



Rake-a-thon Wrap-up

Earlier this month, nearly 600 volunteers participated in the 11th Annual Rake-a-Thon, clearing 70 lawns in exchange for suggested donations to Habitat.

This annual, family-friendly event has become a Habitat tradition, bringing together local youth volunteers in partnership with the Habitat for Humanity Club of the University of Virginia (HUVA), our area high-school Youth Leadership Team, and Faith-Based Youth Groups, pairing them with local neighbors who donate to Habitat in exchange for their lawns being raked.

The \$30,000 in funds raised during this year's event will support our affordable housing work throughout the greater Charlottesville region, including construction in Southwood, where Habitat continues its national-model of transformation of the mobile home park without resident displacement. When complete, the new Southwood will feature 11 villages of roughly 1,100 new homes, more than half sold or rented affordably. Phase I of Southwood, inclusive of more than 300 homes will be complete this summer.



“We were thrilled to see so many rakers, neighbors, and sponsors coming together this year with Habitat to provide safe, decent, and affordable housing to our neighbors and to continue the momentum of this annual, family-friendly event,” said Natalie Burgwin, Director of Retail Operations and Administration for Habitat.

This year’s financial goal of \$30,000 is being supported in part by generous sponsors, including: State Farm, the Graham Family Foundation, Erin Garcia at Loring Woodriff Real Estate Associates, and Wells Fargo Advisors. Check out CBS19 News’ coverage of the event [here](#).

Carlton Mobile Home Park

Progress Report

A lot has happened in just a few short months at Carlton Mobile Home Park, where in September – supported by the City of Charlottesville – Habitat banded together with the Piedmont Housing Alliance to purchase the 64 unit, six acre site to prevent widespread displacement.

Since we closed on the property, we’ve:

- Begun managing the property by meeting with every resident of the park to

discover their dreams, aspirations and abilities.

- Created a Resident Advisory Council to inform Habitat on property management and redevelopment decisions.
- Collected baseline data so that we can measure improvements over time as a result of future investment in the community.
- Begun generating a list of short term quality of life improvements.
- Reaffirmed with each resident of the park that they can not only remain once the park is redeveloped, but can be part of planning the new community.

More than a dozen Carlton residents signed up to be a part of the Resident Advisory Council and have been meeting consistently to identify priorities for the community - like a small playground for the neighborhood children to play in safely. They are also planning community events together and volunteering “sweat equity” to reduce the cost of deferred maintenance items like potholes and leaky plumbing.



Scenes from a Fall Festival Planned by Carlton Residents

“We are so grateful to the residents of Carlton for inviting us in,” said Habitat President and CEO Dan Rosensweig. “It’s not often that you have an opportunity to do things right from day one and we’ve been able to apply the lessons we learned at Sunrise and Southwood to help us put community members in the driver’s seat from the very beginning of the partnership.”

Stay tuned in the coming weeks and months for further updates.



Food Drive at The Habitat Store

You still have time to contribute to our annual Food Drive at the Habitat Store benefitting clients of the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank.

Meet Abi - Carlton Mobile Home Park’s Newest Property Manager

Abisai “Abi” Estrada is no stranger to

As part of our effort to support the Food Bank’s critical work, we are offering a 25% discount off your entire purchase in exchange for 10 *approved* items (see

Charlottesville. He's lived in the area for most of his life and graduated from Monticello High School.

"I'm thrilled to join the Habitat for Humanity family," said Abi. "I look forward to getting to know the team and working together to make a positive impact in the Carlton community."

"We are so pleased to welcome Abi! Not only does he bring a bilingual skillset for the residents who live in the community, he brings so much warmth and heart to this work as well," says Amy Allamong, Habitat Director of Asset and Property Management.

You can stop by and say "hi" to Abi at the Carlton property management office in the Sunrise Community Center between 9 and 5 Monday-Friday.

[the Habitat Store website](#) for more details). We'll continue to collect donations and honor this discount until Wednesday November 27th. Please join us during this season of caring.



[Donate](#)

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Charlottesville | 434-293-9066

Habitat for Humanity | 967 2nd Street SE | Charlottesville, VA 22902 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!