

FRYEBURG TOWN MATTERS

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Habitat for Humanity Looks at Housing Needs in our Area

Based on U.S. Census data for our area, 53% of renters and 35% of homeowners exceed the generally accepted standard that no more than 30% of the household income should go to housing costs. 56%



of households in our area earn less than \$50,000/year and 37% earn less than \$35,000/year and housing costs are high.

There is a substantial failure in our area housing market with respect to the needs of the low and moderate income wage earners, our workforce.

Affordable home ownership provides more than just a roof.

It has a transformational ability for our community by providing:

- · Stability for families and children.
- · Sense of dignity and pride.
- · Health, physical safety, and security.
- Improves the local economy
- Increases educational and job prospects.

Through volunteerism and community donations, the mission of MWV Habitat for Humanity is to build simple, decent, and affordable homes with and for our neighbors in need. Their latest project on North Road in Conway will bring four affordable units into the market in two years.

Home ownership is only part of the success achieved. Habitat homeowners gain a sense of community and volunteerism in addition to a basic understanding of construction. Home ownership roots families in the community and creates stability in many other ways. Families are not concerned about moving yearly. They know where their children will be going to school, and their monthly payments for housing are constant in the future. The cost of house maintenance and heating are controlled because the homes are well insulated. Check out www.mwv-habitat.org and go to the page titled APPLY FOR A HOME for more information.

Habitat is always in need of your support to continue and expand their mission. Become a volunteer and help with "a build". Not only do you help with the construction of someone's future home but you gain a knowledge of the building industry and trade. National Women Build Week is held the week leading up to Mother's Day because of its significance to Habitat homeowners and volunteers. Each year several mother daughter teams worked on a local build project, considering their time well spent together, building a safe affordable home for another local mother and her children, the best gift their daughter could have given them.

Office is located at 2 Common Court, North Conway and is open every Wednesday from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. FMI, apply for a home, or to make a donation please call us at 603-356-3832 or email at office@mwv-habitat.org