Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity®

Magazine

FALL 2025

cohfh.org

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INSIDE:

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Our Bold Vision for Cornerstone Creek

After a long and oftentimes frustrating journey due to the rising cost of available lots in Central Oklahoma, I discovered 160 acres of farmland for sale in far northwest Oklahoma City. Today, that verdant farmland of the past is now known as Cornerstone Creek, and it's Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity's boldest and most expansive development in our history.

We plan to eventually build 450 new, energy-efficient homes there, along with three parks and a gazebo. Neighborhood children will attend the top-rated schools in nearby Piedmont, Oklahoma. Affordable homes are scarce nationwide due to the housing crisis, but we're determined to help because we're working toward a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

Our bold vision for Cornerstone Creek is only possible because of the steadfast support of people like you. From our volunteers willing to swing hammers to the businesses that have stepped up to partner with us, all believe in and help support the future we're working toward. Together, we've already completed the infrastructure and raised funds to support the first 91 homes in Phase I. Now, as we prepare for Phase II—an additional 210 homes—we must raise $3.7 million to install infrastructure and keep building momentum.

Over 30 homes now stand in Cornerstone Creek, and our fresh, new neighborhood is flourishing. On any given day, you might see children riding bikes or hear the hum of lawnmowers as our homeowners take pride in caring for their yards. This growing sense of community is precisely what we've hoped to create.

Cornerstone Creek has also been boosted by the Oklahoma Housing Stability Program's Homebuilder Program, administered by the Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency (OHFA). This program offers 0% interest construction loans. This crucial resource enhances our cash flow, allowing us to build faster and more efficiently. While Habitat must repay these loans, they provide us with the financial agility we need during this critical phase of development. We are grateful to the dedicated OHFA team for all their assistance with this innovative program.

As we look to the future, I hope you'll consider joining us in this transformative effort, and I'm asking you to partner with us as a donor. Donating to Central Oklahoma Habitat is easy, and remember, every little bit helps! Your gift — no matter the size — helps build affordable homes, communities and hope.

Blessings,

Ann Felton Gilliland
Chair/CEO

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Call 1-405-232-4828

COVER: *A homeowner's child, pictured in June at Central Oklahoma Habitat's Picnic at the Oklahoma City Zoo, enjoys a sweet fruity treat. See page 16 for the full story.*

Trinity Brick's Donations Keep Stacking Up

Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity Chair/CEO Ann Felton Gilliland (center) poses with Denny Lippoldt, president of Trinity Brick Co. (left), and Habitat Construction Manager Aaron McRee (right) in front of one of two striking brick-and-metal entry signs at Habitat's Cornerstone Creek development in Oklahoma City.

For decades, Trinity Brick Co. has quietly helped build the foundation of affordable housing in Oklahoma—one brick at a time. Company owner and President Denny Lippoldt has partnered with Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity since the nonprofit built its first Habitat house in 1990.

"My bricks were probably in that first home," Lippoldt said. "I started Trinity Brick in 1988, and I've had a long relationship with Ann and Aaron. I may not be able to swing a hammer these days, but donating bricks is my way of giving back. We believe in what Habitat does."

An Oklahoma-based, family-owned company, Trinity Brick, donated a house full of Made-in-Oklahoma bricks to Habitat's fundraiser house (see next page). Lippoldt also donated the bricks and stones used in the two entrance signs at Cornerstone Creek — all materials are proudly made in the United States. Trinity Brick is another strong example of how Habitat partners with local contractors and businesses to work together building community from the ground up. ■

Thank You to Reidprographics for Years of Support

Hard hats off to the team at Reidprographics, the Oklahoma City-based print, copy and scan service provider that has been donating design and building plans to Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity for years.

Habitat Construction Manager Aaron McRee dropped by their offices in July to thank them for their generous donations. Sadly, the company's owner, Reid Daffer, recently passed away, but that simply inspired his daughter, Landi Daffer, the company's new president and owner, to include a photo of her father during the photo shoot. ■

The Reidprographics team includes (from left, front row) Jennell Jordan, Landi's daughter and the company's acting secretary, and Landi Daffer, company president and owner. Pictured back row from left is Driver Robert Firestone and Assistant Ken Russell.

The House that Keeps on Building for Habitat

Amid the many beautiful new homes under construction in the Cornerstone Creek neighborhood, one three-bedroom house on Foundation Way stands out in the minds of many local contractors, businesses and Habitat staff.

Designated as a "fundraiser house" and designed to help raise money for Habitat, a dozen generous local contractors and businesses recently donated building materials and services for the construction of the home. The specially designed house was later sold on the open market to raise funds for building more homes.

New Home Construction Volunteer Coordinator Rick Lorg managed the in-kind donations and construction of the house. He said the home received between $50,000 and $60,000 in donated materials and labor from various businesses and contractors, which helped reduce the overall building costs and also included some nice upgrades for the homebuyer.

"Our fundraiser-house approach allows us to raise money while building relationships," Lorg said. "The home also featured some nice, upgraded touches, including quartz tile counters instead of Formica, courtesy of our donors. The best part for Habitat is that the home sale's proceeds generated critical funding to help subsidize the building of three to four more homes for working families."

Star Lumber is one of the companies that donated materials for the fundraiser house. Star Lumber's Truss Manager Jerry Warren said the decision to support Habitat felt like second nature.

"We've been in business since 1939 with a commitment to building communities," Warren said. "I even spent a year working for Habitat, so when this opportunity came up, it was a natural fit. We supplied the trusses and lumber. I've been out on-site at Cornerstone Creek several times, and I'm so impressed with what I've seen." ■

STAR LUMBER

Trinity Brick
Builder 1st Source
Malarkey
ClimateMaster
Lowe's Pro
Valspar
405 Plumbing
Crown Construction
Greenshade Landscaping
OG Construction
Chambers Electrical Service

ReStores 'Shingle Out' Company for Generous In-Kind Donation

Central Oklahoma Habitat ReStores General Manager Corey Roberts "shingled out" Cameron Ashley Building Products' Oklahoma City Distribution Center for generously donating 1,875 bundles of roofing shingles earlier this year.

"It took three flatbed semi-trucks to deliver all the donated shingles to our ReStores," Roberts said. "It was an incredible donation, and since our customers love a bargain, you could say that demand for these Made-in-America shingles hit the roof. We truly appreciate the company's Oklahoma City Distribution Center for thinking of Habitat."

Ed Lewis, operations manager for Cameron Ashley Building Products' Oklahoma City Operations Center, said he considers Habitat's ReStores an essential resource for donating materials that might otherwise be discarded.

"We like to repurpose materials that have aged out in our inventory," Lewis said. "That donation represented 62,500 square feet of applied roofing in a variety of colors. I'm thrilled we didn't have to put them in a landfill and were able to regain space in our warehouse while supporting a great cause." ■

Cameron Ashley Building Products' Oklahoma City Distribution Center generously donated three semi-trucks worth of roofing shingles to Habitat's ReStores, shown left.

A Higher Purpose: All Souls' Episcopal Church's Order of the Daughters of the King

At every Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity home dedication, a small group of women from All Souls' Episcopal Church in Oklahoma City quietly make a profound impact. Representing the church's Chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King, they bring a housewarming gift with a "higher purpose"—a Bible specially imprinted with the new homeowner's name.

All Souls' Episcopal Church's Daughters of the King's higher purpose is spreading the Word of God, and it's rooted in the sisterhood's lifelong commitment of service, prayer and evangelism. Suzanne Spradling, Ph.D., is a past president of the All Souls' Episcopal Church Chapter, past diocesan president, and is president of the Order's Province VII. She said the daughters have been presenting the Bibles to Habitat homeowners for over five years.

"Because of Habitat's Christian foundation, it's a natural fit for us," Spradling said. "We're called to serve, and these dedications are an opportunity Christ has placed before us. All Habitat homeowners are also added to our prayer list."

During each home dedication, they also pledge to replace any missing or damaged Bibles for free. ■

Habitat Gets Down to Earth with Pratt & Whitney

Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity Executive Administrative Assistant Jasmine Wallace and Family Services Executive Administrator Lily Dwyer hosted an information booth during Pratt & Whitney's Earth Day Fair for the aerospace and defense company's employees on April 22, 2025, at their campus in south Oklahoma City. ■

Habitat Joins the Fiesta at El Latino American Newspaper's 2025 Mother's Day Celebration

Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity joined a celebration honoring mothers as one of the sponsors of the El Latino American Newspaper's Mother's Day Celebration 2025 on May 10, 2025, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Norman, Oklahoma.

During the event, hundreds of local mothers gathered to enjoy an evening filled with food, dancing and other entertainment and a sense of pride and community spirit.

Mother's Day, or "El Día de las Madres," holds significance for many in Hispanic culture, where honoring mothers is a tradition filled with tributes, music and festive gatherings.

Habitat Family Services Executive Administrator Lily Dwyer and her daughter, Natalya, volunteered to manage the Oklahoma Habitat booth, where they shared information and answered questions about Habitat's New Home Construction and Critical Home Repair programs. ■

Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity Family Services Executive Administrator Lily Dwyer and her daughter, Natalya (not pictured), shared smiles and resources at the Habitat booth during the El Latino American Newspaper's Mother's Day Celebration on May 10, 2025, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Norman.

Introducing Hammer Heads: Build Hope Every Month

At Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity, we believe it takes consistent, committed effort to build something that lasts.

That's why we're thrilled to introduce Hammer Heads — our new monthly impact partners group inspired by Habitat's mission and the words of founder Millard Fuller, who wrote a book outlining a "theology of the hammer," — the idea of creating change through personal action.

The name Hammer Heads pays tribute to the idea that each swing of the hammer, like each monthly donation, brings us closer to our goal: a safe, affordable home for a deserving family. When you become a Hammer Head, your recurring gift helps us keep building, month after month, nail after nail.

For a limited time, we're also offering Hammer Heads membership swag for these monthly giving levels:

- **Minimum of $15/month** – Branded drawstring bag
- **Minimum of $25/month** – Limited-edition Hammer Head Tee
- **Minimum of $50/month** – 40-oz insulated tumbler with handle

Signing up is easy: Just scan the QR code to set up a monthly electronic donation of any amount. Whether it's $5 or $50, your support adds up to lasting change. Every Hammer Head will receive an exclusive Hammer Head sticker as a thank you.

SCAN TO JOIN
HAMMER HEADS

The back side of the Hammer Heads T-shirt (above) features the Cornerstone Creek Ashford floor plan. The Hammer Heads logo is on the front of the T-shirt.

(far left) The heavy-duty Hammer Head sticker can be placed on a car, mug, laptop – anywhere!

Monthly giving empowers us to plan ahead, serve Oklahomans and build on a stronger foundation — both literally and figuratively.

As a Hammer Head, you become part of a growing community that takes action, not just once, but over and over again, until the work is done.

Join us. Keep hammering. Help us build a future where everyone has a place to call home. ■

The Hammer Head branded Stanley-style travel mug is lightweight and keeps 40 ounces of coffee piping hot.

Meet Hammer Head G'Anne

Longtime supporter, homeowner and now proud Hammer Head, G'Anne is at the heart of what makes Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity so special.

More than a decade ago, G'Anne and her late husband partnered with Habitat to build their own home — and to help others in their neighborhood do the same. She still vividly remembers working alongside a bus-load of volunteers from Colorado, braving the heat and heavy spring rain to help build their home. G'Anne said she received a Bible from Carolyn Roberts, a longtime volunteer, during her home dedication.

"Our house has been very blessed," G'Anne said with a smile.

Now, as a monthly donor, G'Anne is one of the first members of our Hammer Heads Monthly Impact Partners.

When asked why she gives, she simply said, "Happiness is giving," a message fittingly captured by the words displayed on the shirt she wore during a recent meeting.

From the moment she met Ann Felton Gilliland, the Central Oklahoma Habitat chair/CEO, G'Anne said she felt certain Habitat was built on trust, love and care, and that her gifts will offer others that same stability and hope for their future.

She says that she is proud to see those values reflected in her children, who now give back in their own ways.

Thank you, G'Anne, for building with us — then and now. ■

"Happiness is giving."

HAMMER HEAD G'ANNE

SCAN TO JOIN HAMMER HEADS

Next Step Ministries Brings Traveling Teams to Habitat

Alana Priest, a Next Step Ministries Youth Mission MC, helps her team finish up last-minute touches on a new Central Oklahoma Habitat home at Cornerstone Creek.

Dozens of faith-based youth volunteers from as far away as Minnesota, Wisconsin and Texas took a major leap forward by giving back to the community this summer by helping to build Habitat houses at Cornerstone Creek.

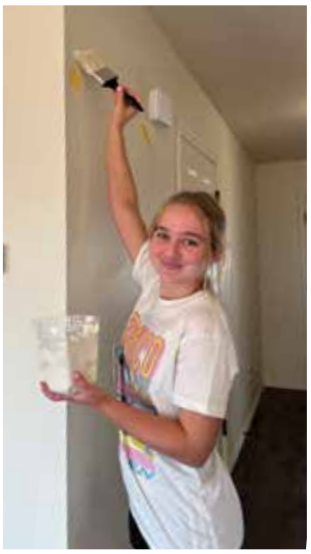
The hard-working youth from Next Step Ministries painted, framed and tackled other construction tasks – all while strengthening their faith and leadership skills. Based in Woodstock, Georgia, Next Step Ministries organizes service trips that combine spiritual growth with hands-on community work.

Next Step Ministries MC Alana Priest said her experience working with the other youth was amazing and she enjoyed attending a Habitat home dedication while in Oklahoma City. "Seeing a family get the keys to their home made everything worth it," Priest said.

She said Next Step Ministries' faith-based service trips are designed for middle school, high school and college students. They are designed to help volunteers explore their faith, experience God and perform hands-on service work supporting local community needs. "It has been an amazing experience," Priest said. ■

Youth Volunteer Norah puts some of the final touches of paint on a Habitat home—one of several being finished this summer in Oklahoma City.

Next Step Ministries and Shepherd of the Valley Church Youth Team Lead Kari Patsy jumps in to help with finishing touches on a nearly complete Habitat home. She also doubles as a parent of one of the volunteers.



Greta works on wall painting duty as her Next Step Ministries Volunteer group wraps up work on a Habitat home during her recent mission work for Central Oklahoma Habitat.

Next Step Ministries Youth Mission Volunteer Conner swept up during his work helping Habitat.

Sophia, a volunteer with Next Step Ministries' Youth Mission, caulks a window frame as part of her volunteer team's work on a Habitat house this summer in Oklahoma City.

Gaylord Foundation Awards $100,000 to Support Critical Home Repair Program

Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity is honored to announce the receipt of a generous $100,000 grant from the E.L. and Thelma Gaylord Foundation in support of our Critical Home Repair program.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Gaylord Foundation for its continued investment in the well-being of our community. This grant will have an immediate and meaningful impact, allowing us to address the necessary health and safety repairs for low-income homeowners in the greater Oklahoma City area.

Through this support, we will be able to complete critical repairs and make accessibility modifications that allow seniors and residents with disabilities to continue living safely in their homes. These are not cosmetic improvements; they are life-changing repairs that protect both the physical structure of a home and the dignity of the people who live there.

Far too many families in our area are living in homes that are unsafe or rapidly deteriorating simply because they cannot afford to make essential repairs. The Gaylord Foundation's investment will help Habitat reach more of these families, prevent displacement and preserve the affordable housing that already exists in our neighborhoods.

We are deeply grateful to the E.L. and Thelma Gaylord Foundation for standing with us and the families we serve. Together, we are not just fixing homes — we're restoring hope, stability and a sense of security where it's needed most. ■

Critical Home Repair helps limited-income homeowners by repairing, weatherizing and improving the accessibility of their homes. The photo above is an example of how the addition of a wheelchair ramp may improve the quality of life for a homeowner with physical disabilities.

ANDERSON CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Challenge Accepted: $10,000 Grant to Double Your Impact

We're excited to announce that Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity has received a $10,000 Challenge Grant from the Carl C. Anderson Sr. & Marie Jo Anderson Charitable Foundation to support our Critical Home Repair program. Now, we need your help to unlock its full potential.

This generous challenge grant means that every dollar you give to Critical Home Repair will be matched, doubling your impact in the lives of low-income homeowners who need help. From fixing damaged roofs to weatherizing homes and addressing accessibility needs, your donation helps families remain in their homes with comfort and dignity.

The Critical Home Repair program addresses a rising need in our community: helping families with limited income stay safe in the homes they've built their lives in. With rising material and labor costs, every gift matters. *This challenge grant doubles the impact of your contribution, giving it twice the power to make a difference.*

We are grateful to the Carl C. Anderson Sr. & Marie Jo Anderson Charitable Foundation for their commitment to preserving affordable housing and preventing homelessness in Oklahoma City.

Now it's your turn to take on the challenge. Your donation will go twice as far in helping our neighbors in need. Together, we can meet this match and repair more homes. ■

TEXT 50155 TO GIVE:

AndersonMatch

When you text to give to our Critical Home Repair Program "AndersonMatch" your impact DOUBLES.

In the photo above, Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity's WomenBuild 2025 frame day volunteers pause for a group picture on May 17, 2025.

Pictured below, Ann Felton Gilliland, Chair/ CEO of Central Oklahoma Habitat, helps raise the frame at the WomenBuild event.

Shown right, Carla Ponce, a friend of WomenBuild Chair Pilar Cipollone, has volunteered for the WomenBuild event for the past six years.

WomenBuild 2025 Latina Volunteers Unite for Frame Day

Over 30 local Latina volunteers joined Central Oklahoma Habitat staff and homeowners for a framing day on May 17, 2025, at Cornerstone Creek. Led by a proud Latina, Pilar Cipollone, the WomenBuild 2025 volunteers worked hard and proved that if work is its own reward, they'd all probably be covered in ribbons.

WomenBuild 2025 Honorary Chair Cipollone is a familiar face to many at Habitat. She worked in various positions for the nonprofit for 13 years before becoming a field representative for U.S. Congressman Frank Lucas's district office. Many of Cipollone's volunteers included longtime friends and family who have helped her during past WomenBuild events. She also brought in Supermercados Morelos as a sponsor, and the Latin grocery store chain provided volunteer T-shirts and a free lunch of burritos for the volunteers.

Cipollone, who has organized and participated in numerous WomenBuild events, said this year's home-build volunteers demonstrated how building with many hands and the power of community can make short work of framing a house.

"Every year, Latinas build," she said. "The shirts and lunch — it's more than just a build. It's a celebration of women helping each other and helping others."

Future Habitat homeowners David and Sarah also worked with the WomenBuild volunteers. They are parents to two small children. They said they were impressed by the framing-day volunteers.

"There was a lot of teamwork putting that frame together," David said. "It was a perfect day to do it, and there was a lot of joy. Those ladies are go-getters!" ■

(above) Future homeowners David and Sarah work on some of their sweat-equity hours during the WomenBuild framing day.

Pictured above, Volunteer Donna Serrano, the daughter of longtime volunteer Caty Serrano, came out to help at the recent frame day.

In the photo left, WomenBuild 2025 Honorary Chair Pilar Cipollone led the framing day event on May 17, 2025 at Cornerstone Creek.

EOG Resources Goes the Distance Over Seven Saturdays at Cornerstone Creek

EOG Resources, a major independent oil and gas company with a significant division office in Oklahoma City of 120 employees, has provided shifts of volunteers on seven different Fridays this year. They are helping with the construction of Ronald and Patricia's future family home at Cornerstone Creek.

The Houston-based company, which typically produces oil and gas to help fuel America, has also generated excitement this summer as crews from its operations and land departments rotated through the site, framing walls, raising trusses and proving that corporate muscle fueled by caring hearts can pack a mighty wallop.

Aubrey Meadors, a senior engineering associate with EOG Resources' Oklahoma City division, said EOG OKC has volunteered with Central Oklahoma Habitat for over a decade, but this is the first time the OKC division has sponsored an entire Habitat home build.

"This whole house build with Habitat was a great opportunity to make a real impact in our community beyond business goals," Meadors said. "This initiative enabled us to support a cause that resonates with our team, while also fostering collaboration, empathy and a deeper sense of purpose within our organization."

When the house is completed this fall, EOG OKC volunteers plan to return to Cornerstone Creek to celebrate with the family during their home-dedication celebration.

Ronald said that EOG OKC volunteers and his family got to meet on June 7, 2025, during the first framing day. They all framed the new house by 11 a.m. that day.

"The people from EOG Resources were very nice and helpful," Ronald said. "Some of them even had construction knowledge and knew what they were doing, so I worked closely with them. I want to thank them and let them know how much we truly appreciate them." ■

EOG Resources volunteers worked in groups of seven on different days, each contributing to a different construction phase of the home build.

Pictured below, EOG Resources' home build at Cornerstone Creek featured seven different teams of employee volunteers helping to construct a new house for future homeowners Ronald Jr., and his fiancée, Patricia, and their four small children.

Photos above and below are courtesy Sam Harms

Habitat Revives Homeowners' Picnic Tradition

Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity revived its Homeowners' Picnic on June 8, 2025, after a hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The event was held at the Oklahoma City Zoo and Botanical Garden's Roughneck Pavilion.

Planned by Executive Administrative Assistant Jasmine Wallace, with support from Marketing Director Jean Erickson and Director of Research and Grants Rachel Ellis, the event welcomed approximately 170 attendees—representing four to five years of Habitat homeowners and staff—for an afternoon of fellowship, games, and celebration.

"We wanted to show a little fun and fellowship with our homeowners and let them know we appreciate them," Wallace said. "So many people told us how much they enjoyed it."

In the photo on the right, Habitat homeowners, Kimray families and Habitat staff enjoy hamburgers and hot dogs during the Zoo picnic on June 8, 2025.

In the photo above, Ann Felton Gilliland, Habitat chair/CEO, welcomes everyone to the event.

Habitat families compete for prizes in games like cornhole and ring toss.

The picnic was sponsored by Kimray Inc., whose employees and their families also joined in. "We're deeply grateful to our longtime friends at Kimray Inc.," said Habitat Chair/CEO Ann Felton Gilliland. "Their generosity helped create a fun-filled, welcoming event, and it's partnerships like this that truly bring our mission to life."

Families enjoyed a little friendly competition with games like Tetris Tumble, Giant Connect Four, ring toss and Habitat-branded cornhole. Winners earned prizes including folding chairs, picnic rugs, and inflatable movie screens. Children received gifts, and all families took home a practical toolkit.

"It was very hot by the end, but everyone had a good time," Wallace said. "No matter what age, each child got to choose a gift or a prize. Many people came up and said that they enjoyed it and liked being able to do something like this every now and then."

Habitat staff wore bright blue shirts reading "We Love Our Habitat Homeowners," and the zoo's catering team served up hot dogs, hamburgers, baked beans and potato salad.

"We now plan to host the Homeowners' Picnic every other year," Wallace added. "It's a meaningful tradition of appreciation and community building." ■

In the photo above Audry C., a homeowner, and her family tour the zoo after eating at the picnic. Kimray Inc. sponsored the event.

In the photo top left, a picnic attendee tries his hand at Tetris.

In the top right photo, Reagan Carter assists a family during a Connect Four Game.

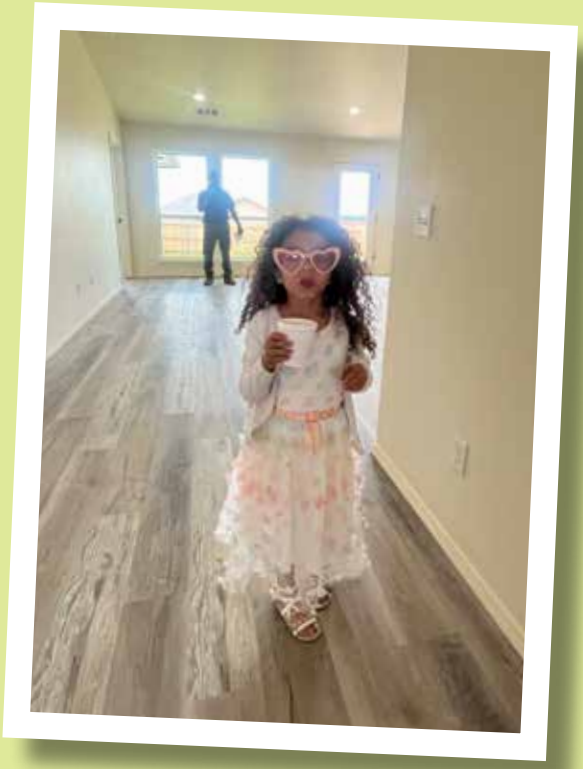
Jasmine Wallace, in the photo left, team lead for planning the picnic, announces the one of the winners of the family games competition.

HOMEOWNER #1129

Antwon

Widowed Father and Daughter Start New Life Chapter with Habitat

Widowed father Antwon C. and his 5-year-old daughter, Celeste or "Cee Cee," opened a new life chapter on June 12, 2025, during their Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity home-dedication celebration at their new house in Cornerstone Creek, in Oklahoma City.



Now age 5, Celeste "Cee Cee" explores her new house and later discovered baby frogs in the backyard with her grandfather.

After receiving a house blessing from St. John Nepomuk Catholic Church Deacon John Teague and housewarming gifts from community members, COHFH Chair/CEO Ann Felton Gilliland welcomed the full-time maintenance supervisor into the "Habitat family" after handing him his keys to the new home. Antwon said he enjoyed helping to build houses for other future homeowners.

"I don't know, it is amazing," Antwon said. "I never thought I'd be here or that something like this would ever happen to me. I'm very happy for me and my daughter and I want to thank everyone for being here."

Becoming a homeowner also marks a new chapter for the young father-and-daughter team as they try to make new memories after the unexpected death of his wife, Madison, in 2023. Antwon said that losing his beloved wife and becoming a single father has been challenging, but he believes they need to continue moving forward. He's grateful for the opportunity to buy a new home and relocate to Cornerstone Creek.

"We've always wanted a home … a safe place to come home to and call our own," he said. "I have always wanted to have something to pass down to my child and her child and so on — somewhere to make new memories forever." ■

HOMEOWNER #1126

Chase

By age 11, Chase P. was already struggling with substance abuse. A serious car accident during his senior year of high school led to further addiction and eventually legal trouble.

At 19, determined to rebuild his life, he entered Hope Is Alive Ministries' 12-18–month rehabilitation program.

Chase credits his sobriety and renewed purpose to his faith and the support of the ministry. In 2021, he began working for the Hope is Alive Ministries, helping establish two men's recovery centers in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Today, he serves as the spiritual care manager for the HIA Mentoring Homes program, guiding others battling drug and alcohol abuse.

In April 2025, Chase became a homeowner through Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity in Cornerstone Creek.

"By the grace of God, mentorship and an incredible ministry, today I have hope in a future, a family and a career helping people in the community," Chase said. "I am so extremely blessed to say that homeownership through Habitat will serve as a launching pad for that future."

HOMEOWNER #1127

Audry

Audry C., a paralegal and mother of three, said moving into her new Habitat home was "life-changing" for her and her three children after years of rental headaches, including the last six at a house with sagging floors, pest problems and faulty wiring.

During her Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity (COHFH) home dedication on May 15, 2025, Audry received the keys to her newly purchased home in Cornerstone Creek. She thanked Habitat, Gateway Mortgage Officer Alba Santiago and COHFH's home-build sponsor, Comfortworks, for helping to build her new house.

"It has been quite a journey. I want to express my gratitude to everyone who made this day possible," Audry said.

"Comfortworks sponsored my home build, and Comfortworks Chairman Dan Ellis brought his whole group to my framing day – the level of professionalism and teamwork you displayed was unmatched. Thank you so much, none of this would have been possible without you."

Comfortworks Inc., a top geothermal HVAC contractor, has installed geothermal systems in hundreds of COHFH's homes for nearly two decades.

HOMEOWNER #1128

Jack

Hope Is Alive (HIA) Ministries' Jack M. said he felt "incredibly blessed" celebrating the dedication of his new home with Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity and members of the community on May 29, 2025, at his new Cornerstone Creek house in Oklahoma City.

In his New Home Construction program application, Jack stated that although he felt lost during most of his 20s, he decided to turn his life around, restarted attending church and discovered new, healthy hobbies such as running and weightlifting, as well as cultivated like-minded friends.

Today, Jack serves as a school support coordinator for HIA Ministries, teaching high school students about the prevention of drug and alcohol addiction. He said that he's grateful to Habitat for "blessing me with this opportunity."

"Being a homeowner means having something of my own, something to be proud of that I earned," Jack said. "Establishing roots in Oklahoma by having a home of my own gives me a sense of just settling into a place where I can invite family and friends, build a life and establish a future. It is exciting!"

HOMEOWNER #1130

Jose

Sometimes listening to your parents pays off – that's one life lesson Jose F.M. won't forget.

After earning his mechanical engineering degree from the University of Oklahoma in 2023, Jose's father reminded him again about Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity's New Home Construction program, which allows qualified future homeowners to buy a home for cost with no down payment.

"Now, eight months later, I'm a homeowner, and I'm very grateful and blessed," Jose said, holding the keys to his new Habitat home during his new home dedication celebration on June 26, 2025, at Cornerstone Creek in Oklahoma City.

The tall young man, who now works as a mechanical engineer, balanced studying while working jobs at a local golf and country club.

Jose recommends that other potential homebuyers should consider Habitat.

"Habitat takes a tremendous load off your shoulders," he said. "If you don't know about Habitat, look it up – it's a great program." With a laugh, he added, "Now that I have my home, it's time to start a family."

HOMEOWNER #1131

Kevin and Geovana

Kevin D.R. and his wife, Geovana L.M., wrote in their New Home Construction application that as a young married couple, they have "big dreams and aspirations, and this house is only the beginning."

The industrious pair met three years ago while working as servers at a local golf and country club. They celebrated their new home dedication with Habitat on July 23, 2025, at their house in Cornerstone Creek in Oklahoma City.

Geovana shared that both are working on expanding their educational opportunities. She is studying paralegal studies, while Kevin is studying project management operations.

"Both my husband and I are working toward degrees to keep growing, learning and to build a better life for ourselves and our family," Geovana stated. "A few goals that we have can be reached through homeownership, including becoming more financially secure."

She added that another goal is to have children.

"We have always discussed the beauty of raising children in your own house," Geovana said. "This opportunity is a blessing and one of the first steps to grow our family."

Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity®
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Oklahoma City, OK 73129

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Meetings and Events Calendar

September 16	**CHR Committee**	Noon-Habitat Office
September 25	**Board of Directors**	Noon-Habitat Office
October 15	**Finance Committee**	Noon-Habitat Office
October 21	**CHR Committee**	Noon-Habitat Office
October 28	**Volunteer Appreciation Dinner**	
October 30	**Board of Directors**	Noon-Habitat Office
November 18	**CHR Committee**	Noon-Habitat Office
November 27-28	**Thanksgiving Holiday**	Habitat Office Closed
December 4	**Board of Directors**	Noon-Habitat Office

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