



**Habitat**  
for Humanity®  
Heartland Ontario

2024  
ANNUAL  
REPORT

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# building progress, embracing the future



In 2024, Habitat for Humanity Heartland Ontario continued to build towards a future where everyone has a safe, affordable home. This report showcases what we've built – and the partnerships that made it possible.

# message from our Board Chair and CEO

**As we look back on 2024, we're proud of how we kept our mission moving forward through partnership, community support, and persistence.**

One of our most meaningful accomplishments was continuing the Onondaga project with Habitat Hamilton and Six Nations of the Grand River. This partnership helped more families access the safety and stability that comes with affordable housing. It's a powerful reminder of what's possible when we work together to meet a shared need and strengthen communities from the ground up.

At Habitat, the work doesn't begin or end with a construction project. Our mission is powered by people – those who give, volunteer, donate goods, and partner with us to create lasting change. In 2024, that spirit was visible across our entire region: in our ReStores, where thousands of volunteer hours supported local efforts and environmental sustainability; in the generous support from donors and sponsors; and in the relationships we've continued to build across all six counties we serve.

The housing crisis remains one of the most urgent and complex issues facing our communities. Families are working hard, but too many still don't have access to safe, stable housing. Our role is to stay focused – planning, listening, and preparing to act when the opportunity to build presents itself. We must also continue advocating for policies and partnerships that support affordable homeownership in the long term.

This year reminded us that progress takes many forms. Even when shovels aren't in the ground, meaningful work is happening every day – through outreach, education, volunteer engagement, and long-term planning. That momentum is only possible because people like you continue to believe in what we do.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We're proud of what we've done together – and ready for what's ahead.



*Steve Roorda*  
BOARD CHAIR



*Susan Fahner*  
CEO

# the legacy of Jimmy Carter

Honouring a life of service | Jimmy Carter 1924–2024



Jimmy Carter - Edmonton - 2017

In 2024, the Habitat for Humanity family around the world mourned the loss of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter—a man whose deep compassion and lifelong commitment to service transformed the way we think about housing, dignity, and community.

With his wife Rosalynn, President Carter spent decades building alongside Habitat volunteers and future homeowners. Their hands-on dedication brought global attention to the need for affordable housing and the power of helping others help themselves.

In Canada, we were honoured to welcome the Carters for several builds, including their final visit during Canada's 150th anniversary of confederation. In 2017, they joined volunteers in Edmonton and Winnipeg and those who participated still speak of the humility and drive shown by the couple.

President Carter's impact lives on in the homes built, lives changed, and people inspired. At Habitat Heartland Ontario, we honour that legacy every time we build together.

Thank you, President and Mrs. Carter, for showing us what service truly means.

## our vision

We envision a world where everyone has a safe and decent place to live.

## our mission

To mobilize volunteers and partners in providing opportunities for families to achieve affordable and sustainable homeownership as a means of breaking the cycle of poverty and strengthening communities.

## our affiliate



**6 counties**



**1.1 million population**

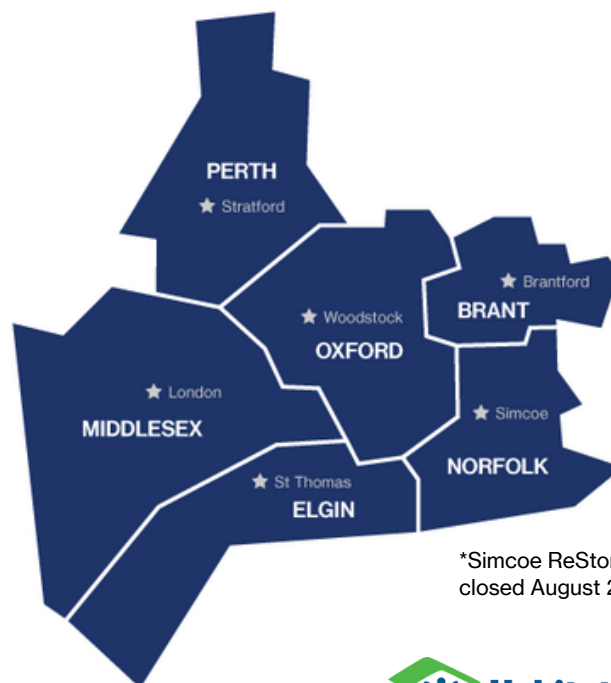


**8 ReStore locations**

Simcoe ReStore closed August 2024



**established in 1993**



\*Simcoe ReStore closed August 2024





# our impact

## **170 families**

have partnered with Habitat Heartland to achieve affordable homeownership since 1993

## **32,938 volunteer hrs**

contributed by 846 outstanding volunteers in 2024 at the ReStore, on our build sites and in our offices.

## **6.1 million lbs**

was diverted from local landfills through our ReStores in 2024

## **111 houses built**

for Heartland families in our community since 1993

## **\$3,393,040 raised**

through 2024 in donations and gifts in kind. Thank you to our generous donors and community partners.



# our ReStores



Brantford • London  
St. Thomas • Stratford  
Woodstock • Simcoe

Habitat ReStores are home improvement outlets that accept and sell donated furniture, appliances, and building materials to the public.

Every item donated or sold helps support Habitat's mission while giving usable goods a second life.

In 2024, our ReStores reduced landfill waste, engaged volunteers, and raised critical funds to support local housing initiatives.



**500,000+ items sold**

at our 8 ReStores locations, including building materials, appliances, furniture and more



**\$4,660,754 in sales**

generated in 2024 from the proceeds of your generous donations to our ReStores



**449 volunteers**

contributed over 28,259 hours supporting our ReStores



**28 salvage volunteers**

worked on salvage job-sites for over 258 hours – reclaiming valuable building materials for our ReStores



# Onondaga project



In 2024, Habitat for Humanity Heartland Ontario, in partnership with Habitat Hamilton and Six Nations of the Grand River Housing, proudly completed Phase 2 of the Onondaga project. This phase doubled our contribution by adding a second, five-unit townhome complex on Six Nations territory, bringing the total number of new homes to ten.



To mark this milestone, we hosted a key ceremony attended by new homeowners, community members, dignitaries, media, and representatives from Six Nations and Onondaga. It was a moment of pride, partnership, and celebration.

This project continues to demonstrate the impact of collaboration in addressing the urgent need for safe, affordable housing. Like many communities we serve, Six Nations faces a significant housing shortage. The Onondaga project reflects our shared commitment to building strong, healthy futures through meaningful partnerships and community-led solutions.



# our volunteer community



Volunteers play a central role in our mission at Habitat for Humanity Heartland Ontario. From ReStores and build sites to salvage crews, their time and effort help power every part of our work.

In 2024, more than 846 volunteers gave thousands of hours to support our efforts across the region. We're especially grateful to our top contributors, whose commitment continues to make a lasting difference.



-  **846 total volunteers**
-  **32,938 hrs contributed**
-  **28 salvage volunteers**
-  **23 build volunteers**

## our top 5 contributors

Gary "KO" Kusch  
**1,124 HOURS | BRANTFORD RESTORE**

Jaime Sharpe  
**731 HOURS | WONDERLAND RESTORE**

Tom Stoffelsen  
**673 HOURS | SIX NATIONS BUILD**

George Smith  
**645 HOURS | STRATFORD RESTORE**

Frans van der Grefth  
**636 HOURS | WOODSTOCK RESTORE**



# corporate team days

-  **137 volunteers**
-  **615 hours contributed**
-  **over \$25,000 donated**
-  **13 corporate team days**

Team Days offer corporate groups a hands-on way to give back while supporting Habitat's work. Whether on a build site or in one of our ReStores, these volunteer experiences help businesses make a tangible impact while fostering team connection and community involvement.

In 2024, 137 volunteers joined us through Team Days, contributing more than 615 hours across our sites. Most Build Team Days took place at the Onondaga Phase 2 site, where groups helped move the project closer to completion. ReStore Team Days continued across our region, offering vital support for store operations and customer service. Together, these efforts raised over \$25,000 to support affordable housing.

We're grateful to all participating teams, including Amazon, Canada Life, AVIVA, Schneider Electric, GrandBridge Energy, Masco, Ontario REALTORS Care Foundation, Western University, and more.



# audited financials

## statement of financial position

	operating fund	fund for humanity	total 2024	total 2023
assets	\$799,087	\$9,504,437	\$10,303,524	\$10,486,590
liabilities	\$173,132	\$1,080,847	\$1,253,979	\$3,819,054
net assets	\$625,955	\$8,423,590	\$9,049,545	\$6,667,536

## statement of operations

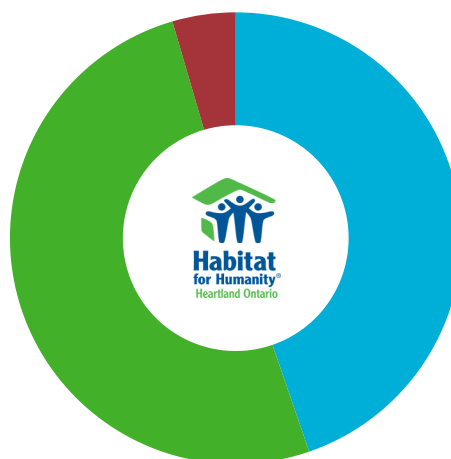
	operating fund	fund for humanity	total 2024	total 2023
total revenue	\$5,023,241	\$5,398,264	\$10,421,505	\$7,423,974
total expenses	\$5,766,386	\$3,168,310	\$8,934,696	\$8,540,555
total excess or (deficiency)	\$(743,145)	\$3,122,154	\$2,379,009	\$(1,838,211)

**\*\* for the full report please see our 2024 audited financial statements**

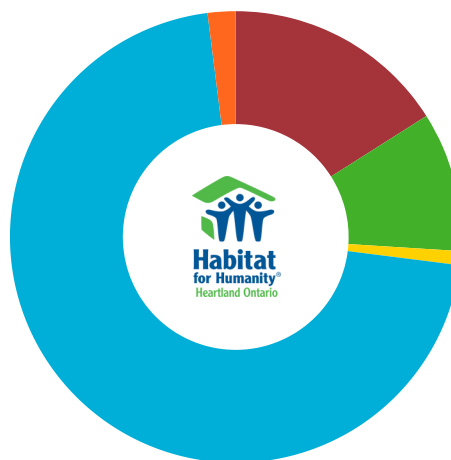
# audited financials

Accountability guides everything we do. Our audited financials show how we manage donations, ReStore revenue, and grants with care. They reflect our commitment to long-term planning, responsible spending, and using every dollar to support our mission.

## revenue by source



## donations, grants, foundations



*\*\* for the full report please see our 2024 audited financial statements*





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## get involved

donate

There are many ways to give that will support Habitat for Humanity. We are appreciative of both monetary and non-monetary contributions.

volunteer

Volunteer at Habitat for Humanity Heartland Ontario. We welcome individual and team volunteers of all skill levels.

shop

Shop at our ReStores and donation centres selling new and gently used furniture, appliances, home goods, building materials and more.

 visit [www.habitat4home.ca](http://www.habitat4home.ca) to donate, volunteer and shop