
There are so many ways to express gratitude, and Pomona Valley Habitat has much to be grateful for. We have 47 families in PVHabitat Homes, countless families helped by our ABWK team, a successful ReStore, and wonderful volunteers.

But most of all we are thankful for YOU!

YOU enable our small affiliate to dream big and effect real change in our community everyday! YOUR support puts us closer to our fundraising midpoint to begin construction. YOUR donation allows ABWK to continue to provide elderly, disabled, or low-income homeowners the right to maintain their dignity and independence in their own homes. YOUR contribution keeps the lights on and helps our affiliate to make ends meet. YOUR gift gives hope to the community.

We are so very thankful for you!

November 2018

www.habitatpv.org

Thankful for Hope

This time of year we are reminded to give thanks for the blessings we have received though out the year. We are thankful for our health, our family, our homes and so much more. But right now in our local community there are many who are grateful for the little that they have. Allow me to introduce you to Dawn.

Dawn is a single mother of two young children. Every morning she wakes up grateful for a roof over their heads, and while it is a family member’s den, she is grateful that her children have a warm, safe place to sleep. The children snuggle into the sofa, resisting the call to wake up for school (but on weekends somehow can be up by 6 a.m.) and while Dawn’s heart aches that they do not have beds, she knows they are happy and healthy. She is grateful. The children eat, dress for school, and while they may not remember to say thank you for their full bellies and clean clothes, Dawn knows her little ones are grateful.

Dawn is thankful for their teachers and community leaders who contribute to the success of her children’s school and after school care. She goes to work where she tries to give back and help others. When asked how her day is, Dawn’s response is, “I’m blessed with work.”

When dinnertime arrives her children have enough to ensure they thrive, even if Dawn goes to bed with an empty stomach. She is thankful for their health and clean water and for the promise of tomorrow. Dawn tucks her young ones in and watches gratefully as they fall asleep content and happy. She is grateful for their innocence; they do not know that they go without, they do not know that she can not give them more. But she knows that tomorrow will be better and prays for those less fortunate. Dawn is grateful for hope.

You can help people in your community like Dawn. People around you who go without decent, affordable housing. People whose homes have fallen into disrepair and need Pomona Valley Habitat to help keep them in their homes. Local veterans that live in substandard housing. Give these people a new reason to be thankful.

This year give hope.
Give to PVHabitat.

Call 909.596.7098 To give the gift of hope today.
IMPORTANT DONATION NOTICE!

Make your checks payable to “Pomona Valley Habitat or PVHFH” and mail to our La Verne address to ensure your gift supports your local Habitat & community.

If you make your check payable to “Habitat for Humanity”, Pomona Valley Habitat for Humanity tithes 10% to Habitat for Humanity International to support international building. If you send your donation to the Habitat for Humanity International office in Georgia, the Pomona Valley affiliate will receive NOTHING! None of your donation will be given to PVHabitat unless stated in your donation letter.

Thank you for your support!

PVH Veteran Build: Chino Hills

Our Goal $500,000!

- Construction Begins! $250,000
- $150,000
- $50,000
- $100,000
- $200,000
- $300,000
- $400,000
- $450,000

Our Family In Faith

“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.”
1 Chronicles 16:34

First Presbyterian Church of Upland
La Verne Church of The Brethren
La Verne Heights Presbyterian Church

Commercial Community Partners
Albertsons Companies Foundation
The Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
First American Title Insurance Company
Kroger Company

“As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them.”
John F. Kennedy
2018 Silver Hammers

Clouds have silver linings . . we have Silver Hammers!

PVH is thankful for our October Donors

Albertsons Companies Foundation  Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  Sandra Jo Laub  Rita A. Ruminski
Arlene Andrew  First American Title Insurance Company  Jimmy & Betty Lumpkin  Robert & Elizabeth Smith
Sandra N. Baldonado  First Presbyterian Church of Upland  Stanley E. & Beryl Moore  Robert & Suzan Smith
Joseph & Nancy Blackstock  Thomas & Camille Gackstetter  Margaret O’Connor  Smizer Family Trust
Rose Blennov  Lois Godfrey  Edward & Lucy O’Donnell  Garth and Cecilia Stephens
Michael & Mary Lou Brown  Steve & Helaine Goldwater  Sandie Oerly  Cynthia Sullivan
The Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation  Betsy Helwig  Alice S. Oglesby  Virginia Sutton
Debra M. Carter  Rosemary Henderson  David & Nancy Olaver  Ellen Taylor
Thomas & Christine Cravens  Kathryn Hunter  Margaret Osborn  Zora TeBeau
Marilyn Dale  Gary & Lois Ingham  Joann H. Patton  Maria T. Valles
Arthur & Fredda Davis  Ruben Juarez  Tim & Cathy Peron  Reginald Varra
William & Robin DeKleine  Susan Keith  Daniel & Lissa Petersen  Warner Family Trust
Thomas & Eugenia Elliott  Kroger Company  Nicholas & Joan Presecan  Kevin & Alicia Webb
Sherwin Feingold  La Verne Church of The Brethren  Randall & Rhonda Prout  You Name Here!
Scott Felix  La Verne Heights Presbyterian Church  Jack & Emma Reardon

PVH is thankful for our October Donors

A donation in memory of Bertha Draayom was made by Lois Godfrey
A donation in honor of Bobbie Canez was made by The Capital Group Co.
A donation in honor of Mary DeLeon was made in by Betsy Helwig
A donation in honor of Jody Gmeiner was made by Lois Godfrey

A donation in honor of Sharon Hightower was made by
Alice S. Oglesby  Robert & Suzan Smith
Arlene Andrew  Rosemary Henderson
Cynthia Sullivan  Sandra N. Baldonado
Daniel & Lissa Petersen  Smizer Family Trust
Ellen Taylor  Steve & Helaine Goldwater
Marilyn Dale  Susan Keith
Nicholas & Joan Presecan  Thomas & Eugenia Elliott
Randall & Rhonda Prout  Warner Family Trust
Zora TeBeau

Gift Giving Just Got Easier!

Make a donation in honor or memory of someone special! Once you make a donation to PVHabitat, we will send a customized card to your honoree. Simply provide the details to whom the card should be sent with your donation and we will do the rest! We will also include this contribution in our monthly newsletter. It is a terrific way to support our work, while also acknowledging those you care about. PVHabitat cards are perfect for birthdays, Christmas, Memorials and much more.

Join the Silver Hammers Today!
Contact us at 909.596.7098

Thank you for your generous giving!
A Super Awesome Volunteer

Jenine “J9” Super-Awesome is truly a super awesome volunteer! A motivated young adult who is completely civic-minded, “J9” began her journey with PVH as many volunteers do - her mom brought her to volunteer during the summer. On break from UCLA, “J9” and her brother became regular features in the PVHabitat office. The pair were able to easily tackle any project or task assigned to them and on the weekends her brother would team up with their mother to volunteer with the ABWK Crew (more information provided in The A...BWK Team article on the following page).

“J9” continued to volunteer in the PVH office and with her family on weekends after summer came to an end. Twice a week, PVH has been able to benefit from the time and talents of an accomplished person who not only meets all her expectations, but completely surpasses them effectively and efficiently. With a contagious laugh and a quick wit, “J9” has made a lasting impact with the PVH administrative staff and we will be heavy-hearted to see her leave at the end of the year and return to school.

No matter what “J9” chooses to do with her B.A. in Chemical Engineering, be it an Engineer for the United Nations or a High School Math Teacher, she will be a success. She possesses the tenacity, brilliance, and self confidence that will serve her well in the next adventure of her young life. And with a selfless, philanthropic family to guide and support her, “J9” is destined for great things.

Working Together

The Pomona Valley Habitat ReStore was recognized by Anthesis at the Calif. Disability Services Assoc./ I.E. Caucus’ Partnership Recognition event, held in Rancho Cucamonga. Anthesis is an organization that strives to help people with disabilities live and work to their fullest potential. Working together, the ReStore and Anthesis have taught job skills to adults with disabilities, sought to improve self-confidence, and encouraged independence. Several of the ReStore’s most dependable volunteers are from this organization. Larry, Donald, and An work hard everyday. With huge smiles on their faces, they help everyone that comes into the store. ReStore has truly been blessed by having these incredible individuals volunteer in our Montclair ReStore and hope that the partnership between Anthesis and PVHabitat continues for years to come.

Gathering Together to ask the Lord’s Blessing

On October 11th at Inland Hills Church in Chino, the community came together and raised their voices in praise to the Lord and in gratitude for the blessings that He has given at the 9th Annual PVH “Prayers Over Easy” Prayer Breakfast. Leaders of various congregations took their place at the Lord’s Table to break bread as God’s children. While Habitat for Humanity is an ecumenical Christian organization, we are open to serve all faiths and work together to build quality homes for low income families.

We gathered to pray for those serving our country and their families, our leaders at all levels, Pomona Valley Habitat, our churches, and our homeless. Heartfelt thank yous for participating go to Pastor Jon Llera of Water of Life Community Church, Upland; Pastor Brian Gonzales of Christ Church of the Valley, San Dimas; Lisa Hernandez of Inland Hills Church, Chino; Pastor Michael Obadja of Abbalove, Chino Hills; and our host Pastor Jason Urbanski of Inland Hills Church, Chino. Thank you to volunteers Sergeant Joe Martinez, who led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Jody Gmeiner, who spoke about PVHabitat’s mission. A special thank you to Donna and Danielle Moore, a current Habitat family who shared their story with the Prayer Breakfast attendants. Donna spoke about her life changing experience with Habitat and her daughter Danielle displayed the medals she won at the 2018 Special Olympics and showed the audience the skills that she had taught the service dog she is training. The Moores perfectly displayed the difference that the support from the community, the PVH cities, and our amazing volunteers can make in a person’s life.

As Matthew tells us, the Lord is present when his children gather in His name; together we gathered, lifted prayers and hearts, and were witness to His good works as we actively lived our faith.
Nearly 10 years ago a crack unit of volunteers was sent out into the community by Pomona Valley Habitat to help low-income, elderly, and/or disabled homeowners by providing exterior home repair. These helpers promptly answered the calls of those in need. Today, still wanted by residents of PVH’s 16 city service area, they survive on generous donations. They are the best of the best. If you have a problem, if no one else can help, and if you can find them, maybe you can hire The A...BWK Team.

CASE# 1817– The Fallen Fence Fix
A homeowner contacted PVHabitat in need of help; she was a disabled senior citizen who did not have the additional money or the manpower to accomplish the improvements that needed to be made. She sought help from the city and other agencies, but was denied assistance. That’s when “Reggie the Great” Varra called his top-notch team to action!

The homeowner’s main concern was to have her fence reinstalled and everything after that was a bonus. She thoughtfully provided lunch, drinks, and snacks for The A...BWK TEAM as her way of thanking everyone for their time and hard work. When the case was closed the homeowner could not thank them enough for the transformation. It was better than she could have imagined and she couldn’t hold back her tears. But our reward was that justice had been done. So remember if you have a problem, if no one else can help, look for The A...BWK Team.
Meet the Staff

There is a new face at the ReStore-Mackenzie Sternquist!

(Don’t feed the Reindeer!)

Mackenzie is a long time volunteer with PVH, from his participation in Cardboard Box Cities while a student at Damien High School to helping set up and break down the 2018 Wine Extravaganza.

It was only natural that when a position opened at the ReStore that Mackenzie jumped at the opportunity. With his infectious smile and effervescent personality, Mr. Sternquist has made a definite impact. Customers, volunteers, and employees alike all remark on the incredible work ethic of this gentle giant.

Welcome to Team PVH Mackenzie!

Montage Paints: Paint That’s Worth A 1000 Words

“Waste not, want not” - we all know that age old adage by heart. It is as popular a saying as “Your face will stay like that” and “Don’t make me turn this car around”. It was a way of life for numerous generations. Everyone wants to get the most out of their dollar. Now, Montage Paints has a new way to paint which will make you, your wallet, and the planet happier and healthier.

Previous methods of not only making, but disposing of paint have created an opening for American gumption and innovation - upcycled paint. Upcycled paint, a quality product and more affordable than traditional paint, reuses elements of paint that would otherwise be dumped in landfills or poured down drains. A few of the advantages of upcycled paint are: Upcycled paint has a stronger hold on surfaces; upcycled paint keeps free-flowing liquids out of landfills; and each gallon of upcycled paint saves an estimated 13 gallons of clean water.

If you are wondering why PVHabitat is so interested in upcycled paint, it is because the ReStore now offers these special paints in numerous vibrant colors made by Montage Paints, a local company dedicated to reducing waste and improving the community.

The new paint comes in pre-mixed one-gallon cans for $17 and in five-gallon containers for $90, both prices well below retail. Coupons or discounts on other items in the store will not apply in the sale of paint due to its already deeply discounted price.

Montage Paint is the leading eco-friendly upcycled paint brand. Eco-friendly and environmentally sustainable paint that is a safer option for the environment and a green solution for our community. They offer interior, exterior, commercial, residential, water base, and graffiti resistant upcycled paint.

To learn more about Montage Paints and its processes, go to https://www.montagepaint.com

The PVHReStore is at 4609 Holt Blvd., Montclair. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays.
Pomona Valley Habitat for Humanity would like to thank **Investors Team Realty** & **Canyon City Printing** for making our newsletter possible!

For more information on how you can become a sponsor please contact our office at 909.596.7098
There’s A New Sheriff in Town

In September of 2015 a man walked into the PVH administrative office and Habitat has not been the same since! Our ABWK Committee, a very labor intensive Committee, was losing one of their co-chairs, and they were desperately in need help. They needed someone who could move at speed of light, leave a cloud of dust, and with a hearty laugh - they needed a hero! But wherever could they find such a person? It was then that Reggie Varra found PVHabitat.

After 30 years in the corporate world; 21 years with Nestle Waters of North America - the majority of that as the National Director of Home and Office, Supply Chain, Reggie decided to retire in 2013. He thought retirement would be a peaceful journey with family and friends, but God had different plans for him. Reggie soon found himself volunteering with ABWK and made such an impression that he was asked to become Co-Chair. By the next year the ABWK committee and their volunteers were able to help more than 3x the homeowners than they ever had before. His hard work ethic has earned him the “Millard Fuller Volunteer of the Year” in 2017.

In September 2018 PVH’s President & CEO, Jody Gmeiner chose to retire. We needed a hero, but wherever could we find a new leader to guide us through the coming transition? Enter Reggie Varra. On loan from ABWK, Mr. Varra’s previous business experience paired with his time volunteering with PVH, made him the natural choice. It is with a joyful heart and excited spirits that Pomona Valley Habitat for Humanity welcomes Reginald “Reggie” Varra, our Interim Executive Director to the PVH family!

He’s the hero we need, and the hero we deserve.