



Welcome Habitat's new VP of Development!

Habitat for Humanity of Orange County is excited to announce that Dianne Pledger has joined the team as our new Vice President of Development, effective July 15, 2020. The search for this position was conducted by the talented team at [moss+ross](#).



Dianne was previously the Senior Director of Development at Shaw University. A life-long resident of Orange County, she is looking forward to making an impact and serving the people in her local community. She is currently appointed to the Chapel Hill Cultural Arts Commission and serves as the Orange County President of the North Carolina Central University Alumni Association. She is a member of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Area Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and St. Paul AME Church in Chapel Hill.

"I could not be more thrilled to welcome Dianne into the Habitat family. Dianne is no stranger to Habitat, having supported Habitat and volunteered on our construction site with other civic and religious organizations. Not only does Dianne bring a wealth of knowledge about fundraising, marketing, and communications but she also has demonstrated strong leadership throughout her career. Dianne will be a tremendous asset to our organization as we strive to provide affordable homeownership opportunities for even more people in our community," said Jennifer Player, Habitat President & CEO.

[Click here to send Dianne an email and welcome her to the team!](#)

Weavers Grove: Strengthening the Fabric of our Community



On June 24, the Chapel Hill Town Council unanimously approved Weavers Grove, Habitat's innovative 236-home mixed-income neighborhood. In a recent column on [Chapelboro.com](#), Habitat President & CEO Jennifer Player wrote about the importance of this mixed-income neighborhood, especially right now.

"The Council's approval of the Weavers Grove development comes at a time when housing is at the center of two major national discussions – COVID-19 and racial equity," said Jennifer.

"COVID-19 has exposed the affordable housing crisis Habitat has been fighting for since our inception; a crisis exacerbated by decades of racially biased housing policies. As the health and economic shocks from this crisis ripple out, those with the least will suffer the most. They always do."

"The concept for Weavers Grove was formed on an ambitious and auspicious thought – that we could create a diverse and vibrant neighborhood that strengthens the fabric of our community. After more than 18 years, we are more than ready to get started. Join us in building a new way to live together as neighbors, one home at a time," said Jennifer.

[Read the full article here and learn more about Weavers Grove here.](#)

High Heels and Hard Hats: Now Virtual!

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the 6th annual High Heels and Hard Hats Fashion Show, presented by Shannon Kennedy, Broker, Hodge & Kittrell Sotheby's International Realty, is now virtual!

On Saturday, August 29 at 7pm, join us from the comfort of your own home to cheer on local celebrities as they strut their stuff to raise money for affordable housing in Orange County. The evening will also include auctions, a virtual photobooth, and more!



Tickets for this event are on sale now! General admission tickets are \$20, and a \$30 VIP ticket includes a special goodie bag delivered to your door. Invite friends near and far to join you in purchasing a ticket today for this evening of fashion, fun, and fundraising!

[Click here to purchase your tickets today!](#)

Volunteer Update: Phase 1 begins



We closed our construction sites to volunteers on March 12 because of the pandemic. It's been a quiet four months as our construction staff has continued working on homes in progress. We were excited to welcome our first volunteers back on July 8!

Adapted protocols include a six-person limit per house including staff, required masks, and rigorous cleaning of shared tools and equipment. Some members of our regular crew and homeowners currently working on their sweat equity hours have been joining us.

Jonathan and Kimberly are excited to finally have the chance to work on their new in the Odie Street neighborhood in Hillsborough. [Meet them here!](#)

Stay tuned for updates as we welcome more groups and individuals back!

Events

August 29: High Heels and Hard Hats Fashion Show: NOW VIRTUAL!



Join Habitat in building strength, stability, and self-reliance for our neighbors.



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