



## Building the Beloved Community

[orangehabitat.org/beloved-community](http://orangehabitat.org/beloved-community)

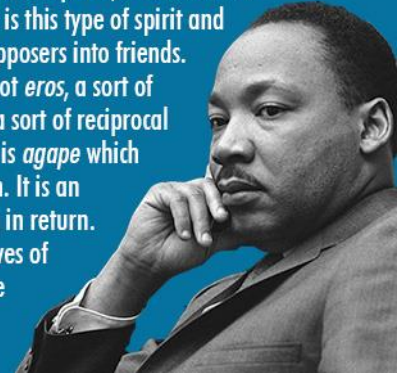


### The Beloved Community

This year, Habitat for Humanity of Orange County, NC, along with other affiliates, is launching a special project to build the Beloved Community envisioned by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. This year marks the 50th anniversary of his death and the passage of the Fair Housing Act. To honor his legacy, our new senior housing development, Crescent Magnolia, will be declared the Beloved Community.

"The end is reconciliation; the end is redemption; the end is the creation of the beloved community. It is this type of spirit and this type of love that can transform opposers into friends. The type of love that I stress here is not *eros*, a sort of esthetic or romantic love; not *philia*, a sort of reciprocal love between personal friends; but it is *agape* which is understanding goodwill for all men. It is an overflowing love which seeks nothing in return. It is the love of God working in the lives of men. This is the love that may well be the salvation of our civilization."

—MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.



### Honoring Reverend Robert "Bob" Seymour

When reflecting on who in Orange County embodies the spirit of the Beloved Community, Reverend Robert "Bob" Seymour comes to mind. Reverend Seymour was one of the visionaries who helped start the Orange County Habitat for Humanity affiliate in 1984 through Binkley Baptist Church. He spent his life leading and contributing to the struggle for fairness and equality for all people, and to this day, at the age of 93, remains committed to the ideal of the Beloved Community. He is best known in the community as:

- A founder of Habitat for Humanity of Orange County
- Pastor Emeritus of Olin T. Binkley Memorial Baptist Church
- Civil rights activist who met with Dr. King when he visited Chapel Hill
- Founding president of the Inter-Faith Council for Social Service
- Advocate for the needs of elders, including forming the first senior center in Chapel Hill named the Friends of the Robert and Pearl Seymour Center, Inc.

We are honored to name the first building in our new senior housing community after Reverend Seymour. If you would like to contribute toward this project to honor Reverend Seymour and build the Beloved Community, email Savanna at [smelton@orangehabitat.org](mailto:smelton@orangehabitat.org).

### Crescent Magnolia

More than 33% of Orange County seniors are low-income and live in unaffordable, cost-burdened and/or inadequate housing. They do not have adequate financial resources to meet their basic needs. To tackle this problem, Habitat for Humanity of Orange County, NC is embarking on an innovative project that will represent the Beloved Community.

Crescent Magnolia is a 24-unit townhome community designed for seniors (ages 55+) to live at home safely, independently, and comfortably regardless of age in Hillsborough, NC. For information on the Crescent Magnolia Community, please visit [orangehabitat.org/seniorhousing](http://orangehabitat.org/seniorhousing).

Habitat is inviting everyone throughout Orange County to participate and see the Beloved Community built in action. For more information, please reach out to Savanna at [smelton@orangehabitat.org](mailto:smelton@orangehabitat.org).