



Habitat for Humanity Hamilton

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

**Our vision: A world where everyone
has a decent place to live**

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A message from our CEO

Dear friends, partners, and supporters,

As we reflect on 2025, I'm struck not only by what we accomplished together, but by how our work continues to evolve in response to the affordable housing crisis in Hamilton. This year reinforced something we have long believed: meaningful progress requires both practical solutions on the ground and strong partnerships across our community.

With your support, Habitat Hamilton expanded its impact in several important ways. Five families moved into brand-new homes on Sherman Avenue, and we strengthened our commitment to preserving affordable housing through critical repairs and renovations. Working with partners, we completed repairs to homes on Six Nations of the Grand River and CityHousing Hamilton units, while also delivering 19 major projects through our new RePair Renovate program.

Our impact extended well beyond construction. Volunteers contributed more than 10,700 hours this year, the highest total since 2018, and our Youth Build program engaged 65 students exploring careers in the skilled trades. These efforts highlight what makes Habitat unique: we are not only building homes, but also building skills, confidence, and community.

The strength of our model was also evident through the continued success of the ReStore. In 2025, our two locations generated more than \$2 million in combined sales while diverting 2.6 million pounds of material from landfill, demonstrating the powerful intersection of environmental stewardship and social impact.

We also made progress through advocacy, working alongside Habitat affiliates across Ontario and Habitat Canada to support efforts that reduce HST/GST on new affordable homes. While policy change takes time, this collaboration reflects growing recognition that housing affordability is a shared responsibility.

Behind every milestone are people: families who now have greater stability, volunteers who generously gave their time, donors and partners who trusted us to turn resources into results, and staff and board members who brought dedication and focus to our work. Each of you plays a vital role in advancing our mission.

While the need for affordable housing remains significant, we are encouraged by what is possible when communities come together around practical solutions and shared purpose. With your continued support, we will keep building homes, strengthening communities, and expanding the impact of our work.

Thank you for standing with us.

Sean Ferris, CEO
Habitat for Humanity Hamilton



ReStore Success

\$2,032,280
Combined Sales

NEW RECORD

\$149,397
in Salvaged
Kitchens



Environmental Impact

2.6 million
pounds of waste
diverted from landfills



Advocacy Wins



The Habitat Ontario Caucus in partnership with Habitat Canada successfully lobbied for the removal or reduction of HST/GST on new affordable homes.



Habitat Hamilton successfully lobbied Habitat Canada to officially begin recognizing critical repairs towards overall organizational impact metrics.



Building & Repair Achievement

- 10** Six Nations of the Grand River homes repaired
- 12** CityHousing Hamilton units repaired
- 5** families moved into brand new homes on Sherman Ave.
- 19** major renovations through RePair Renovate program
- 5** acres of land pledged through BuildNOW! Hamilton



Volunteer Impact

10,749
Volunteer Hours

Highest since 2018!

65 65 students trained through our various youth engagement programs



Our Home Build Program

While we did not complete any all-new home construction in 2025, it was a pivotal year of preparation for Habitat Hamilton's Home Build Program. Following a record-setting 2024, where 12 families moved into newly built homes, our team shifted focus toward laying the groundwork for the largest development in our 35-year history, the 10-unit Dawson Avenue build, set to break ground in 2026. At the same time, we continued delivering meaningful housing solutions through extensive renovations, completing repairs on 12 Hamilton CityHousing units and 10 homes on Six Nations of the Grand River. These critical repairs restored safe, stable living conditions for families while preserving valuable housing stock in our community.





Before



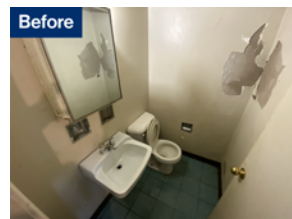
After



Before



After



Before



After

RePair Renovate

In 2025, Habitat Hamilton proudly launched RePair Renovate - a brand-new program designed to expand our impact while delivering high-quality home improvements to the broader community. Built on the same trusted expertise as our affordable housing program, our skilled construction team now offers competitive, warranted renovation and repair services to homeowners across Hamilton. In its first year alone, Repair Renovate completed 19 projects across the City. Like our ReStores, this initiative operates as a social enterprise, meaning every dollar earned supports our charitable mission and helps fund the construction of affordable homes.

Youth Build Program

Now in its second decade, Habitat Hamilton's Youth Build Program continues to be one of our most impactful and inspiring initiatives. In 2025, 65 secondary school students contributed more than 5,100 cumulative hours, gaining hands-on experience in construction, workplace safety, teamwork, and skilled trades. For many participants, Youth Build provides a powerful alternative to traditional classroom learning, offering a real-world environment where confidence grows, practical skills develop, and career pathways become clearer. Thank you to our partners at the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board for making the program possible and for helping shape the lives and careers of so many local students.





Corporate Build Days

In 2025, we were proud to host 29 corporate teams on our construction and renovation sites for dedicated Corporate Build Days. These hands-on experiences offer companies a powerful way to step outside the office and into the community, working shoulder-to-shoulder with our construction team while directly contributing to safe, affordable housing. Corporate Build Days continue to be one of the most meaningful ways businesses engage with our mission. Participants leave with new skills, fond memories, and the satisfaction of knowing they've played a tangible role in strengthening our community. We are deeply grateful to every organization that chooses to invest their time, energy, and resources to advance our builds alongside us.



ReStore®

Habitat for Humanity Hamilton

Every purchase, donation, and volunteer hour at the Hamilton ReStore helps fuel Habitat Hamilton's ability to serve families and strengthen our community.

The ReStore remains a cornerstone of Habitat Hamilton's mission and one of the most visible ways the community engages with our work. Operating as a social enterprise, the ReStore sells quality donated furniture, appliances, building materials, and home goods at a fraction of retail prices - giving new life to usable items while generating vital funding for our programs. In 2025, Habitat Hamilton marked the first full year operating two ReStore locations, and the community responded with incredible support. Together, our stores achieved record total sales, demonstrating the growing impact of this model in Hamilton. We are deeply grateful to the thousands of donors, shoppers, and volunteers who make the ReStore possible.



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Kitchens Salvaged

According to Constellation Group (2021), every dollar generated by the ReStore returns five dollars in social, environmental, and economic benefit.



every dollar



five dollars returned in social benefit



Community Engagement

Meaning of Home

The 2025 Meaning of Home writing contest saw students in grades 4–6 sharing their heartfelt essays and poems about what “home” means to them. Each student submission generated a \$10 donation to Habitat Hamilton, helping support the construction of safe and affordable homes in our community. For the second year in a row, Hamilton celebrated a national Grand Prize winner, earning a \$30,000 grant for Habitat Hamilton’s future home build projects and celebrated with the winner at a special school event. In total, the contest generated \$35,680 for Habitat Hamilton in 2025. The Meaning of Home contest continues to demonstrate how young voices can inspire meaningful change while helping build brighter futures for families in Hamilton.



Dick Borthwick Annual Charitable Golf Tournament:

Habitat Hamilton was honoured to once again receive a \$20,000 contribution from the Hamilton Golf and Country Club in 2025, representing the second year of a generous three-year funding commitment made possible through the Dick Borthwick Charitable Annual Golf Tournament. Now in its 53rd year, this incredible tournament has raised millions of dollars for charities across Hamilton, supporting organizations that strengthen and uplift our community. Habitat Hamilton is deeply grateful to be among the charities benefiting from this longstanding tradition of generosity. A sincere thank you to everyone involved with the tournament for their support of Habitat Hamilton’s mission to build safe, affordable homes for local families.



McMaster University & DeGroote School of Business

In 2025, Habitat Hamilton participated in GRIT Week, an experiential learning initiative hosted by McMaster University’s DeGroote School of Business which connects local charities with business students who help develop practical solutions to real organizational challenges. Habitat Hamilton partnered with several teams who focused on developing a marketing strategy for our newly launched Repair Renovate social enterprise. We are grateful to the students and faculty at McMaster University for sharing their creativity, insight, and enthusiasm. Partnerships like this help strengthen local organizations while giving students valuable real-world experience tackling meaningful community challenges.





Community Engagement



Volunteer Recognition

In 2025 we celebrated several individuals whose dedication continues to strengthen our mission. Longtime volunteer Paul Martin, who has volunteered for over 15 years, was nominated for the City of Hamilton's Senior of the Year Award. We were honored to celebrate Paul's incredible commitment to helping local families achieve safe, affordable housing. We also recognized three outstanding volunteers - Cheryl, Steve, and Walt - who were each awarded the King Charles III Coronation Medal, a national honour recognizing exceptional contributions to community service.

Framing Futures

In 2025, Habitat Hamilton launched Framing Futures, a new community fundraising initiative in which supporters can sponsor a construction stud and personalize it with messages, artwork, or company branding before it becomes part of a future Habitat home. This allows the community to leave a personalized mark on the homes we build while supporting affordable housing in Hamilton. These decorated studs will quite literally form the framework of our newest homes. We still have studs available as we prepare to begin construction at Dawson Avenue - get yours today and become part of this build.

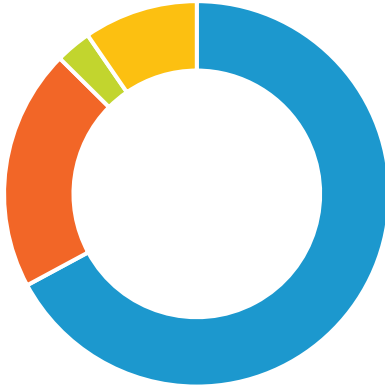


Cornerstone Winter Wonders Event

Habitat Hamilton was once again honoured to participate in the Cornerstone Association of REALTORS® Winter Wonders event held at the Royal Botanical Gardens. The evening brought together members of the community for a festive celebration. We enjoyed connecting with attendees and sharing more about our work building safe and affordable housing in the Hamilton community. Events like Winter Wonders provide a wonderful opportunity to strengthen relationships with supporters while raising awareness of the growing need for affordable housing.



Sources of Funding



- Corporate partners & Associations
- Individuals
- Service Clubs & Non-profit Associations
- Foundations & Government

Global Engagement



\$5,000 Contributed

In 2025, Habitat for Humanity Hamilton proudly contributed \$5,000 to support Habitat for Humanity International's global home building efforts. With matching funds, this contribution helped support the construction of safe and affordable homes in countries including Guatemala, Haiti, Vietnam, Côte d'Ivoire, and Malawi. Habitat Hamilton is honoured to play a small role in advancing Habitat for Humanity's global mission of ensuring more families around the world have a safe and decent place to call

Habitat Hamilton's Supporters

Roof Sponsor | \$50,000+



Utility Sponsor | \$25,000+



Drywall Sponsor | \$10,000+



Drywall Sponsor Continued | \$10,000+



Window Sponsor | \$7,500+



Door Sponsor | \$1,000+



Frame Sponsor | \$500+

- Stoney Creek Furniture
- Cogeco
- R. Lembcke & Associates
- Mandarin Charitable Foundation
- Blackheath United Church
- Hamilton-Halton Construction Association
- The Optimist Club of Stoney Creek

Thank you to every one of our donors, partners, volunteers, and staff who have contributed to the mission of Habitat Hamilton! No matter how you support, you are contributing to bringing people together to build homes, communities, and hope in Hamilton!



Thank you

2025 has been another remarkable year for Habitat Hamilton, marked by meaningful impact across our community. We are driven by the collective dedication of our staff, volunteers, donors, and our Board of Directors to continue to build on our momentum – supporting more families, strengthening our programs, and advancing our vision of a world where everyone has a decent place to call home.

Thank you for being part of this journey and for helping us build a stronger future for our community.



Habitat
for Humanity®
Hamilton



[habitathamilton.ca](https://www.habitathamilton.ca)

[Meet Our Board of Directors](#)

[Meet Our Staff](#)

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