

Sussex County Habitat for Humanity's COVID-19 Update

Dear Friends,

I am writing to provide an update on the measures Sussex County Habitat for Humanity is taking to protect the people we serve, our staff, and volunteers during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. Here at Sussex County Habitat, we share everyone's concern about keeping our families and neighbors safe and are reminded how vital a decent home is for one's health and safety. Following guidance and directives from our local, state, and national leaders, we are doing our part to prevent the spread of the virus.

[Our office is temporarily closed.](#)

Effective immediately, our office is closed through April 3. We will assess weekly to determine if there is a need to extend the closure further. Our Leadership Team has enacted an Emergency Response Plan that includes a remote work policy for office staff and requires social distancing for our construction and ReStore teams.

[Our construction sites are temporarily closed to volunteers.](#)

We expect this closure to be effective through April 15. The week before, we will issue a message either confirming or extending this date. Our team is working with individuals, corporate teams, and community groups to postpone previously confirmed volunteer dates and reschedule when possible. We are scheduling volunteers after April 15 and into the summer and fall with the advice that confirmations will be made as the dates approach. Please consider volunteering this summer, for we will need your help getting our current homes back on track once things normalize.

[ReStore in Lewes is temporarily closed to the public.](#)

Starting tomorrow, Friday, March 20, we are temporarily closing ReStore through April 3. We will not be utilizing volunteers at this time and are not accepting donations on-site until further notice. Our ReStore team is currently contacting customers and donors who have previously arranged commitments.

[Special events and in-person meetings are being rescheduled.](#)

In accordance with state, and federal directives, we are postponing all in-person gatherings and events dependent on the size and date of the gathering. This includes committee meetings, homebuyer education classes, and our annual Golf Outing (previously scheduled for May 8th). When possible, we will shift to virtual meetings. In some cases, we will reschedule for future dates. All registered participants and attendees will be directly notified.

[We are managing the best we can.](#)

We are, however, concerned about how this unprecedented pandemic will continue or escalate. The impact these measures will have on our ability to critically serve the community is unknown. What we do know is that the need for safe, healthy, stable housing is glaringly evident at this time of uncertainty. That said, please know that our board, volunteers, staff, and the hardworking families we serve deeply appreciate your support. Because of you, there are families in Sussex County who are settling into their Habitat homes with comfort and security.

[Please consider making a gift online today.](#)

For now, you cannot build with hammers and nails, but you can keep us building in the future with a financial contribution. If you are able, please make a donation to sustain our mission of bringing people together to build strength, stability, and self-reliance for our neighbors in need of healthy living conditions.

[Let's continue to take care of one another.](#)

In faith and service,

Kevin J. Gilmore

Executive Director, Sussex County Habitat for Humanity