

# Habitat NEWS



**Habitat**  
for Humanity®

# ReStore

# COMING SOON!

**A new ReStore is  
coming to Hillsborough!**

**Visit Habitat ReStore – Hillsborough on Facebook  
for updates and an official opening date coming this Winter.**

**672 North Churton Street, Hillsborough, NC 27278**

**Thank you for building a world where everyone has a decent place to live.  
We couldn't do it without you!**





**Thank you, Blue Cross NC, for your investment in Habitat and the Crescent Magnolia Community!**

*Future homeowners and community members gather to cut the ribbon on the gazebo.*

## Community Gazebo dedicated with partner Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina

**B**lue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina has invested in Habitat for Humanity projects in Wake, Durham, and Orange counties to improve housing affordability, safety, and quality for vulnerable families and seniors in the Triangle area. The \$100,000 investment the company has made in Orange County will help build Crescent Magnolia, a 24-unit community focused exclusively on affordable homeownership for seniors ages 55 and up.

"Seniors are the most cost-burdened population in Orange County, with little to no vacancies available for affordable homes that meet their needs. We are incredibly grateful to Blue Cross and Blue Shield

of North Carolina for its investment in this innovative community designed specifically for seniors to age in place in a quality, affordable home," said Jennifer Player, Habitat CEO.

On September 26, Habitat hosted an event in the community to celebrate this investment and cut the ribbon on the new gazebo dedicated to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina.

"Housing in Orange County is higher. To be able to provide affordable housing right here in Hillsborough and be the first for seniors is very exciting," said Reagan Greene Pruitt, Vice President of Marketing & Community Engagement at Blue Cross NC.



*Habitat CEO Jennifer Player and Blue Cross NC VP Reagan Greene Pruitt*



## UNC Health Care welcomes home two families



*Leadership from UNC Health Care gather around employee and future homeowner Anna-Marie.*

On October 29, Habitat dedicated the homes of John and Marion and Anna-Marie in Crescent Magnolia, a 24-unit community focused exclusively on affordable homeownership for seniors ages 55 and up. This dedication celebrated both the homebuyers' investment in themselves, and the \$50,000 investment UNC Health Care contributed to this community. Leadership from the UNC Health Care system were able to welcome home these new homeowners.

"I was thinking about the word home and what it means: what a powerful word it is. It's a place of security and it's great to be in a project like this. This is a cause that's near and dear to UNC Health Care's hearts," said Jeff Strickler, Vice President at UNC Health Care.



*John and Marion at their dedication.*

Anna-Marie, a housekeeper on a children's unit at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill, is now able to have a stable place to live close to public transportation, allowing her to continue working for the hospital. John is able to have a safe place to live that's ADA-friendly, allowing him to continue to take care of his wife Marion's medical needs and not move into assisted living.

"Marion is my bride of 54 years. I look so forward to being able to take care of her in this home. It's been such a wonderful journey the past year and a half," said John.

**Welcome home, John, Marion, and Anna-Marie!**

## Staff Spotlight: Amelia Mulder



Amelia joined our team this past September as our first ever Home Repair Manager. In this role, she supports homeowners by leading home maintenance and repair classes, completing personalized home walkthroughs with new homeowners, managing our Home Repair Loan program, and much more. While she may be new to Orange Habitat, Amelia has previously worked with three other Habitat affiliates and with Appalachia Service Project.

### What excites me about my job?

The majority of my work experience has been in emergency repairs, so I'm very excited about the opportunity to teach homeowners preventative maintenance skills. I've seen all types of issues in past jobs, and so many other projects where I just kept thinking, "I wish someone would have caught this sooner."

### Which talent would you most like to have?

Anything music related. Singing or playing an instrument well.

### When and where were you happiest?

During my summers doing home repair in Central Appalachia. I met some truly amazing people and learned a lot.

### What do you most value in your friends?

Authenticity and individuality. I find it very inspiring and I feel lucky to have people like them in my life.

### If you could change one thing about yourself.

Being less shy, I guess. Or discovering self-worth. That'd probably help with the shyness.

### What is your idea of perfect happiness?

Whatever my dog feels when she's running around in a big field. Pure bliss and freedom. I'm not sure how to achieve that level of happiness, but I'd love to experience it someday.

### Favorite Orange Habitat memory so far:

In November, I had the pleasure of showing some potential homes to a newly-approved applicant. We were joined by her friend, a Habitat homeowner who had moved into his home a few years ago, and an interpreter. Despite the language barrier, I could immediately tell that she liked it and I could feel her excitement building as we walked down the hall. When I opened the back door to show her the porch and yard, she burst into tears and hugged the two men who were with us. Then she hugged me. She kept telling me thank you and that she loved me. I couldn't hold back my own tears as we held each other in the kitchen. Her friend told me about how she had not been able to find a place that felt like home since fleeing the Congo, and in that moment, she finally felt like she'd found a home.

# High Heels and Hard Hats Fashion Show

Join us for the 6th Annual High Heels and Hard Hats Fashion Show!

April 17, 2020 at 7-10 pm

The Rizzo Center

Sponsor & VIP Reception at 6pm

Guests can mix and mingle as local celebrities strut their stuff on the runway to raise money for affordable housing in Orange County.

Tickets are on sale now at:

[www.orangehabitat.org/fashionshow](http://www.orangehabitat.org/fashionshow)

Get your tickets now before they're sold out!



## Your support could be doubled!



Join us in building strength, stability, and self-reliance for more families in Orange County by making your gift count **TWICE** through the **Stewards Fund Challenge!** Gifts from new donors, increased gifts from existing donors, and gifts from lapsed donors dated between February 1 and June 30 will be matched and have double the impact.

To make a donation, visit our website at [orangehabitat.org/give](http://orangehabitat.org/give) or use the enclosed slip and envelope. Contact Grace Johnston at **(919) 932-7077 ext. 219** if you have questions about your giving.



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