



N. Humes
Habitat for Humanity of Missoula
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Local/ State/Regional

For Immediate Release

**Habitat For Humanity of Missoula and Lowe's Partner For
National Women's Build Week**

Habitat for Humanity of Missoula (HFHM) joins Lowe's Heroes employee volunteers on Wednesday, May 4 to continue building the 50th Habitat home in Missoula. National Women's Build Week is a Habitat for Humanity International project taking place this week at communities throughout the United States. HFHM is one of 1400 total Habitat affiliates in the U.S., and one of 300 participating in this week-long event. As we lead up to Mother's Day on Sunday, May 8, over 1,000 families will benefit from volunteers working on their respective house builds in their own communities. HFHM's Women's Build takes place on the build site at 2217 Burlington Ave. in Missoula and runs from Tuesday, May 3 through Saturday, May 7, 2016.

Habitat for Humanity's National Women Build Week is a week-long event created by its Women Build program that invites women to devote at least one day to help families build strength, stability and independence through housing. The week is meant to spotlight the homeownership challenges faced by women. Lowe's donated \$2 million to Habitat International 2016 National Women Build Week and will provide the support of Lowe's Heroes employee volunteers. The home improvement chain has a 50-year legacy of supporting communities it serves through programs that focus on community improvement projects. For more than two decades, Lowes has donated volunteers, time and financial support to Habitat's Women's Build Week.

"This week is about empowering women to learn new skills, gain confidence, and give back to our community," states Noreen Humes, HFHM Executive Director. "Our two home builds this year are for families with strong single mothers and their elementary and middle school aged children. Home ownership is something that can transform a family, giving women the strength to move to new and different levels of happiness and fulfillment for themselves and for their children."

HFHM is required to host 50 total volunteers on the build site this week and 50% have to be women. Volunteer spots are open to the public and are still available. To volunteer or for more information on volunteering, call 406-549-8210 or email frankie@habitatmsla.org. HFHM will receive a \$5,000 grant from Lowe's Home Improvement for hosting this week's Women's Build. To learn more about Habitat of Missoula or Habitat International, visit habitatmsla.org or habitat.org, respectively.

HFHM is a local non-profit organization dedicated to creating home ownership for families living in Missoula County. It qualifies families for a 30-year interest free mortgage through a stringent application process that determines financial stability as well as the willingness to partner with the organization. Families selected are required to put in 500 hours of "Sweat Equity" helping to build their own home. Through providing shelter, HFHM empowers people to live, work, play and engage in their neighborhoods, and their community.

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