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## **Virginia Housing Awards Habitat for Humanity in the Roanoke Valley Grant Funds to Build a Home for Family of Six**

**RICHMOND, VA-** To commemorate Virginia Housing's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this past year, the Authority collaborated with Habitat for Humanity affiliates across the Commonwealth to advance their work to eliminate substandard housing. The Authority provided \$1.2M in competitive grant funds to revitalize communities in five of Virginia's localities. A total of \$325K of these funds, known as "The Virginia House" grant, was awarded to Habitat for Humanity in the Roanoke Valley to build a home in the Belmont-Fallon community located in Southeast Roanoke.

The goal of the "The Virginia House" grant, initiated in July 2022, is to assist selected Habitat affiliates by supporting the construction costs and loan subsidies needed to make homeownership affordable for participating low-to-moderate income families. A portion of the grant funds have also been reserved to create a sustainability fund to assist Habitat homeowners facing financial hardship to prevent mortgage delinquencies.

In the City of Roanoke, "The Virginia House" grant helped finance construction of a single-family home for a family of six. In partnership with Habitat-Roanoke, the homeowner completed Virginia Housing's Homebuyer Education course and contributed 365 hours of sweat equity toward the construction of the home.

Habitat for Humanity will host a dedication event at the home (located at 1016 Bullitt Ave SE) for the family on Saturday, August 26, 2023, at 10 a.m. The ceremony is open to media.

"Our partnership with Habitat for Humanity has always meant a great deal to us. To commemorate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this past year, we felt it was very important to do even more with this incredible organization to provide homes across Virginia. We look forward to each project and the positive impact it will have on the families and communities involved," said Susan Dewey, CEO of Virginia Housing.

"We are honored to be one of the five recipients of the Virginia House grant," says Karen Mason, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity in the Roanoke Valley. "This investment in the Roanoke Valley is driven by a shared commitment to help more families achieve financial security and stability. We are grateful for the work of Virginia Housing throughout the commonwealth."

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By investing in the power of home, Virginia Housing transforms where and how thousands of Virginians live and thrive, strengthening communities and the economy. Founded in 1972 as the

Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA), Virginia Housing has worked for over 50 years in partnership with the public and private sectors to help Virginians attain quality, affordable housing. While receiving no state taxpayer dollars, Virginia Housing raises money in capital markets to provide mortgages to first-time homebuyers, financing for rental developments and neighborhood revitalization efforts. Virginia Housing invests in innovations in affordable housing and makes homes for people with disabilities and older Virginians more livable.

For more information about Virginia Housing's partnership with Habitat for Humanity, visit [VirginiaHousing.com/News](http://VirginiaHousing.com/News).

Driven by the vision that everyone needs a decent place to live, Habitat for Humanity found its earliest inspirations as a grassroots movement on an interracial community farm in southern Georgia. Since its founding in 1976, the Christian housing organization has grown to become a leading global nonprofit working in local communities across all 50 states in 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. To learn more, visit [habitat.org](http://habitat.org).

Since 1986, Habitat for Humanity in the Roanoke Valley has built nearly 300 homes to completion, serving more than 1,113 individuals. Serving the cities of Roanoke and Salem and the counties of Botetourt, Craig and Roanoke, Habitat-Roanoke homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. Their vision is to put God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope. For information on how you can volunteer, donate or learn more about Habitat-Roanoke's Homebuyer Program, visit [www.habitat-roanoke.org](http://www.habitat-roanoke.org).