



## Act as a Habitat for Humanity Affiliate

This is a great activity to explain the inner workings of a Habitat for Humanity affiliate. It helps paint the picture of the process that is involved in providing each house. There is a lot of behind the scenes work that has to be done! Building a Habitat for Humanity home is a group effort and cannot be done by just one person.

### Setup:

- You will need at least seven adults or older youth to help complete this activity. They will fill the following roles: 2 wealthy citizens, 1 volunteer group leader, 3 building professional/skilled laborers, 1 partner company leader.
- Have volunteers come in 15 minutes early to ask questions about the activity and help set up the stations. You may wish to prepare additional questions to the ones provided for the volunteers to use at each station.
- Explain what you hope the youth will learn from the activity and assign each volunteer a role.
- Make a sign for each station or have the station volunteers make them.
- The number of small groups should be equal to the number of stations so that every group has someone to talk to during each rotation. This can also be done by individual youth instead of placing them in groups.
- The number of volunteer stations can be altered in order to better accommodate larger groups. For example, you can add more Partner Company Leaders: one for paint, windows, nails and wood. You can also consolidate and have one wealthy citizen.

### Materials:

- One copy of "Youth Fact Sheet" for each youth participant
- One copy of the "Check-list" page for each youth participant
- Pens and/or pencils
- 7 or more adults or older youth to be at the volunteer stations
- One copy of the applicable "Role Responsibility" page for each volunteer station personality

### Activity Steps:

- Introduce yourself, if you are new, and all the adults or older youth who are helping at the stations.  
\*Make sure to give all the "Role Responsibility" pages to the volunteer station participants.

- Explain to the group that they are going to be taking on the role of a Habitat for Humanity affiliate who is trying to build a home.
- Split the youth participants into groups of one to four, depending on the number of volunteer stations you have.  
  
\*Note: In order to prevent groups from waiting for a table, divide your group evenly according to your resources.
- Hand out a Youth Fact Sheet, a Checklist and a Follow-up Questions page to all youth participants. Explain that the purpose of the activity is to get the materials to build a Habitat house. Also, tell them that they may want to study the “Youth Fact Sheet” for use later.
- Explain that the groups will visit each station to ask for donated materials for their house. They may also have to answer questions about why the station volunteers should donate their resources to Habitat for Humanity and about Habitat for Humanity in general.
- After the teams have visited all of the stations, have the groups discuss the activity together using their notes and the “Follow-up Questions” page.
- Have the youth use the thoughts from their group’s discussion to fill in answers on the “Follow-up Questions” page.

**Additional Resources:**

- A great follow-up activity is the “People House” which can be found on the Youth Programs Web site at the following link.  
[www.habitatyouthprograms.org/habitat\\_street\\_team/parents\\_teachers](http://www.habitatyouthprograms.org/habitat_street_team/parents_teachers).
- This activity was modeled after an activity called “Act as an Affiliate” in the *Girls Build* Toolkit, Module 4: Habitat for Humanity. For more activities like this and to order the toolkit, visit [www.habitat.org/wb/girls\\_build](http://www.habitat.org/wb/girls_build).



## YOUTH FACT SHEET

- Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit organization. "Nonprofit" means that they don't try to make money.
- Habitat has built more than 200,000 houses in the world. More than 1 million people live in Habitat houses.
- Habitat houses are built by volunteers. Volunteers are people who work for free on a project because they want to help other people.
- The money used to build Habitat houses is all donated. "Donated" means people give money without getting anything in return.
- Habitat for Humanity works in nearly 100 different countries around the world.
- Habitat houses are built out of materials that can be found in the local area and look like local houses.
- In Bangladesh, a country in south Asia, a Habitat house costs about \$1,600 to build.
- In the United States the average Habitat house costs around \$59,000.
- The average non-Habitat house in the United States costs around \$225,000.
- The average Habitat house sold in the United States is 1,100 square feet in size.
- The average non-Habitat house sold in the United States is 2,324 square feet in size.
- Habitat houses are built by Habitat affiliates. An "affiliate" is a group of people who work to raise money and build houses in their local community.
- There are about 2,300 Habitat affiliates in the world.
- The fastest a Habitat affiliate has ever built a house is 3 hours, 24 minutes, 34 seconds!
- Most affiliates in the United States build a house in 12 weeks, doing the most work on Saturdays.
- About 40,790 nails are used to make a three-bedroom Habitat house in the United States.
- About 600 pieces of lumber are used to build a three-bedroom Habitat house in the United States.
- About 50 gallons of paint are used in a three-bedroom Habitat house in the United States.



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# Follow-up Questions

## Act as a Habitat for Humanity Affiliate

Now that you have completed the activity, discuss what you have learned.

1. Was it easier to ask people to volunteer their time or to donate money? Why?

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2. What information did potential volunteers and donors want to know before they would work with Habitat for Humanity?

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3. Which items from your checklist were the hardest to get? Which were the easiest?

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4. Would you like to work for an affiliate when you grow up? Why or why not?

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# Role Responsibility

## Station Volunteer: Wealthy Citizen

The youth are getting in small groups to take on the role of an affiliate looking to build a home. Specifically they need to network in order to get the following items: land; \$50,000; two building leaders; a donation of wood, windows, nails and paint; 25 volunteers; an electrician; and a plumber.

As a wealthy citizen, they should be targeting you for land and/or money. If they ask you for anything else, tell them you do not have access to these things or do not have an interest in donating those items. Engage the groups in a short 5- to 10-minute conversation using the questions below or others that you create in order to make sure that your resources are going to be put to good use and the groups understand Habitat's mission and principles.

- Why should I donate my money or land to Habitat for Humanity?
- Why is giving my money to Habitat for Humanity better than giving it to a local homeless shelter?
- Do you just give away the houses you build?
- Would you rather I donate money or land?
- What is one of the most important things you think I should know about Habitat for Humanity?

# Role Responsibility

## Station Volunteer: Volunteer Group Leader

The youth are getting in small groups to take on the role of an affiliate looking to build a home. Specifically they need to network in order to get the following items: land; \$50,000; two building leaders; a donation of wood, windows, nails and paint; 25 volunteers; an electrician; and a plumber.

As a volunteer group leader, they should be specifically targeting you for volunteers. However, they may also ask you for an electrician or plumber which you might be able to provide. If they ask you for anything else, tell them you do not have access to these things or do not have an interest in donating those items. Engage the groups in a short 5- to 10-minute conversation using the questions below or others that you create in order to make sure that your resources are going to be put to good use and the groups understand Habitat's mission and principles.

- Why should I bring my group to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity?
- Who will benefit from the house we help build?
- Some or all of our volunteers do not know anything about building houses. Is that OK?
- We have both men and women who want to volunteer. Is that OK?
- Do you need any volunteers with special skills (like plumbing or electricity)?

# Role Responsibility

## Station Volunteer: Building Professional/Skilled Laborer

The youth are getting in small groups to take on the role of an affiliate looking to build a home. Specifically they need to network in order to get the following items: land; \$50,000; two building leaders; a donation of wood, windows, nails and paint; 25 volunteers; an electrician; and a plumber.

As a building professional or skilled laborer, they should be targeting you to provide their building leaders, electrician or plumber. If they ask you for anything else, tell them you do not have access to these things or do not have an interest in donating those items. Engage the groups in a short 5- to 10-minute conversation using the questions below or others that you create in order to make sure that your resources are going to be put to good use and that the groups understand Habitat's mission and principles.

- Why should I volunteer to work with Habitat for Humanity for free when I get paid for working on houses at my job?
- What kind of special skills do you need to complete your house?
- What is something important I should know about Habitat for Humanity?



# Role Responsibility

## Station Volunteer: Partner Company Leader

The youth are getting in small groups to take on the role of an affiliate looking to build a home. Specifically they need to network in order to get the following items: land; \$50,000; two building leaders; a donation of wood, windows, nails and paint; 25 volunteers; an electrician; and a plumber.

As a partner company leader, they should be targeting you for supplies and/or volunteers. If they ask you for anything else, tell them you do not have access to these things or do not have an interest in donating those items. Engage the groups in a short 5- to 10-minute conversation using the questions below or others that you create in order to make sure that your resources are going to be put to good use and the groups understand Habitat's mission and principles.

- Why should my company donate materials to Habitat for Humanity?
- Can we bring volunteers to the work site, too?
- Why don't you give houses away?
- What products do you need most to finish your house?