

## Habitat for Humanity Team

### Annual Report 2021-22

Submitted by Michael Muha, chair

Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit housing organization whose mission is to provide decent, affordable housing for people in need. Homeowner families are carefully selected based on income and other guidelines. The families are required to contribute hundreds of hours of “sweat equity” to work on their homes or other Habitat projects and they are required to attend classes on home repair and managing finances.

UUAA has been a member congregation of the multi-faith “Good News Group” of area churches since 2000. Each year the Good News Group works on one or more houses, primarily in Ypsilanti neighborhoods. We provide money, site workers who paint, hammer, garden and more, and some volunteers provide snacks or lunch for the site workers.

#### How UUAA core values were met by the team.

- Helping families who otherwise would not be able to achieve the benefits of their own home, working alongside them, and providing them with the backgrounds and experience needed to remain in their homes is directly related to our first principle: The inherent worth and dignity of every person.
- Providing solid, energy efficient housing in mixed-race neighborhoods supports our climate action and anti-racism vision goals.

#### Highlights of activities from May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022

- Generous UUAA contributors gave over \$7,000 to fund our renovations
- Sponsored four work days on the Good News Group house, plus an Appleridge Neighborhood Spring Clean-up Day and a Women Build day
- Filled over 33 volunteer slots for our work days
- Two UUAA members on Good News House Executive Committee.

#### Key accomplishments.

- As part of the Good News House group we helped a family renovate an existing home, making it energy-efficient, structurally sound, and aesthetically pleasing. Since 1997 the GNH has helped 36 families move into affordable, energy efficient housing.
- Over 30 congregants volunteered to work on houses

#### Goals

- Refurbish another house in the West Willow neighborhood this year
- Talk to Habitat for Humanity Huron Valley about their solar energy pilot project and whether UUAA might be able to support this as part of our climate vision community outreach.

**Committee:** Mike Muha, Sandy Simon, Fran Lyman, Lucy Graff, Gwen Guthrie, Dale Sniegowski