



Columbia County
**Habitat
for Humanity®**

Summer 2020

THANK YOU so much for your support of Columbia County Habitat for Humanity! We wanted to share with you how your support has been demonstrating God's love through real examples of helping people!

Creative Ramp Construction

James, a disabled Columbia county resident has been confined to a non-motorized wheelchair for the past ten years. His friends had improvised a ramp to his home, but it lacked a platform near the door and he had tipped backwards on it. When we heard of a home owner looking to expeditiously remove an existing ramp, it set creative juices flowing!

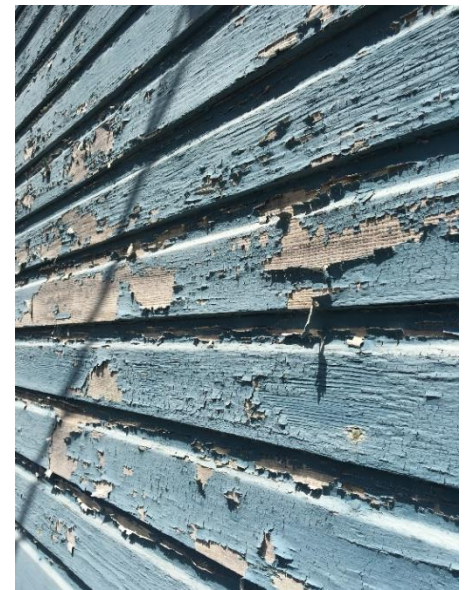
Our amazing volunteer construction crew designed a functional, low-slope ramp that has allowed James to access his home much more easily using a significant portion of the donated materials. Huge thanks are due to Warren Community Fellowship for donating additional materials. We are so grateful to Bob Bay, Dick King and Nick Liewer for their help in this amazing transformation and for finishing this ramp in the pouring rain!



Bob says, "I think the good Lord has a twinkle in his eye for volunteer builders. I can confirm that statement with Deuteronomy 15:11."

Next on Deck....

A longtime Vernonia resident is in need of multiple exterior repairs to her home. This disabled senior also needs a ramp and railing installed to prevent her from stumbling. We're so excited to partner with the folks working on Community Action Team's Self-Help Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program for our first project in Vernonia. With donated paint from Valspar and some additional help from some community-minded churches, we will have this place looking great by Fall!



Meet our new Partner Families!

Ginny

Ginny is a single mother of two with a very generous spirit. She works with adults with special needs, volunteers in the community and serves the City of St. Helens as a City Councillor. Her 15-year-old son, Ben, is very bright and loves to work with his hands. He hopes to go to trade school someday. Although he is on the autism spectrum, Ben prefers to be treated like everyone else and courageously musters through challenges. Kaylee is 19-years-old and is working her way through school to be a dental assistant.

Although Ginny is a planner, life has thrown a few curve balls including her husband leaving and battling cancer. Taking these financial hits has left the family feeling insecure about future housing. Three times they have been displaced by landlords selling the property and higher and higher rent. They are thankful and excited to be working on building their home. Ginny explains, "I don't have much to give my kids for their future, but I want to be able to provide a place for Kaylee and Ben to live while they finish their education. I want to do anything I can to give them a bright more secure future; a forever home for us where we will never have to move again."

Gentry

Gentry is a young single mother with remarkable maturity and a wonderful ability to nurture those around her. She is raising two kids: Lexy, 16 and Orion, a very active 3-years-old. "My oldest came to me a year ago needing a safe space so I took her in as my own. Orion only thinks of her as a big sister," says Gentry. Gentry is a caregiver and med tech at an assisted living facility for the elderly. She earned her CNA a year ago, but has been working there for two years. "I love helping people, so being able to do it every day puts a smile on my face." Lexy hopes to go to college to become a chef. She would like to be the first on her Dad's side to graduate college. Orion has big dreams too. He wakes up early to play with toy cars and looks forward to preschool. Gentry is so thankful for the opportunity to be a home owner. "I've always wanted to have a safe, stable home for Orion to grow up in. I didn't move around at all growing up, so I want the same for him."

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