

# Waterville Area Habitat for Humanity Newsletter

Fall, 2001

Serving Albion, Belgrade, Benton, China, Clinton, Fairfield, Oakland, Rome, Smithfield, Unity, Vassalboro, Waterville, and Winslow.

Habitat – a step up, not a hand out.

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## **Worldwide Poverty Housing Facts**

### **What you should know about poverty housing**

How many people in the United States are living below poverty level? How many people around the world earn less than US\$1 a day? What challenges do needy families in your community face? These are questions we might ask ourselves but we seldom take the time to discover the answers. The role of Habitat's campus chapters is to help make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action for your entire campus and community. Education is the key to keeping your campus and community informed about effect of substandard housing.

**Who are the poor?** It is often difficult for someone who doesn't work with the poor on a daily basis to know just how many people are facing the hardships of poverty and the types of problems they face. Here are some statistics about the world's poor:

- ◇ More than 1 billion people worldwide endure the hardships of poverty, which include the lack of affordable housing and food and an increased risk of disease and bad health.
- ◇ Almost 12 percent of the U.S. population lives below the poverty level, or 32.3 million people across the country.
- ◇ Forty percent of those living below poverty level are children.

**Items Needed**

34¢ stamps  
Colored Printer Paper

Please drop off at:  
Century 21  
Attn: Marc Chadbourne  
11 Bay St.  
Winslow



**Housing issues of the poor.** Many individuals and families face housing crises, either of not being able to afford to own a home or dealing with the escalating costs of renting. Housing issues in the United States include:

- ◇ More than 40 percent of the 33.4 million U.S.

tenants are "rent-burdened", or spend more than 30 percent of their income on housing costs.

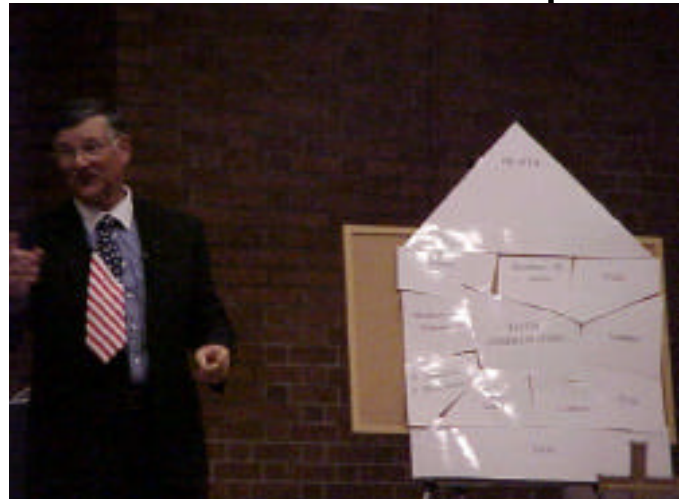
- ◇ U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) research indicates that approximately 47 percent of these renting households had incomes that were deemed low enough to receive housing assistance under various federal programs; however, these families were not receiving this assistance.

**A worldview of the poor.** Many of these statistics relate to the U.S., and the United States is one of the wealthiest countries in the world. Imagine then the conditions elsewhere, in countries that are poorer than the U.S. Check out these statistics about people in need around the world:

- ◇ The worldwide populations exceeds 6 billion people and will increase by nearly 80 million people per year.
- ◇ Of the 6 billion people in the world, more than 1 billion live on less than US\$1 a day and almost 3 billion live on less than US\$2 a day.
- ◇ Almost 1.3 billion people in developing countries don't even have access to clean water. Another 2 billion people don't have access to adequate sanitation.

by Katie Boland.

Reprint Courtesy of Frameworks  
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International.



### The International Day of Prayer

On Sunday, September 16 the Faith Relations Committee sponsored an interfaith service to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of Habitat for Humanity. Unfortunately, we were also in a time of mourning for the victims of the terrorist attacks in New York, Washington, D.C., and the Pennsylvania crash site. The service was intended to be a celebration of Habitat for Humanity through interfaith prayer. The service was wonderfully organized and provided not only prayer for what can be done in our communities, but also hope that we can make a difference. Faith leaders from different backgrounds were brought together in the Notre Dame Church on Silver Street. Included in the faith leaders were Sister Line Roux (Parish of the Holy Spirit), Martha Naber (Universalist Unitarian Church), Rev. David Anderman (First Congregational Church), Joe Johnson (St. Mark's Episcopal Church), Rev. David Glusker (First Radio Parish Church of America), Rick Jones (Faith Evangelical Church), Pat Parker (First Baptist Church), Richard Kelly (Vassalboro Friends Meeting), and the choir from Pleasant Street United Methodist Church. Rev. David Glusker, with the help of children from the audience, illustrated the story "Solving the Puzzle" that was reprinted in the Summer newsletter (available online at <http://www.watervilleareahfh.org>).

The symbolic coming together of the community was well timed in light of the disasters that occurred on September 11. Although the service was planned well before the disasters, much of what was done served dual purpose. The service was attended by approximately 130 individuals. The thanks of the Board of Directors goes out to Kerri Oliver and the members of the Faith Relations Committee for organizing a wonderful event.

## Habitat Out and About

**Oakland Senior Appreciation Day** – On Saturday, August 11, The Board sponsored an information booth at the Oakland Senior Appreciation Day. Good contacts were made with seniors and other people attending. Kudos to Gil Pelletier for helping to organize such a successful event for the Seniors.

**Scary Story Night** – On Saturday, October 27, the Development Committee hosted a Scary Story Night. Storytellers Mrs. Marie Benner and John Ayotte provided stories along with a children's costume contest won by a spider, the witch, and the Ninja. The stories were wonderfully presented and enjoyed by all. The Development Committee would like to thank the Development Office of Good Will-Hinckley school for providing the use of the auditorium of the Prescott Building.

**Speaker's Bureau** – The speakers bureau had the opportunity to talk with the Universalist Unitarian Church in Waterville and the Friends of Vassalboro Meeting on Sunday, October 28. The presentations were eagerly received. If your organization is interested in hearing more about Habitat for Humanity, please contact our voice mail (873-5156) or email us (habitat@watervilleareahfh.org) to coordinate an event.

**Hurry for Habitat** – The Colby College Volunteer Center hosted "Hurry for Habitat", a 5 K fun run on Saturday, November 3. Student and community participants raised almost \$1000 for Habitat.

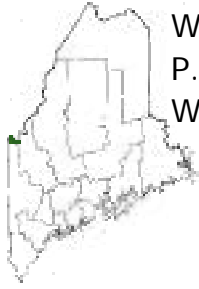
Come join us for a  
**Spaghetti Supper**

Saturday, November 17  
5-7 pm  
First Congregational Church  
Eustis Parkway  
Waterville

Adults – \$5 donation  
Children (under 10)– \$3 donation

## Status of Application for Affiliation

As of this newsletter, over 50% of the application for affiliation has been completed and subjected to review by the Regional Affiliate Director Laura MacNeil. The remaining portions of the application should be completed and submitted to HFHI by mid-December. Hopefully, we will receive confirmation of affiliate status by the early part of 2002.



Waterville Area Habitat for Humanity  
 P.O. Box 1972  
 Waterville, Maine 04903-1972

stamp

Mailing Label

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

Tues., Nov. 6	WAHFH Board Meeting, Olin 335, Colby College, 6:30
<del>Tues., Nov. 13</del>	<del>Volunteer Orientation, <b>cancelled</b></del>
Sat., Nov. 17	Spaghetti Supper, First Congregational Church, Waterville (5-7)
Tues., Dec. 4	WAHFH Board Meeting, room TBA (check website), Colby College, 6:30
Thurs., Jan. 10	Volunteer Orientation, Waterville Boys and Girls Club, 7-9 pm
Sat., Jan. 12	Committee Chair Training, Waterville Boys and Girls Club, 9am - 3 pm.
Tentative	Winter Triathlon Fundraising event (look to the web site for more information)

To keep track of upcoming events, please check our website at <http://www.watervilleareahfh.org>.

### Volunteer Needs

**Volunteer committee** – volunteers to make phone calls, volunteers for fundraising activities.

**Fundraising committee** – volunteers for fund raising, volunteers to serve on fundraising committee.