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Homesteader - April 28, 2015

95 million.

That's how many people in the United States who experience housing problems, including payments that are too large a percentage of their income, overcrowding, poor quality shelter and homelessness. Issues like housing insecurity impact everyday life, affecting health, nutrition, education, job performance, and more. Children face the greatest risk of the negative effects of housing insecurity.

Habitat for Humanity seeks to help. Using volunteer labor and tax-deductible donations of money and materials, Habitat for Humanity builds houses with the help of future Habitat homeowners. Houses are sold to these partner families at no profit, financed through affordable, no-interest mortgages. Monthly mortgage payments, paid by the families living in the homes, are used to support the construction of more houses.

In the Lincoln, Nebraska, area alone, Habitat has provided affordable housing for nearly 600 people, 403 of which are children, reducing the risk factors for these families, and providing the opportunity for a better quality of life.

It currently costs only \$73,000 plus the purchase of the lot to build a Habitat Home, as much of the labor (2,000 hours worth) is provided by volunteers and by the members of the families that Habitat works with.

In partnership with the Lincoln/Lancaster County Habitat for Humanity, churches and individuals from around Homestead Presbytery are working to build a home for a family in our area in a project that we are calling The PresbyBuild.

Participate: In the coming weeks and months, several churches are planning events and activities that will be fundraisers for The PresbyBuild. Keep an eye out for notifications about these activities, jump in, and get involved! Or, plan your own and let us know so that we can spread the word!

Volunteer: As we get to the construction phase, we will be looking for individuals and groups of people who can volunteer to get onsite and construct the house. There will be tasks available for just about every skill level, from hanging drywall to hammering nails to painting. Consider donating your time and your skills to help us reach the goal of 2,000 donated labor hours to help a family achieve the dream of a new home.

Questions? Contact Leanne Masters at leanneoffice@gmail.com or at 402-421-3704



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance responds to earthquake disaster in Nepal.

The death toll from the massive earthquake in Nepal continues to rise. Nearly 4,000 are known dead and more than 6,000 were injured when the 7.8 quake struck just west of the capital of Kathmandu on April 25. The quake, the worst in more than 80 years, along with many serious aftershocks has also caused damage in parts of India and Bangladesh.

PDA is providing emergency relief and short-term recovery in the impacted areas with our partner,

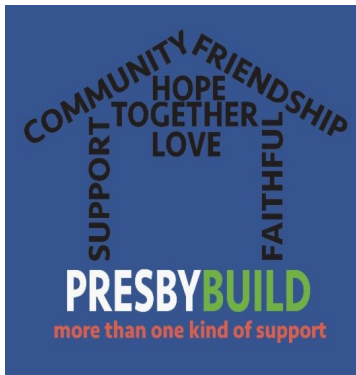
We need your help.

You can help in a number of different ways:

Give: Currently, we have raised approximately 50% of the funds necessary to fully construct the home, and are getting close to our goal. We invite you to consider donating funds to the PresbyBuild project to help us reach the goal.

Pray: We are encouraging all churches in the Presbytery to emphasize the issue of affordable housing during worship on May 17th. Liturgy, prayers and suggested hymns have been created by members of the

Presbytery for use on this day. Encourage your pastor and worship planning team to use or integrate these resources into worship on that day. And pray for the families that are waiting for homes, that they may find the comfort and shelter that they need. [Liturgy](#)



ACT Alliance and its members who are already on the ground. Immediate response will help provide needed food, water, supplies and medicine to the impacted towns and villages. As long term recovery plans are developed, PDA will accompany and further financially support our partners in the area to insure that a comprehensive recovery is sustained.

The needs for the response will be great. God's people are once again called on to stand in the "GAP" - Give. Act. Pray.

Give: Financial support for relief efforts can be designated DR999999 with reference to Nepal. Gifts can be made [online](#), by phone (800) 872-3283 weekdays between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. (EST), or checks can be mailed to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

Act: Learn how your congregation can help families who have lost everything in the devastation. Stay informed and like us on Facebook, [download resources](#) and share updates with your congregation.

Pray: Pray for those who suffered loss of family or those who are working tirelessly to provide rescue, humanitarian aid, and spiritual and psychological support.

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For more information, visit www.pcusa.org/pda

Blessing Opportunity *2 Corinthians 9:7-8*



GIVE..to Presbybuild.

Keep Thinking...

People who are determined will find a way. People who are not determined will find an excuse.

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