



**Habitat**  
for Humanity®  
Northern Ireland

Summer 2018

# Building Hope

## Inside:

Responding to refugees  
across the Middle East

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Changing lives  
in Malawi

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Building on Solid  
Ground



**Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter.**

Our work is only possible because people like you, in churches, companies and communities, partner with us. Your support allows us to reach out to families through ReStore, to empower local people to transform homes and communities and to help those in need globally to build or improve the place they call home.

Having your support by praying, donating or volunteering helps to build hope. I had the privilege to travel to Delhi again earlier in the year. It was a joy to meet Ruby and her family and see the transformation that her completed home was having on their lives. In the heartbreaking poverty of Bawana, Habitat gives a hand up in a community where families, with so few opportunities, just want to build a better future.

Sometimes change is so small it's hardly visible. This year I noticed that there were small plastic bags of rubbish hanging outside a home. A community waste service has started. Small things, but representing hope for a better future.

Wherever Habitat works we are focused on developing innovative, sustainable solutions to reach the poorest families. Read more on page 3 about how Habitat is supporting refugees across the Middle East and support if you are able.

Read more on page 4 about how our Solid Ground campaign is using advocacy to deliver change for families globally and join us by speaking out about the critical role that housing has in breaking the cycle of poverty everywhere by signing our petition.

Habitat helped more than 3.5 million people last year to improve their living conditions, delivering safe homes, education, water and sanitation, livelihood training, and the resources to create sustainable communities.

No matter who we are, or where we come from, we all need a decent place to live.

Most of us will not meet the families who will partner with Habitat in communities around the world this year but every day your support is making it possible and because Habitat for Humanity builds hope, we stand beside them.

As we step out in faith to open more ReStores, to complete the community space and homes in Ballymena (read more on page 10) and to reach many more families who hope for a better future your continued support is vital.

Thank you,

*Jenny Williams*

**Jenny Williams,**  
Chief Executive



Above: Refugee camps in Lebanon  
Front: Christina Kausiwa outside her Habitat home in Malawi



Millions of people have had to flee from conflict.

# Responding to Refugees

**As the refugee crisis in the Middle East continues, millions of men, women and children are living in appalling conditions.**

Over 50% of the Syrian population is now displaced. Over 5 million people have had to leave their homes and lives behind, and flee to escape war and persecution.

Families are forced to live in dark damp shelters, or cold bleak tents.

Habitat for Humanity is helping the most vulnerable, upgrading shelters, improving toilet facilities and supporting basic skill training.

Small changes make life bearable and remind families that the world has not forgotten.



Amal and her children in their home

In December, we shared the story of Amal, who travelled alone with her four children, and had to live in appalling conditions in Lebanon.

**“We didn’t have any hot water. I couldn’t find anything else for us. We lived that way for 4 years. Thank God, it’s much better now.”**

Habitat is working in Lebanon and Jordan to upgrade homes and communities, to help give families like Amal’s a safe place to live.

**Every pound is making a difference. Donate today: [habitatni.co.uk/donate](http://habitatni.co.uk/donate)**

# Building on Solid Ground

**Access to land lies at the heart of ending poverty. Without land, there can be no housing and housing is the key to stability and opportunity.**

Secure tenure is invisible, yet you know when you don't have it. Living without the right to the land you occupy means that, tomorrow, you could wake up homeless. This is a reality for thousands of people around the world.

Habitat for Humanity, our partners, and people like you have already helped millions of people access decent housing through changing land policies and systems. But we haven't realised our vision of a world where everyone – and we mean everyone – has a decent place to live. You can be part of the solution.

You can get involved with our Solid Ground campaign, and make a difference to the lives of people all around the world.

**Sign our petition and learn more:**  
[habitatni.co.uk](http://habitatni.co.uk)



A GLOBAL ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN  
OF HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



This project is funded by  
the European Union



Homes in Haiti

## Solid Ground Success!



A new Habitat home in Malawi



Agnas Driku outside her Habitat home in Kenya

**In Kenya, a country where women are too often excluded from official decision-making, young Maasai women are defending community resources from misuse, and changing land and property laws by using their voices in an unexpected way- via Facebook groups! Their page titled "The Village Voice" allows members to monitor community land rights and serve as whistle-blowers when a problem arises. They have captured the attention of local officials, receiving phone calls and sometimes face-to-face meetings with them.**

The women have been successful in reforming governance of community land and natural resources, all the while

improving gender and community relations.

Habitat Kenya are working to combat gender stereotypes and cultural issues that impact land rights. Habitat are conducting research and building platforms to inspire change in the lives of women. Building and developing close relationships with policymakers is a key to success, and will help to change the landscape for the women of Kenya.

**The Haitian earthquake of 2010 destroyed not only lives, homes and businesses, but also thousands of land title documents. This destruction further weakened Haiti's already fragile land titling system.**

Habitat has been working in Haiti for 30 years. Following the earthquake Habitat Haiti collaborated with local legal experts, global governments and local government to establish the "Haiti Property Law Working Group". In the past 8 years, the group has grown to include 200 members, who are helping to establish a land system in the country. As well as writing innovative manuals on property law, they have also trained diverse groups from across the country to translate the manuals lessons into concrete policy recommendations.

To date, well over 1,000 copies of the manuals have been distributed and more than 1,000 people have received training on both manuals to help facilitate secure tenure transactions.



Families in Haiti after the disaster

# Changing Lives in Malawi

**Bertha Likeke and her 5 children were left homeless after the death of her husband.**

They were forced from their home and their only option was to live in a one-room shack. They had to sleep and cook in the same room. Their goats slept with them and the mud-floor house was impossible to keep clean. Illness was a fact of life. The thatch roof leaked when it rained.

**“When it rained, we used to pack up all our things as if we were going away... to protect our belongings. We would panic.”**

Kelvin Kalonga, National Director of Habitat Malawi, recently visited NI, to share the impact our support is having in Malawi.

**“Lives are being changed. Lives are being transformed every day because of support from Northern Ireland.”**

Habitat for Humanity works in Malawi to help families like Bertha's who need it most. When Bertha received the keys to her four-bedroom home, with a door that locked, a roof that didn't leak and a floor which could be cleaned, she couldn't believe it.

**“Our hearts were full of joy, it made me feel secure.”**

A secure home has enabled the Likeke family to rebuild their lives. They are healthier, safer and her children are able to attend school.

Help reach more families like Bertha's: [habitatni.co.uk/donate](http://habitatni.co.uk/donate)

## In Malawi:

- 1.5 million children are orphaned or vulnerable
- 4 in 5 families live in poor conditions
- Around 76% of the capital city, Lilongwe, live in slums



Bertha and her son outside their new Habitat home

# Raising Hammers and Voices

Women in Kauma Village, Malawi

## This autumn, join us at our first EVER Big Build Malawi!

Big Build 2018 will build 10 homes in one week, supporting our long-term partnership with Habitat Malawi. Together we will change the lives of orphaned and vulnerable children forever.

Join us for this special week! Work will begin on Monday 1st October, World Habitat Day. As we raise our hammers, we also raise our voices with the global Habitat family about the urgent, growing need for decent housing.

**BUILD** beside the local community

**WITNESS** the life-changing impact of a simple home

**INSPIRE** others to join the cause of safe shelter

**“I went away with the hope I would help those less fortunate than myself, only to realise that they gave me more than anyone could understand.”**

Sign up for Big Build 2018 now:  
[habitatni.co.uk](http://habitatni.co.uk)



Volunteers building homes in Malawi



Habitat ReStore, Lisburn

# Making a Difference

Every day in Northern Ireland, Habitat ReStores are making a difference to the lives of local people, and those around the world.

By selling donated new and used building and home improvement materials, it serves thousands of families who need help to improve their homes at low cost and diverts tons of material from landfill.

Take a look at some of the impacts Habitat ReStore had in **2017**:

<p>More than <b>100</b> kitchens were rescued from landfill and have new homes</p>	<p>Over <b>10,000</b> hours of volunteering</p>	<p><b>18</b> volunteers got jobs because of their experience in ReStore</p>
<p>More than <b>40</b> local people were supported through ReStore</p>	<p>Over <b>150</b> local people gave up their time to volunteer in ReStore</p>	<p>Over <b>250</b> local people now have a bed to sleep in</p>

## SHOP • DONATE • VOLUNTEER

Lisburn: Riverside Centre, Young Street  
Tel: 028 92 635 642  
facebook.com/HabitatReStoreLisburn

Ballymena: Larne Road  
Tel: 028 25 653 243  
facebook.com/HabitatReStoreBallymena

### Support for Volunteers

Volunteers like Curtis and partners like Stepping Stones, AMH, Probation Board understand the impact and value the support.

Curtis has been volunteering in ReStore since last year. He came to ReStore through our partnership with Stepping Stones, and said he wanted to step out of his comfort zone and meet new people.

**“I love coming to ReStore, I’ve made lots of new friends and we’re always laughing.”** said Curtis.

### Corporate Partners

Donations from companies and individuals are vital to the success of ReStore.

We are thankful for support from many companies including most recent Corporate partner Haldane Fisher who have already donated end of line materials to ReStore.



ReStore Manager Niall receiving donations from local businesses

**“Donations like this make a huge difference for the local community, giving local people a chance to improve their home at low cost and at the same time diverting reusable material from landfill.”** said Niall McConkey.

### Habitat ReStore Newry

As part of our commitment to serve more local people we are delighted that we will open ReStore Newry soon.

Jenny Williams said **‘We are committed to open ReStores where there is community need, and where we are confident that we can secure community support. We look forward to opening the 3rd ReStore in Europe, in Newry this year and working in partnership with companies, churches and individuals to serve local people’**

We will be hosting business briefings and volunteer information sessions in Newry soon.



Curtis with fellow volunteer Kerry

For more information on volunteering, donating or becoming a corporate partner, visit [habitatni.co.uk](http://habitatni.co.uk)

Habitat NI Chief Executive Jenny Williams launching the project with Elaine McDonald & Rev. Dr. David Rock, from Ballymena Methodist

# From 'Empty Homes' to 'Living Rooms'

**Working together; Habitat for Humanity Northern Ireland and Ballymena Methodist Church will turn an empty, landmark building in the heart of Ballymena into much needed multi-purpose community space and 3 one bedroom apartments, which will provide affordable accommodation for vulnerable young people.**

The church is underpinning the project cost but the project needs more partners, community support and the volunteers who will help deliver the project.

**"This project will bring together people of all ages and backgrounds, delivering opportunities to upskill for employment as well as affordable homes. We would love to hear from all those who might be willing to provide materials or other support to help deliver real impact in Ballymena,"** said Jenny Williams, Chief Executive, Habitat NI.



Old Methodist Manse



Volunteers from Fit Club NI on site

## How can you get involved?

**Give a gift in kind:** We will need lots of building materials throughout the project, so any donations of materials would be greatly appreciated!

**Volunteer on site:** We need lots of volunteers to support the project, so get a group together from your business, church or just volunteer as an individual.

Get in touch now to book your place:  
[info@habitatni.co.uk](mailto:info@habitatni.co.uk)

# Voices for Shelter

**At Habitat we passionately believe in the power of young people to shape our future.**

Every year, more than 200 young people participate in the Change Makers programme. It provides a unique opportunity for pupils from diverse backgrounds to learn together, and inspires young people to use their voices as advocates for safe shelter.

Change Maker participants at Fort Hill Integrated College organised a sleep-out in December to raise funds for Habitat's work.

A number of year 13 pupils faced the elements when they took to their sleeping bags and stayed outside for the night in the schools grounds.

The sleep-out raised over £700 for Habitat's work, and Headmaster Colin Millar, who joined the students for the sleep-out said,

**"The night spent sleeping out made the students appreciate the difficulties faced by those in such circumstances and how vital the work of Habitat NI is, both locally and globally."**

Thanks to their hard work, the school raised £2,000 this year to support Habitat's work. In recognition of their fundraiser and the way they spoke out, they were awarded the 'Voice for Shelter' award at Habitat's annual Celebration & Commissioning event (pictured right)

Get your school involved today:  
[habitatni.co.uk](http://habitatni.co.uk)



Participants in the Change Makers programme

I want to help families in need of decent, affordable shelter, empowering them to break the cycle of poverty.

### 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 am a UK Taxpayer and want Habitat NI to treat this donation, and all future donations as Gift Aid donations. I understand that if I pay less income tax and/or capital gains tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all of 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](https://www.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

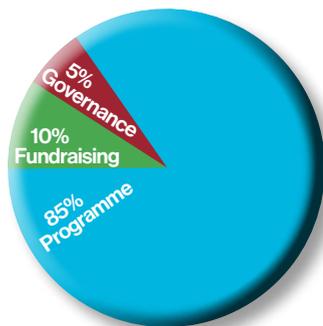
We would like to contact you throughout the year to keep you updated on how your generous support is helping transform lives. We hold supporter information in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Please tick to receive communications from us by post  email

View our [Privacy Policy \(updated May 18\)](https://www.habitatni.co.uk/privacy-policy) [habitatni.co.uk/privacy-policy](https://www.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 those families forced to leave their homes and lives behind as they flee from conflict or disaster.

Pray for people in our community who are lonely, unemployed or need extra support.

Pray for families around the world in urgent need of a safe place to call home and the Habitat staff and volunteers reaching out to serve.

## Keep in touch

The most cost effective way for us to keep supporters up to date with the impact of our work is by email. Make sure we have your most recent email address by dropping us a line: [info@habitatni.co.uk](mailto:info@habitatni.co.uk)

To learn more visit [habitatni.co.uk](https://www.habitatni.co.uk) [facebook.com/habitatni](https://www.facebook.com/habitatni)



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