

On the surface, we provide an attractive financing package for low income working families to assist them to purchase a home. There is, however, much more to the organization than is readily apparent.

Social

A national study of more than 1,000 Habitat for Humanity families conducted by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation in 2013 found the following benefits of our program on families and the community:

- Very high labour force participation among partner family members;
- 39% reported returning to school or upgrading their skills after purchasing their home;
- A further 25% said they plan to upgrade their skills in the next 5 years;
- Across the board improvements in children's well-being and school performance;
- An increase in children's activities outside school; and,
- 78% of the families reported their own health and the health of their families improved after purchasing their home with 25% reporting fewer days missed from work because of illness.

A recent survey of Habitat families in Winnipeg determined the following:

- 93% believe their lives are more positive since moving into the house;
- 96% are more proud of their home because they helped to build it;
- 80% state that the physical health of the family has improved;

- 71% are less stressed about money;
- 67% of families say their children have excelled in school since moving into the house, and;
- 67% have become more involved in the community.

Other research has demonstrated that the children of Habitat families are more likely to finish high school and continue into some type of post-secondary education than children in the same economic bracket.

Three years ago we formed a partnership with Rockwood Institution, the minimum security wing at Stony Mountain Penitentiary (recently the name Rockwood was dropped and the facility is now known as Stony Mountain Minimum Security (SMMS)). The partnership has two components to it. The first is that every day a van travels from Stony to Winnipeg with up to 5 inmates who have been transferred to SMMS while awaiting parole. These individuals have been approved for day parole and have completed an entry level course on home construction offered by Winnipeg Technical College. They work on our build sites under the direction of our staff, learning real skills. We are happy to report that many of the men who have been through this program have been successful in obtaining full time employment with firms in the framing, renovation and trades industries. We hire some of the men to a 90 day term position, which further assists them to secure permanent employment. The second component of the program is that we built a home on the grounds at SMMS, utilizing about 30 of the men to construct the facility, which was later moved to its permanent location in Winnipeg. We are looking for funding to build a second home on site at the prison.

We have been building homes for Aboriginal families since inception. We do not track ethnicity of our partner families but we estimate that at least 25% of the homes built have been for Aboriginal families. We organize an Aboriginal Build each year, securing funding to assist an Aboriginal family. Habitat for Humanity Canada (HFHC) launched a National Aboriginal Program 5 years ago that has enjoyed significant success across the country.

Financial

In the four year period from 2015 - 2019, we spent more than \$25 million locally for goods and services.

- \$950,000 in net GST paid on the homes built
- \$800,000 in PST
- \$1.6 million in municipal realty taxes
- \$1.6 million in education tax levy
- \$700,000 in Land Transfer taxes

That is more than \$5.6 million in direct taxation, with another \$3.2 million in annual taxes paid by the owners of those homes. None of the above figures include the taxes paid by those we hire as employees, contractors or suppliers.

If we take into account all of the houses we have built since 1988 more than \$1,000,000 is paid annually in property taxes.

Progress

- For the first 20 years of operation we averaged 7.5 homes/year
- For the last five years we have averaged 22 homes/year
- Our first 100 homes took 14.75 years to build
- Our second 100 homes took 7.86 years to build
- Our third 100 homes took 4.5 years to build
- Our third 100 homes took 4.5 years to build

External Awards

- Alcan Canada National Sustainable Building Award
- City of Winnipeg Accessibility Award
- Spirit of Winnipeg Innovation Award
- CMHC Aboriginal Housing Award
- City of Winnipeg Organizational Community Service Award
- Manitoba Chamber Outstanding Not-for-Profit Award
- The Winnipeg Chamber Spirit of Winnipeg Environment & Energy Award

HFHC Awards (52 Affiliates in Canada)

- Affiliate of the Year (twice in last 5 years)
- Best safety program in Habitat in Canada
- Green Building Award