San Luis Valley Habitat for Humanity Celebrating our 25th year

Twenty five years ago we received our certification from Habitat for Humanity International of our official affiliation as a Habitat for Humanity project. Our humble beginnings began in a back room at Paul & Beth’s home on Bell Ave, Arthur came as our first AmeriCorps volunteer helping to get our project rolling. Since that year, we have served 21 families, 85 family members, through affordable homeownership. Several Habitat Families have fulfilled their mortgages.

Joe & Lori were our very first Habitat family. Our 2nd home with Antonio & Eulalia hosts our first passive-solar trombe wall. Their children have since finished school, 2 grandparents are now living with them and attending school. Antonio helps at our Habitat Store. Robert and Geraldine built our first adobe home, now 14 more Habitat Families are living in adobe homes.

Several years after moving in, we helped our 4th family Terry and Glenn to add a ramp onto their home for ease of access. Years later I was invited by their daughter to attend her beautiful wedding in the mountains and had the opportunity to catch up in the lives of her three brothers.

The youngest not yet in school when they moved into their home, all of the Moreno children have now graduated from high school and some from college. We helped Lorrayne build additional bedrooms and a bathroom onto her home, more space for her grandchildren to grow. And Robert & Gloria’s children are now raising families of their own.

The support Habitat for Humanity and homeownership offer a family is incredible witnessed over time. We have seen in our 25 years the stability, strength and hope of those who live in our Habitat Homes. We are truly appreciative for all your wonderful support that makes our work possible. We head into this next quarter century with many blessings to continue building more hopes and many more dreams.

~ Audrey Liu, Executive Director

Welcome Paul & Stephanie!!

We are the Guzman family. My name is Paul, my wife Stephanie and I moved to the Valley in 2011 from Florida. We fell in love with the San Luis Valley and all the amazing nature that surrounds us. We both love the mountains and the beautiful night skies that this part of Colorado offers us almost every night. We love dogs and have three little fur babies of our own. We both love creating cool things. Stephanie is a graphic artist. I like spending time creating art and composing music. We also love to cook and try different recipes whilst spending time with our loved ones. We are currently in the process of building our very first home with Habitat for Humanity. We feel totally excited and blessed that this opportunity has come to fruition for our little family. This Valley has shown us so many little treasures that we are really excited for the future. We are sooo thankful for everyone who has helped and continues to help in the building process. We can't even begin to express how grateful we are for Habitat and this amazing opportunity.

~ Paul & Stephanie
Did you know ... Each year, about 10% of the paint sold in the United States – that’s over 60 million gallons!! – is discarded or stored?? That’s a lot of unused paint!!

GreenSheen is America’s premier paint disposal and recycling company with corporate headquarters in Englewood, a local Colorado business!! Leftover latex paints that meet the strict GreenSheen quality guidelines are recycled and remixed to produce premium eco-friendly paint. Recycling this paint conserves our natural resources and also reduces air and water pollution making use of a valuable resource and lessening the need to manufacture new paint. Recycling paint reduces the amount of minerals and chemicals that would normally be used to manufacture paint, conserving energy and water while reducing the pollution that comes with manufacturing and transporting new materials. Paints pass through several steps to ensure high quality and cleanliness. GreenSheen has paint recycling facilities in Colorado, Arizona and Washington. Each state has different rules that impact the costs to recycle and types of paint that are accepted. To find a paint recycling location near you, check www.greensheenpaint.com/recycle.

GreenSheen paint is packaged and made available at a fraction of the cost of virgin content paints. GreenSheen is available at our Habitat Store in 1 gallon and 5 gallons and in a variety of shades. Our Habitat Store also carries various paint accessories.

GreenSheen is Eco-Friendly paint. It looks great and lasts.

Do you work for the State of CO? You can impact our work through the CCC, Colorado Combined Campaign. From now until Dec 31st, support the causes and communities you care about. It’s easy and efficient to donate through workplace giving to good works such as Habitat for Humanity. If you give the cost of a cup of coffee per pay check, over the course of a year, this coffee donation can light up a bedroom, paint a bathroom or make a doorbell ring. When you donate thru the CCC, you make a difference! When your contribution is combined with those of other state employees, the impact is powerful!!

Everyone makes a difference!

SLV Federal Bank is hosting the annual holiday Spirit of Giving to donate $30,000 to the great work of non-profit organizations in the San Luis Valley. Bank customers can cast votes until Mon Dec 16 to share this gift with favorite non-profits, one vote for each account. The program brings out the generous spirit of our community. Fill out a voting card at the bank or vote online at www.slvfed.com.

Vote for Habitat for Humanity!