Newsletter Summer 2025

**Building Houses** 

**Building Lives** 

**Building Hope** 

**Building Community** 

#### FAB—Fellowship and Building!

The FAB Team has been very busy since Helene hit the area in late September. They've worked on homes that had damage from the storm around Avery County. They've replaced insulation, drywall, flooring and trim, and have really put the minds of the homeowners at ease and helped them recover from the devastation. This summer the FAB Team has recently gotten back to working on both Habitat homes in the Milford Meadows community in Elk Park and on top of White Oak Knoll in Newland.

We are so thankful for these hardworking and faithful volunteers who give so much of themselves to our neighbors in need!







#### **HOW YOU CAN HELP HABITAT:**

You or your business can be a critical part of our success in fulfilling the mission of Avery County Habitat for Humanity. From financial support to volunteer labor, donated materials to skilled labor – corporations, businesses and individuals play a key role in everything Habitat can accomplish.

Today, the average Habitat home in Avery County cost approximately \$170,000 to complete. Habitat has identified at least 3 ways supporters can get involved in building cost-efficient and affordable housing for Avery County families.

Choose to offer financial support through a one-time donation, sponsoring the entire home or anything in between:

<u>ADOPT-A-DAY SPONSORSHIP</u> – Every home Avery Habitat builds requires more than 2,500 hours of volunteer labor. An organization can commit workers to a single day of work, a particular phase of the building project, or any number of days throughout the build. Every day that we build, we spend an average of \$2,000 on materials. We ask that companies consider an Adopt-A-Day Program to help cover the cost of materials used for a particular day of work.

**FOUNDATION SPONSORSHIP**: By contributing \$10,000 to Avery Habitat, you help pay for construction materials needed for 2 weeks of construction on one home. Funds can be raised by individuals, companies or through other grants. As a Foundation Sponsor, you will receive Habitat tee-shirts and sponsorship recognition using a variety of marketing outlets.

FULL HOME SPONSORSHIP: This is the greatest commitment an individual or business can make. A \$170,000 home sponsorship will provide all the funding for a single home. You can make the dream of homeownership a reality for a hard working family. You will receive public recognition at our Habitat events and your business will receive increased visibility in a variety of marketing outlets.



# Volunteers! March—June 2025

Banner Elk Presbyterian (NC) Bethel University (MN) Camp Linn Haven (NC) Camp Lutherock (NC)

Covenant Presbyterian Church (NC) Culpeper Presbyterian Church (VA) First Presbyterian Church Newton (NC) Formosan UMC-East Bay (CA) Hilbert College (NY) Linville Ridge (NC) Martin Luther Chapel (MI) Port City Community Church (NC) **Praying Pelican Ministries** Summit Christian College (NE) Tuesday Quality Team University of Connecticut (CT)



University of Connecticut volunteers



Formosan UMC volunteers



Bethel University volunteers



Port City Community Church volunteers

Welcome to your

home.

We were

hlessed

to help in

a small

# Thank You to all our volunteers who keep Avery Habitat building forward!!!

#### From the Director -

Wednesday FAB Team

Since Helene devastated Avery County last fall, we started a repair program in partnership with Habitat for Humanity—Charlotte and Appalachian Service Project. Tiny homes have been built in Charlotte and placed on homeowners' property so that ASP can repair or rebuild the homes damaged back in September. Our building efforts had to take a long pause through the winter, but by March we were back to working on two houses that need finishing.

Please consider contributing to Avery Habitat to help us to purchase the building materials necessary to build more decent, safe and affordable houses right here in Avery County!

Thank you for your continued support!

Melanie Burgin **Executive Director** 







Linville Ridge volunteers





# House #57 is just getting started!

We're breaking ground for the next house in the White Oak Knoll community! This house will be the future home for Isaac and Isabelle Shook and their daughters, Alyssa, Anna and Ava. We're so excited for the Shook family to build their forever home!



## Meet our new staff members!



#### **Travis Johnson**

We are pleased to welcome to our Avery County Habitat team, Travis Johnson. Travis will be serving as Avery Habitat's Construction Coordinator.

Travis was born and raised in Avery County and lives in Newland with his wife and young son. Travis enjoys spending time with his family, fishing, all outdoor activities and volunteering as a part-time minister/evangelist.

Travis owns and operates his own construction company called Craggy Mountain Builders. Avery Habitat is delighted to welcome his wealth of knowledge and experience to our program!

## **Aiden Russell**

Also new to the Avery Habitat Team is Aiden Russell. Aiden is our full-time Avery Habitat Construction Assistant. Aiden has worked the past 4 years undertaking a multitude of construction projects.

Aiden grew up, and still resides in the Old Beech Mountain Community of Avery County and enjoys activities such as fishing, hunting, disc golf and is currently the choir director at his church.





#### Jennifer Faulkner

Rounding out our new Habitat team is Jennifer Faulkner. We are very excited to have Jennifer working with us as our of Volunteer Coordinator. Jennifer was born and raised in Florida but has lived in the Avery County area for the past 20 years. Jennifer's first experience working with Avery County Habitat for Humanity goes back to 2004 when she was a construction crew member during a year long commitment to the AmeriCorps Program.

# Family Partner Pipeline

Number of Families we have at each Stage of Partner Family Development

49 Family Selection Waitlist

Approved Building Sweat Equity Building House

Approved

2 Closings in past 12 months Page 3



# Donate and shop at the ReStore!

The ReStore is in need of a pickup truck that can be used for picking up smaller loads of donations when our box truck is not necessary. If you have a pickup truck that's still working well but you're not using anymore please consider donating it to Habitat for Humanity. We will provide you with a letter so you can take advantage of the tax deduction.





## **Board of Directors:**

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#### **How to Contact Us:**

https://averyhabitat.org/ Or send email to: info@averyhabitat.org Look us up on Facebook!

### ReStore:

2170 Millers Gap Hwy, Newland (828) 733-2025

#### Office (GPS Address):

57 Taylor Road, Newland (828) 733-1909

#### Mailing Address:

PO Box 1016, Newland, NC 28657



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