



Building stronger communities, one homeowner at a time
pensacolahabitat.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Quinn Luehring, Communications Manager
 Pensacola Habitat for Humanity
 850-480-5598
qluehring@pensacolahabitat.org

State of Florida awards \$2.5 million landmark investment to Pensacola Habitat for Humanity to build homes, buy land

PENSACOLA, Fla. – Under Gov. Ron DeSantis’ approved Fiscal Year 2023-24 budget, Pensacola Habitat for Humanity will receive \$2,549,565 from legislative appropriations for new affordable homes and a Community Land Trust supporting workforce families and active duty military men, women and their families in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties. With assistance from the offices of Sen. Doug Broxson, Rep. Michelle Salzman and Rep. Alex Andrade, Pensacola Habitat for Humanity was fortunate to be included in housing conversations leading to funding these two viable housing projects.

“Cost and dwindling housing inventories are adversely impacting too many of our citizens. It’s encouraging to know that local and state officials recognize how important it is to create and sustain housing solutions. Not only do we as an organization feel honored to be the trusted stewards of these project funds,” Sam Young, Pensacola Habitat for Humanity President and CEO explained, “but on a more personal level, I’m inspired to play a bigger role in the lives of our workforce families and the men and women who serve our country. This generous support will play a critical role in building lives, communities and hope.”

Appropriation funds will be used for the development of a 30-parcel subdivision in Pensacola for workforce families, of which 20% of the new homes will be designated as rentals for active-duty military members and their families. Funds will also help to launch the Northwest Florida Community Land Trust (CLT), a shared equity homeownership model designed to make homeownership attainable for low-income households. It guarantees that the home can only be sold to other low-to-moderate income households, creating a permanent affordable housing stock. This is the first CLT in Florida history to be funded by state legislature.

“Our mission puts God’s love into action every day. It is not only our mission to provide affordable housing for the families and individuals in our workforce at the hospitals, fire departments, service industry and beyond, but it’s also our mission to provide security and safety for the generations to come,” said Reverend Dr. Gene Franklin, Pensacola Habitat for Humanity’s Board Chair.

This funding will greatly impact the organization’s production in providing affordable homeownership opportunities to hardworking, deserving families. To learn more about Pensacola Habitat for Humanity, visit pensacolahabitat.org.

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About Pensacola Habitat for Humanity

Founded in 1981, Pensacola Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit, non-denominational, Christian ministry whose purpose is to improve communities through sustainable partnerships. Having built and renovated over 1,450 homes, Pensacola Habitat seeks new and innovative ways to positively impact the community through various meaningful projects, including their Home Buyer, HUD Certified Housing Counseling, and Community Development Programs. Pensacola Habitat for Humanity offers unique financing opportunities to qualified applicants to provide affordable home ownership in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties. For more information, visit pensacolahabitat.org.

About Habitat for Humanity International

Driven by the vision that everyone needs a decent place to live, Habitat for Humanity began in 1976 as a grassroots effort on a community farm in southern Georgia. The Christian housing organization has since grown to become a leading global nonprofit working in more than 1,300 communities throughout the U.S. and in more than 70 countries. Families and individuals in need of a hand up partner with Habitat for Humanity to build or improve a place they can call home. Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. Through financial support, volunteering or adding a voice to support affordable housing, everyone can help families achieve the strength, stability, and self-reliance they need to build better lives for themselves. Through shelter, we empower. To learn more, visit habitat.org.

About Pensacola Habitat for Humanity ReStore

Our local Habitat for Humanity Restore supports Pensacola Habitat for Humanity's mission of building homes, communities and hope. Revenue earned by selling donated furniture, appliances, building materials, and more is reinvested in our community to provide affordable homeownership options to families in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. Together we are changing lives right here at home. For more information, visit pensacolarestore.com.

About NeighborWorks America

For more than 40 years, Neighborhood Reinvestment Corp., a national, nonpartisan nonprofit known as NeighborWorks America, has strived to make every community a place of opportunity. Our network of excellence includes nearly 250 members in every state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. NeighborWorks America offers grant funding, peer exchange, technical assistance, evaluation tools, and access to training as the nation's leading trainer of housing and community development professionals. NeighborWorks network organizations provide residents in their communities with affordable homes, owned and rented; financial counseling and coaching; community building through resident engagement; and collaboration in the areas of health, employment, and education.