ballymena: Larne Road
Tel: 028 25 653 243
[Facebook.com/HabitatReStoreBallymena](https://www.facebook.com/HabitatReStoreBallymena)

A better future

In 2017, international volunteer teams were unable to travel to Ethiopia due to anti-government demonstrations and unrest. However, Habitat Ethiopia has continued to serve families in need, including Ewayay's.

Life is tough for Ewayay (50) who lives in Fitcha with her husband Kiros (60) and five children. Kiros has a physical disability and three of the children also have disabilities.

Home for the family used to be a deteriorated old house with a broken wall and unsanitary floor. The children were often sick due to their living conditions. The family's only income was the small amount Kiros earned from begging. It was a constant struggle to pay the rent of \$3 per month and avoid eviction.

Recently, the family moved into their new home in a Habitat development in Fitcha for vulnerable families. The family are now planning a better tomorrow thanks to the strength, stability and independence a decent and affordable home provides.

Ewayay says, **"The new house is comfortable for my children. Now we have clean rooms, free space, a toilet, kitchen and water point. It is suitable to live and there is enough space to play, study and grow. We have freedom and do not worry about paying rent and being evicted"**.

"I want to thank you in all the words I can for creating a better future for my children."

Help reach more families like Ewayay's. Donate at habitatni.co.uk

Ewayay and her children outside their Habitat home



Changing lives in Romania

For more than 20 years, people from across Northern Ireland have generously supported our partnership with Habitat Romania. Our work improves homes and community buildings with low-income families and the most vulnerable, in a country where more than 5 million people live in poor conditions.

Beyond the construction site, a significant impact of the partnership has been in encouraging Romanians to get involved in projects, in communities where a volunteer culture is still developing.

"We deeply appreciate the partnership with Habitat NI. Together we are making a positive, lasting difference," said Roberto Patrascioiu, National Director of Habitat Romania.

The partnership includes support for a project with Phoenix Speranta Association, an organisation which provides training and support for young people at risk.

We are renovating an abandoned building to create a social enterprise, a community space for training and a block with 15 flats for vulnerable people to live independently.

Iliuta (pictured) is one of the young people who are benefiting from the initiative. He parents left him when he was very young due to his severe learning disabilities. He is unable to live by himself and he attends therapy classes at Phoenix Speranța. The centre will provide vital care and support to help Iliuta develop.



Get involved in Habitat's work in Romania: habitatni.co.uk

Global volunteering

Every year, volunteers from across Northern Ireland travel to support our long-term partner programmes.

Grace Girvan from Donaghmore, Co Tyrone, was in Cambodia this summer to support our home-building work in a rural area of Siem Reap.

“The moment I met the two lovely ladies we were building for my apprehensions disappeared. Hearing their story, seeing their emotion at us being there and being greeted every morning with such gentleness and the biggest smile, I felt



driven and ready for any job to be thrown my way.

Building a home for someone was the aim; giving someone shelter, security and peace of mind was the motivation.

Since returning home I have said to numerous people how shocked I was at how much I laughed on the trip. I found it very emotional and challenging but you could see the happiness, closeness and community spirit of everyone in the village.”

Learn more about 2018 international volunteering: habitatni.co.uk

Above: Grace with homeowner, Mrs Phann.
Below: volunteers work beside local construction workers



Our Waste, Our World

Our Waste, Our World is Habitat NI's programme on waste and sustainability issues for key stage two pupils.

Joyce McMeekin is one of the volunteer facilitators who supports our staff team to deliver the programme.

Joyce has supported Habitat for many years and travelled as an international volunteer to Romania in 2012. After she retired as a school principal, she got involved with Our Waste, Our World.

“I love going into schools to deliver fun, educational workshops that inform children about the work of Habitat and raise awareness about their role in the world.

The highlight is the smiling children who love trying to sort out the world's problems.

The programme encourages children to make a difference now and as adults of the future; protecting our environment and helping people have a place to call home.”

Delivery partner



Get your school involved today:
habitatni.co.uk



Primary school children participate in workshops

Mayoral charity in Lisburn & Castlereagh

The Mayor of Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council, Councillor Tim Morrow, has selected Habitat NI and the Corrymeela Community as his chosen charities for his year in office.

This is an amazing opportunity to raise funds and awareness of our work within the Council and beyond.

Councillor Morrow has supported our work for many years, including through our cross-community partnership with Gilnahirk Presbyterian Church and St Colmcille's Parish in East Belfast. For more

Above: Councillor Morrow onsite with Habitat in Botswana and below with volunteers at a fundraising bag pack



than 15 years, the two faith communities have travelled together to support our international partner programmes in some of the world's poorest communities while breaking down barriers at home.

"The work both charities do to break down social, economic and religious barriers is inspiring and I am absolutely delighted to be working with them in my role as Mayor," said Councillor Morrow

There are lots of opportunities for volunteers to get involved in fundraising events over the coming year. Check out our website for more information: habitatni.co.uk



Below: Seamus onsite with Harry

Creagh's decade-long support

For more than 10 years Creagh Concrete have partnered with Habitat NI to support vulnerable families improve the place they call home.

Seamus McKeague is Creagh's Managing Director and Chair of Habitat NI's Board of Directors.

"It has been amazing to see the Creagh family come together to support Habitat's work over the last decade. Creagh have provided gifts-in-kind for local projects and donated material to ReStore.

Many staff, customers and suppliers have supported the HOPEbuilder challenge or joined Big Build in Romania, including this year.

As we work together to make a lasting, positive difference to families in need at home and around the world, our teams have bonded which has delivered real benefits for our company too," said Seamus.

Get in touch to find out more about our local and global opportunities for companies to build teams while giving back. Email: info@habitatni.co.uk
Telephone: 028 92 635 635



Habitat homeowners Irina & Marius

I want to help families in need of decent, affordable shelter, empowering them to break the cycle of poverty and build the foundation for a secure future.

Cash Donation

£25 £45 £120 Other £

Please charge my Mastercard Visa Amex

Card No

Start date Expiry date

Security No Signature

Regular Gift

£10 £20 £50 Other £



Name of your Bank/Building Society

Address of branch

Postcode

Name(s) of Account Holder(s)

Account No

Sort code Ref No

Instructions to your Bank or Building Society. Please pay Habitat Northern Ireland Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with Habitat Northern Ireland and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society. Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account.

Signature Date

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

I confirm that I am a UK taxpayer and would like Habitat for Humanity NI to claim back the tax on all my donations given by me in the past 4 years and all future gifts of money. I understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

I am not a UK taxpayer

Full Name

Address

Postcode

Email

Other ways to donate:

habitatni.co.uk/donate or call us on **028 9263 5645** or post to

Habitat for Humanity Northern Ireland

Units 7-9 Riverside Centre, Young Street, Lisburn BT27 5EA

Please make cheques payable to: **Habitat for Humanity NI**

Thank you for your support

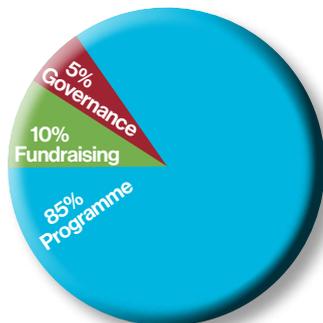
We would like to contact you throughout the year to keep you updated on how your generous support is helping transform lives. We hold supporter information in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Please tick to receive communications from us by post email

View our [Privacy Policy](http://habitatni.co.uk/privacy-policy) habitatni.co.uk/privacy-policy

Registered with The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC103240.



For every £1 you give to Habitat NI:



Your support is crucial to our work.

Prayer Points

Pray for families living in poor housing in our community and around the world.

Pray for people everywhere who have been impacted by disaster, including those who mourn and those who have lost their homes and livelihoods.

Pray for Habitat staff and volunteers, serving communities in urgent need.

Keep in touch

The most cost effective way for us to directly keep supporters up to date with our work is by email. Make sure we have your most recent email address by dropping us a line: info@habitatni.co.uk

To learn more visit habitatni.co.uk
facebook.com/habitatni



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