San Luis Valley Habitat for Humanity® NEWSLETTER



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Karen Mizokami	*Executive Director*
Audrey Liu	*Finance Manager*
Greg Hindes	*Construction Supervisor*
Rhonda Mouser	*ReStore Manager*

Habitat for Humankity partners with very low-income families and provides homeownership opportunities with no-profiot, 0% interest mortgages. Habitat for Humanity is a housing ministry providing affordable housing with God's people everywhere. Our goal is to elimate poverty housing worldwide.

Anjolei and Donovan Homeowners-To-Be



Hello, we are Anjolei and Donovan! I (Anjolei) was born in Tampa, Florida, and moved to Alamosa, when I was 12 years old after my mom found more opportunities here. Donovan was born and raised in Alamosa, with most of his family living in Alamosa and Capulin. I graduated from Adams State University with a bachelor's degree in Clinical Psychology and am currently pursuing a master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. I previously worked at KneeKnockers Golf Course and am now at All 4 Paws. Donovan previously worked as a cook at KneeKnockers Golf Course and now works in construction at Alcon. He enjoys learning new skills and hopes to continue growing and advancing in the construction industry. After eight years together, we are engaged and looking forward to getting married! One of our biggest goals has been to become homeowners and start building our future together. With the help of Habitat for Humanity, that dream is becoming a reality. We have expanded our little family with our two dogs, Chella and Akelah, who we cannot wait to have their very own yard. We are especially excited to finally have a place to call our own, create memories together, and eventually grow our family. Throughout this process, we have enjoyed being involved in building our home and seeing all of the progress being made. We are incredibly grateful for the opportunity Habitat for Humanity has given us and everyone who has contributed time and effort to helping us achieve this milestone. ~Anjolei and Donovan



Habitat ReStore
507 Main St, Alamosa
OPEN Tue - Sat 9am - 3pm

At the ReStore in downtown Alamosa, community members can support affordable housing by donating furniture, appliances, operable tools and home improvement items. The ReStore encourages reuse, reduces waste, gives items a second life and helps generate funds for Habitat's housing mission. Come volunteer at the ReStore, meet great people, learn new DIY and retail skills and stay active. Contact Rhonda at (719) 589-8688 or email restore@slvhabitat.org.

Over a Lifetime





For me, the beauty and inspiration of Habitat's work is seeing the kids growing up over the years. Charity and I first met when her mom was building their house, she was 12. Years later she brought her baby over to introduce her to me. More years later as an adult, she shared her knowledge and enthusiasm working at our ReStore. Antonio and I met when he was 4 years old, his mother built a home for him and his sister, which would later also be for his two younger sisters. 20 years passed and it was a true honor for me to be able to play in the steel pan ensemble beside Antonio at Adams State University. A home is a place where we grow, we hope and we dream. Where we can face challenges, a place that embraces us as we develop into ourselves. It fills my heart to know a Habitat Home is a place that makes an impact over a lifetime. ~Audrey Liu, Finance Manager



SLV Federal Bank Spirit of Giving is donating $40,000 to Valley non-profits this season! Each SLV Federal Bank customer can choose their charities of choice and cast one vote for each account held. Remember to vote for you favorite non-profits before Fri Dec 11th, of course we encourage you to vote for Habitat for Humanity!! We truly appreciate all the support you give!

~ Celebrating 50 Years ~
Building Homes, Communities and Hope
A Half-Century of Changing Lives
San Luis Valley is Part of the Amazing Story

Habitat for Humanity celebrates an incredible 50 years of building homes, strengthening communities, and creating hope around the world. What began as a simple idea in 1976 has grown into a global movement rooted in the belief that everyone deserves a safe, decent and affordable place to call home. For five decades, Habitat for Humanity has shown when communities come together with a shared purpose, extraordinary things happen. A story of compassion, determination, partnership and the belief that a helping hand can change lives for generations.

Habitat for Humanity was founded in 1976 by Millard and Linda Fuller in Americus, Georgia. The vision is simple and powerful: bringing people together to help families achieve stability and security that come with affordable homeownership. Habitat's partnership model in which future homeowners work alongside volunteers, contribute time and effort, and purchase a home through affordable mortgages recognizes homeownership is about more than receiving assistance. It is opportunity, personal investment, dignity, and creating a foundation for long-term success.

Habitat for Humanity has served more than 65 million people worldwide to create a place to call HOME. Our San Luis Valley is a special place, a community of hardworking individuals and families, deep traditions, neighbors who care about one another. For over three decades, San Luis Valley Habitat for Humanity has helped local families achieve the dream of affordable homeowernship. Like many rural communities, we face significant challenges when it comes to affordable housing. Rising construction costs, limited housing availability, increasing cost of living have made the dream of homeownership feel out of reach for many. Our teachers, healthcare workers, service industry employees, small business workers, people helping our community thrive and contribute to the strength and character of the San Luis Valley every single day. Our hosuing mission matters now as much as ever.

We are grateful to all who support San Luis Valley Habitat for Humanity. Your dedication and generosity have created a foundation on which we can continue to build. This global anniversary is about more than looking back, it is also about looking forward. As we mark this historic 50 year worldwide celebration, we invite our entire San Luis Valley community to join us in shaping the future of Habitat for Humanity.

Here's to 50 years of building homes, communities, hope and to the countless possibilities still ahead. Together, let's continue building a stronger San Luis Valley, one family, one home, and one act of kindness at a time.

Meet Our New Executive Director
Welcome Karen Mizokami !!



Hello! My name is Karen Mizokami, and I am incredibly excited and honored to introduce myself as the new Executive Director of San Luis Valley Habitat for Humanity! Having spent my life in this beautiful Valley, I have a deep appreciation for the people, communities, and values that make this place so special. I am a San Luis Valley native, born and raised in the Blanca-Fort Garland area, I currently live in Alamosa. The Valley is more than just where I live, it is home. I have always had a passion for helping others, giving back, and finding meaningful ways to make a positive difference in the lives of those around me.

My professional background is primarily in healthcare operations, having spent nearly 15 years with ValleyWide Health Systems. Throughout my time, I had the opportunity to serve in a variety of roles, including Regional Director of Operations. These experiences allowed me to develop strong skills in leadership, organizational development, community partnerships, and strategic planning. More importantly, they reinforced my belief that strong communities are built through compassion, collaboration, and a shared commitment to helping others.

When I made the decision to begin a new chapter in my professional career one thing was certain, I wanted to continue doing work that made a meaningful difference with the people of the San Luis Valley. I knew that whatever came next needed to align with my values, my passion for community service, and my desire to help create opportunities for others. When the opportunity to join Habitat for Humanity presented itself, it truly checked all the boxes! I have always believed that everyone deserves a safe, stable, and affordable place to call home. Homeownership is about so much more than having a roof over your head. It is about stability, security, opportunity, and building a foundation for a brighter future. A home strengthens families, creates lasting connections, and helps our communities thrive.

As I step into this new role, I am excited about the opportunities ahead for Habitat for Humanity. I look forward to expanding our community awareness, building on the organization's accomplishments, strengthening our relationships throughout the Valley, and finding new and creative ways to engage volunteers, donors, businesses and community partners in our mission. One of my biggest goals is to ensure that people throughout the San Luis Valley know who we are, understand the impact of Habitat's work, and recognize the many ways to be involved. Habitat for Humanity is about more than building houses. It is about bringing people together, building hope, creating opportunities, and empowering families to build stronger futures. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to be part of the next chapter of this amazing organization. I look forward to listening, learning, collaborating, and working alongside our dedicated Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, supporters, and community partners to continue making a lasting impact. Most importantly, I am excited to help create more affordable homeownership opportunities for hardworking individuals and families who make the San Luis Valley such a wonderful place to live. **Together, we can build more than homes. We can build hope, strengthen communities, and create brighter futures for generations to come.** I look forward to connecting with you and working together to make great things happen in the San Luis Valley!

~Karen Mizokami,
Executive Director

Tuesday, Dec 8th ~ CO Gives Day
Building Houses ~ Building Hope
Dreams that Impact a Lifetime



On Colorado Gives Day we invite you to be part of Habitat for Humanity's mission, building a safe, affordable place to call HOME. Together, we build more than homes, we build hope and dreams that impact a lifetime! Every donation makes a difference and continues to build a stronger San Luis Valley.

You can give through the Colorado Gives website:

www.coloradogives.org/organization/SanLuisValleyHFH

or mail a check to Habitat for Humanity at PO Box 1197 in Alamosa, CO 81101

Thank you for supporting San Luis Valley Habitat for Humanity
Helping one family and one home at a time.

San Luis Valley Habitat for Humanity®
PO Box 1197 Alamosa, CO 81101
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