



November 11, 2024

To our community,

URGENT APPEAL: Help Us Keep Our Doors Open and Continue Providing Housing Solutions

As 2024 draws to a close, we face a critical moment. The demand for affordable housing and essential home repairs in East Linn County continues to grow, but without your immediate support, we will be forced to shut our doors. We're counting on you to help us meet our year-end fundraising goal so we can continue making a difference in the lives of our neighbors.

Our Challenge: A Growing Need and Rising Costs

The need for affordable housing and home repairs has skyrocketed in our community, and we're struggling to keep up. This year, rising construction costs and a shortfall in revenue from our ReStore have left us unable to cover the final expenses needed to complete the current home we're building for a family in need. To make matters worse, we've had to lay off staff in both our construction programs and the ReStore. We cannot continue this vital work without your help.

How You Can Help: Immediate Actions to Support Our Mission

We are launching an **online store** this Black Friday through Cyber Monday to raise funds, and we have three fundraising events planned before December 31. We're also introducing special pricing for those in trades or industries that purchase products at wholesale prices to support their work and help us fund our programs.

But these efforts won't be enough unless we receive immediate and generous support from people like you. Without additional funding, we won't be able to complete the home we're currently working on, and we'll have to delay or halt our future plans to build more homes.

Why This Matters: The Impact of Our Work

Your support doesn't just help us build homes—it helps us change lives. For example:

- **Affordable Home Repairs:** An older adult living on social security needed a new refrigerator. Thanks to our ReStore, they found a gently used one at a fraction of the cost of a new appliance.
- **Increased Mobility:** The ramps we build provide individuals with disabilities the freedom to enter and exit their homes independently, without requiring outside assistance.
- **Affordable Resources:** Donations from local businesses, contractors, box stores, and you – such as sinks, stoves, doors, windows, etc. – help homeowners repair and improve their homes at an affordable price, ensuring more families can stay in their homes.

After we have built or rehabbed three homes within three years, our affiliate is recognized by Habitat for Humanity International, Inc. as an **emerging developer**—a milestone that opens doors for us to partner with local government housing development initiatives, and access larger grants. We've already broken ground on our next project, but we cannot move forward until we sell the home we are currently finishing.

A Call to Action: Your Support is Critical

We are at a crossroads. With your contribution, we can meet our year-end goals and continue to provide affordable housing and home repair services to families who need it most. Every dollar counts—and every donation brings us one step closer to keeping our doors open and serving our community.

Will you join us in making a lasting impact on lives in East Linn County communities? Every dollar counts – and every donation brings us one step closer to keeping our doors open and serving our community.

Warmly,

Kristina Breshears

Executive Director

P.S. Once again, thank you for your support during this critical time. Together, we can make a real difference.