



Walt Stephenson
President
Habitat for Humanity of
Cass & Schuyler Counties
PO Box 423
Beardstown, IL 62618

309-333-6654
stephensonw@yahoo.com

Press Release June 26, 2010

Habitat for Humanity starts home improvement program in Cass & Schuyler counties

Habitat for Humanity of Cass and Schuyler Counties announces a new Home Improvement Program (HIP) in the two county region. Habitat will partner with local home owners who need a hand up, but not a hand out, in the completion of minor projects. A typical project could be construction of a wheelchair ramp, installation of a new door or even just a needed yard cleanup. Habitat HIP is separate from the familiar Habitat home construction program. Needy families may apply to either of them, or to both of them.

To participate in Habitat HIP you must meet the same requirements as for participation in a Habitat home building project. You must need the project. An example of need for a small project would be that a door has collapsed, and you need to be able to close up your home.

You must have the ability to help pay for the project, or if you cannot pay you must be willing to contribute "sweat equity" to help complete your project in partnership with Habitat. If you cannot perform sweat equity directly on your project, Habitat will find other work for you such as stuffing envelopes for a general mailing.

Habitat works with a special group of people—hardworking men and women who have an income but need a hand up with special projects. You may have enough money to pay for the project materials. You may need to pay over time. The project application contains specific income guidelines.

Habitat invites people of all backgrounds, races and religions to build houses together in partnership with families in need. These same Habitat volunteers will work on the new home improvement projects. Their volunteer labor reduces the cost of the project. Habitat training and supervision ensures that the job will be done well.

Habitat for Humanity of Cass & Schuyler Counties is now accepting applications to partner in Habitat HIP. If you are a homeowner with the need to complete a small project, and you can't get it done without a hand up, pick up an application and send it in

by July 22nd. Applications are available at St. John's Lutheran Church, 220 East 6th Street, Beardstown, and at the First United Methodist Church, 210 West Jefferson Street, Rushville. Applications are also available on the Habitat web site at www.habitatcassschuyler.org. For further information call 217-323-1770 or 217-322-3328.