

# Construction volunteer



**Department: Construction**

**Reports to: Construction manager or supervisor, construction crew leader**

## Goals and impact of the volunteer position

- Habitat for Humanity partners with prospective homebuyers to provide a decent place to live through the construction of new and rehabilitated homes. Habitat homebuyers help build their own home alongside staff members and volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage.
  - Decent, affordable housing provides homeowners with a place to gather, grow and create the conditions that help alleviate instability, stress, and fear. It also encourages self-reliance and confidence. Studies have found that strong, stable households are foundational to child development and growth, health and safety, financial savings, and educational opportunities. Surveys of Habitat homeowners and their families show better financial health, more confidence in meeting their family's needs, and even improved grades for their children.
- Habitat also partners with existing homeowners to provide home repair and revitalization services. These services help ensure that homeowners and their families have safe and well-maintained homes, thus preserving the inventory of affordable housing and improving safety and security.
  - Habitat home repairs help older adults and individuals with mobility challenges remain safely in their homes with dignity and independence. Last year, our affiliate served 15 individuals who identified as older than 65 and/or disabled with repairs that increased the accessibility of their homes, such as ramps and assistive technology — all supported by our volunteers.
  - Habitat home repairs help existing homeowners with cost-prohibitive structural repairs such as roof replacements, window and door replacements, energy retrofits, and critical system replacements. Through these activities last year, our affiliate served 17 households who were at risk of code noncompliance, displacement due to structural issues, or loss of insurance coverage — all supported by our volunteers.
  - Habitat home repairs help revitalize neighborhoods and create vital community connections.
- Volunteers are at the heart of construction and bring new skills and capacity to build more affordable homes. Volunteers help build and repair 15 homes in our community each year, benefiting more than 60 individuals.

*Habitat for Humanity's mission is seeking to put God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities, and hope. Our vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live.*

## Location and service environment

- One service site.
- Multiple service sites.
- Remote.
- Hybrid (on-site and remote).

## LOCATION

Volunteer addresses vary based on current project locations. Specific service locations will be available before your register for your volunteer time. You will also receive the volunteer service address in your confirmation email.

You can expect to volunteer in one of the following neighborhoods or communities in the city or county:

- Cedar Creek Subdivision

## **WHAT TO EXPECT IN YOUR SERVICE ENVIRONMENT**

- At a Habitat construction site, you will help build or repair homes alongside staff members, future homeowners, and volunteers.
- The volunteer location is an active construction site. A volunteer code of conduct and safety guidelines must be followed to ensure a positive experience for everyone. Volunteers should be prepared to perform construction-related tasks, based on training received on-site as part of the larger team. At times, you may work independently on projects.
- Most construction tasks take place outdoors; exposure to weather elements should be anticipated.
- Water is provided. Bringing a refillable water bottle is recommended.
- Restroom facilities are provided. Please bear in mind that these are portable facilities.
- No construction experience or skills are necessary for this volunteer position. Habitat staff members and lead volunteers will provide all necessary training and education.

## **DRESS CODE**

### **Required**

- Sturdy closed-toe and closed-heel shoes.
- Shirts with short or long sleeves
- Appropriate attire for the weather.
- Clothes you do not mind getting dirty or potentially stained.

### **Recommended**

- Long pants.

### **Please note**

- Please do not wear clothing with images that might be considered offensive or inappropriate. Remember that you will be representing Habitat for Humanity during your volunteer time.
- As a safety consideration, avoid loose-fitting or baggy clothes.
- All construction site staff members, volunteers, and visitors are required to wear any personal protective equipment, or PPE, deemed appropriate by site management for the work underway. This includes a hard hat and safety glasses for all individuals on site. Please take this consideration into account when planning any headgear. All necessary PPE will be provided by Habitat site management.

## **TIME COMMITMENT**

- Construction volunteer opportunities are scheduled based on the build schedule for new home construction and the scheduling of projects with existing homeowners.
- Typical volunteer opportunities are Tuesday to Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Volunteers are expected to stay for their entire scheduled time to ensure the goals for the day are met.
- Volunteers may serve one or more times, based on interest and availability.

## **Skills and qualifications**

- Volunteers must be 18 or older to participate. If the volunteer is 16 or 17 years old, the available tasks are limited and must be discussed with Habitat staff before the volunteer shift.
- No experience is necessary, but all volunteers should have the following:
  - Support of and belief in Habitat's mission, vision, and values.
  - Openness to learning new things.
  - Ability to work as part of a team.
  - Ability to follow safety guidelines and project directions.
  - Reliability in your schedule and communication.

- Willingness to embrace our community partners and neighbors as you build community with us.
- Ability to be mindful of your environment and use sound judgment.

## Tasks and responsibilities

Tasks and responsibilities vary based on the construction schedule and repairs. Before registering for each volunteer shift, you will be notified of the type of tasks you might perform. Please be aware that these expected tasks may change before you arrive based on the nature of construction scheduling and potential weather. Potential tasks include:

- Site preparations.
- Framing and raising walls.
- Siding installation.
- Window and door installation.
- Exterior or interior painting.
- Finish work.
- Site cleanup and maintenance, as necessary.

Other projects may be available based on your skills and experience.

Construction projects may require the use of the following tools provided by Habitat:

- Hammers
- Tape measures
- Utility knives
- Siding snips and shears
- Other tools based on your training or comfort level and as needed to complete the project tasks.

All volunteers agree to:

- Complete all required Habitat volunteer applications, waivers, and volunteer code of conduct
- Follow the Habitat Volunteer Code of Conduct attached to this volunteer position description.
- Abide by all safety policies and procedures.
- Take direction on assigned tasks from construction leadership.
- Contribute to a safe, respectful, and inclusive job site culture.
- Communicate effectively with the construction team.
- Be respectful of time and commitment to scheduled volunteer shifts.
- Take seriously their ethical responsibilities to safeguard our intended beneficiaries, their communities (especially children), and all those with whom we work. In line with the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, all volunteers must pass a sex offender registry background check, and those who are classified as key volunteers must pass a thorough background screening.

## Orientation and training opportunities

Orientation and training will help you learn more about Habitat and your volunteer role. This volunteer position includes:

### REQUIRED VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

- In-person volunteer orientation

### SAFETY TRAINING

- Safety Course completed before first Build Day.
- Safety huddles at the beginning of each volunteer shift or as scheduled.

### ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- On-the-job training for construction projects and tasks.
- Optional virtual training to learn more about Habitat for Humanity's history and mission.

- Additional training opportunities for volunteer leaders are available.

### **Benefits of volunteering**

- Making a difference by helping meet a critical community need.
- Networking with and meeting new community members.
- Positive social and physical health benefits.
- Learning new skills.
- Additional training opportunities for construction and other volunteer positions.
- Invitations to local Habitat for Humanity volunteer events.

### **How to get involved**

- Email [srevertsala@habitatmctx.org](mailto:srevertsala@habitatmctx.org) to get more information.
- Office 936-441-4663

### **About Habitat for Humanity Montgomery County, TX**

Our goal is simple – to empower communities and provide strength, stability, and self-reliance through affordable housing. Since 1989, we have relied on the loving hands of volunteers to build strong homes and strong communities.

We believe that everyone deserves a decent place to call home. By partnering with caring people around the world, building homes with volunteers, and offering affordable mortgage payments, we empower homeowners to gain the independence they need for a better life for themselves and their families.

Habitat MCTX is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International. We are 100% self-funded, depending entirely on the unwavering support of the local community.