

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Baton Rouge became an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International in **1989** as an outgrowth of the Federation of Churches & Synagogues.

History & Timeline

- 1989** The **1st** Habitat home was a rehabilitation located in the Zion City neighborhood of Baton Rouge.
- 2003** We built our **100th** home on Bartlett Street in Baton Rouge.
- 2006** We built **46** homes in response to Hurricane Katrina, at one point building 14 homes at the same time.
- 2013** We built our **300th** home in the Scotlandville neighborhood of Baton Rouge.
- 2016** We gutted **85** homes and rebuilt **21** homes in response to the flood of 2016.
- 2020** We have built or renovated **370** homes in our **30** year history.

Since 1976, only 49 out of more than 1,100 Habitat for Humanity affiliates in the United States have built over 300 homes, making us one of the top U.S. affiliates for new home construction!

How Habitat Works

Habitat is not a handout but a “**hand up.**” We offer low-income families the opportunity to purchase a simple, decent home at an affordable price.

Our criteria for acceptance as a partner family:

- **Housing Need**
The applicant's current home must be suffering from problems such as **low quality, over-crowded living areas, or rent payments that are too large a percentage of the homeowner's income.**
- **Ability to repay the cost of the home**
Our simple, decent homes are sold to our partner families for an **affordable, no-interest mortgage**, so the applicant must demonstrate the ability to pay a monthly mortgage payment.

The applicant's income must be between **27% - 80%** of Median Family Income as defined by HUD for the parish in which they reside. For a family of four in East Baton Rouge, this income range is from **\$17,845 to \$58,800** a year.
- **Willingness to Partner**
Habitat homeowners must contribute **255** hours of sweat equity to the building of their home and the homes of other partner families. Homeowners must also attend first time homebuyer and financial literacy classes.

Habitat Homes

A typical Habitat home has **3 bedrooms, 1.5 bath**, and measures approximately **1,150 square feet**.

Habitat homes are built in partnership with churches, businesses, schools, and civic organizations in the Greater Baton Rouge community.

Our standard schedule is to build a home, from slab to finish, over a period of **8 - 12 weeks**.

During these 8 weeks, teams of volunteers come together to **frame, paint, landscape, install doors & windows and built the home's walls** on Wednesdays and Saturdays.