

NEWS RELEASE

Contact:

Executive Director Matthew Whittle
Habitat for Humanity of Goldsboro-Wayne
919-736-9592 x 5
executive@habitatgoldsboro.org

Habitat Goldsboro-Wayne and Wells Fargo partnering to build affordable housing in Wayne County

*Wells Fargo Builds project to kick off Aug. 7
with a Blessing of the Build ceremony and annual CEO Build Day*

GOLDSBORO, NC (Aug 3, 2020) – The Wells Fargo Foundation has awarded Habitat for Humanity of Goldsboro-Wayne a \$15,000 grant to build an affordable home in Goldsboro. The funding is part of an \$8.1 million donation to Habitat for Humanity International for capacity building and direct mission support to build, renovate and repair more than 350 affordable homes across the United States. The program, Wells Fargo BuildsSM, is part of the Wells Fargo Foundation's \$1 billion philanthropic commitment to create more housing affordability solutions by 2025.

"We have a rich history of working with Habitat for Humanity to strengthen our neighborhoods through philanthropy and volunteerism," said Thomas Cline, Region Bank President for Wells Fargo in Eastern North Carolina. "Safe and stable housing is fundamental to a healthy financial future. The Wells Fargo Builds program is another demonstration of our commitment to improve lives and strengthen communities."

Wells Fargo Builds provides philanthropic financial support from the Wells Fargo Foundation to support the construction, renovation, painting or repairing of homes with low-to-moderate income households. In 2019, Wells Fargo team members volunteered more than 1.9 million hours on 674 homes across the United States through the program.

"We are excited to again partner with Wells Fargo to build homes, communities and hope. Partnerships like this are what allow Habitat to provide affordable homeownership opportunities to families in Wayne County," said Matthew Whittle, Executive Director for Habitat Goldsboro-Wayne.

This Wells Fargo Builds grant will support the construction of Habitat Goldsboro-Wayne's 85th new home, this one at 811 Luther Drive, Goldsboro. Future homeowners Annette and Eugene Worrells, along with their 4 children and grandchildren, have been in the Habitat program since January and are excited to begin work on their new home.

Construction on this project will officially kick off at 8:30 a.m., Friday, Aug. 7, with the Blessing of the Build Ceremony to ask God's blessing on the family, the home and all the hands that will touch it during construction. Afterward, approximately 10 local business leaders, each of whom have contributed at least \$1,000 to Habitat, will begin work on the home as part of the annual TA Loving CEO Build Day.

Habitat for Humanity of Goldsboro-Wayne was founded in 2001. Since then Habitat has finished 83 new homes and served 152 families in Wayne County and abroad through its programs. Habitat believes strongly in a hand up, not a hand out, and each of its homeowners must complete 300 hours of sweat equity in addition to purchasing their home at an affordable mortgage. More information available at www.habitatgoldsboro.org.