

2015 Annual Report



**Habitat
for Humanity**
of Wisconsin

A Year of Growth

2015 has been another year of growth for Habitat for Humanity of Wisconsin! We've had a number of firsts this year, including the addition of several new programs, and the growth of our Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) program from being an intermediary to managing our own program. 2015 also marked the addition of our second staff person, Svea Kastens, who is our VISTA Program Manager, and some great new partnerships, including a new crowd funding program with the Wisconsin Bankers Association, and a Rescued Wood project funded in part by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

We look forward with great anticipation to 2016 and continuing to build on the momentum of this past year. It's been our privilege to serve the nearly 40 local Habitat for Humanity affiliates throughout Wisconsin in 2015, and we look forward to working with our dedicated and talented Habitat affiliate staff, board and volunteers in the coming year.

Build Local, Think Global

This year's annual Volunteers of the Year banquet and statewide training conference had a decidedly international flavor! The over 200 affiliate staff, board, and volunteers were treated to a world market filled with items from Habitat organizations the affiliates support from around the world, and we celebrated World Habitat Day with speakers and workshops that highlighted Habitat's work in over 70 countries worldwide.



Aging in Place

Our newest statewide initiative is the Aging in Place Program. As our local affiliates add repair projects to their tool belts, a number are responding to the growing need of helping low-income seniors and the disabled with repairs to their homes. For some, these projects will address code violations or safety issues, for others they will increase energy efficiency, lowering energy bills and making the homes more livable. In some cases, the addition of a wheelchair ramp or adaptive devices like bathroom grab bars can greatly improve quality of life and even allow them to stay in their homes.

Recently, we've begun raising funds for these projects on the Wisconsin Bankers Association's new crowd funding site, nVest Wisconsin. We are excited about this new collaboration with the WBA, and look forward to raising funds to help our affiliates address the growing need for affordable home repairs for Wisconsin's low-income seniors.





The Wisconsin Habitat VISTA Program

After four years of serving as intermediary for our local Habitat affiliates for the VISTA program in Wisconsin, we were awarded a program grant this April, which means that we manage our own statewide program.

One huge benefit of being awarded a program grant is that it gave us the opportunity to hire Svea Kastens as our new VISTA Program Manager! Svea served as a VISTA at our Sauk/Columbia affiliate for a year, and with us as a VISTA leader for more than a year, and we're thrilled to have her with us as permanent staff, lending her experience and expertise to the program.

The impact of our VISTA program on affiliates is impressive. Serving in positions such as fund development, volunteer coordination, outreach and program development, our VISTAs have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars, recruited thousands of new volunteers, increased visibility and created new programs for our affiliates. We are grateful for their years of service!

"Rescuing" Wood

One of the most serious threats in decades to Wisconsin's beautiful forests and to our urban tree population is the emerald ash borer (EAB) beetle. The EAB infests ash trees, eventually killing them, and this bug has unfortunately spread to a number of counties in Wisconsin, despite efforts to contain it. The result is that it is likely that we'll lose millions of trees in our state, many of them cut down and disposed of.

However, because the beetle only bores into the bark and top few inches of wood, most of the tree is still useable, if the beetles and their larvae can be destroyed. HFH-Wisconsin has created a pilot program with funding from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and several foundations, and is collaborating with Habitat for Humanity of Washington and Dodge Counties as they mill and kiln dry wood cut from logs from infected trees. Our "Rescued Wood Program" takes trees that the City of West Bend would otherwise be putting through a chipper and the Washington/Dodge affiliate turns them into wood for use in Habitat houses and for sale in ReStores, to raise funds for other construction supplies.

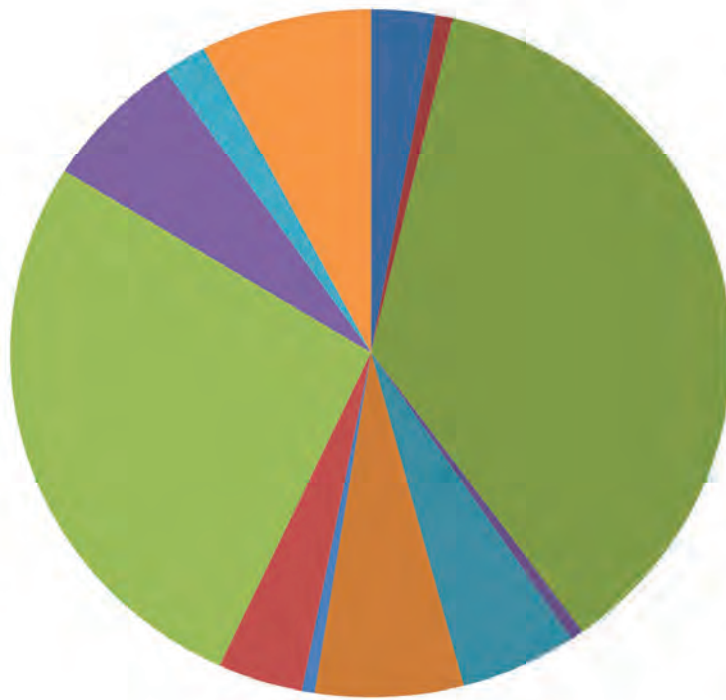
We are hoping to show that this program can be self-sustaining, so that we can help Habitat affiliates create similar programs in other parts of Wisconsin. Not only can it reduce the costs to municipalities that are struggling to deal with this widespread devastation of Wisconsin's ash trees, it can also help us build our Habitat homes a little more affordably, which will help us serve more Wisconsin families in need.



2015 Annual Report



Total FY15 Revenue: \$243,239.13



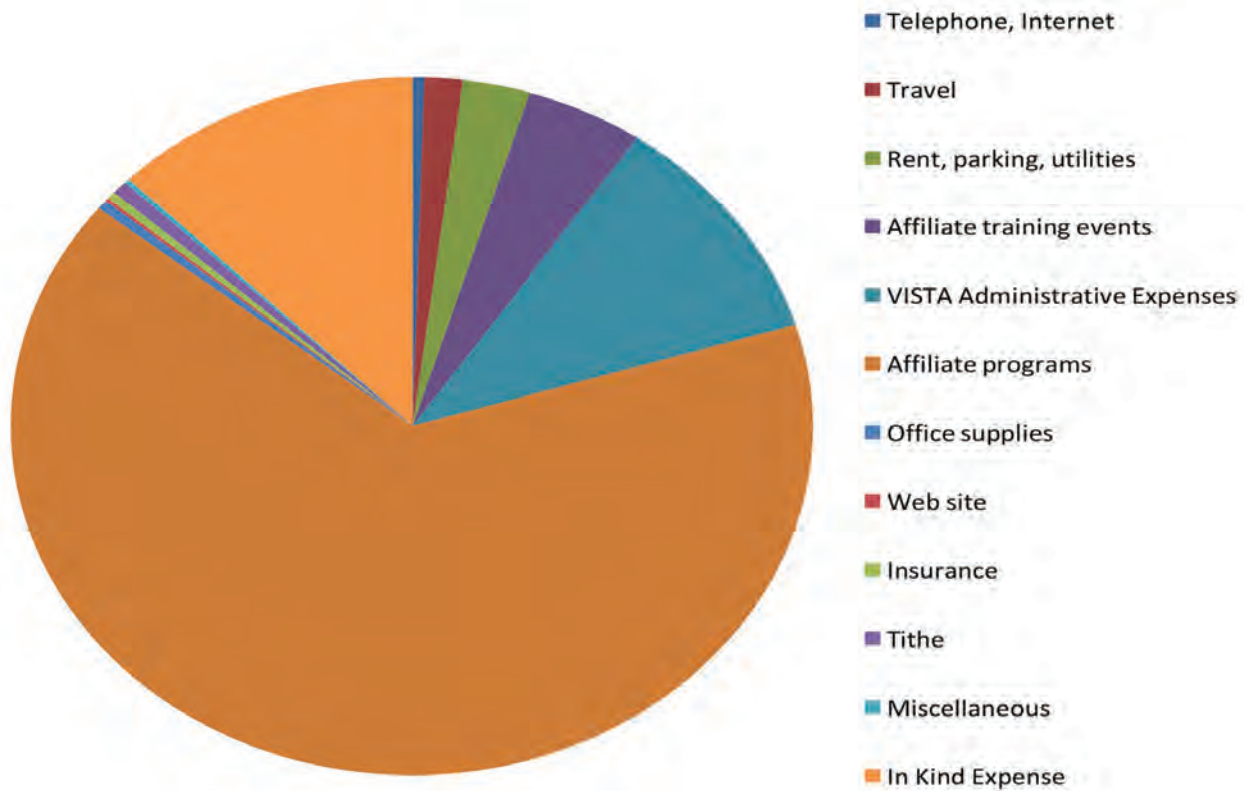
- Corporate Donations
- NW Fund Development Program
- Program Income
- Habitat for Humanity International
- Rescued Wood Grants
- VISTA Admin Grant
- Miscellaneous Income
- Individual Donations
- Fees for services
- Fundraisers, events, sales
- Recycling Contracts
- In-Kind Donations



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FY 15 Total Expenses: \$229,578



HFH Wisconsin participates in the Combined Federal Campaign, Thrivent Choice, Amazon Smile, HuTerra, and other giving programs.

The Rescued Wood Program is funded in large part by a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

The VISTA program is funded by a grant from the US Corporation for National and Community Service, and through contributions from host Habitat for Humanity affiliates.



2015 HFH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board President: Paul Fehrenbach- BMO Harris Bank

Vice-President: Mary Vandehey- Thrivent Financial

Secretary: Greg Ciriacks- Global Recruiters Network of West Bend

Treasurer: Kathryn Poehling- First Supply, LLC

Past President: Russ Wanta- HFH of Washington and Dodge Counties

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Andy Scheiderer- St. Croix Valley HFH Dave Kinyon- Kinyon Construction
Steve Baker- LaCrosse Area HFH Stacy Pahlke- HFH of Adams and Juneau



HFH Wisconsin Staff

Sara Kierzek: Executive Director

Svea Kastens: Program Coordinator

Ruhamah Bauman: VISTA Leader

Dan Boville: Design Coordinator



2015 Annual Report



THANK YOU 2015 SUPPORTERS!

Steve White	EFI	Mich Semmann
Greg White	Douglas Farrell	Pamela Kelly
Gregory Wiese	Robert Frank	WI DNR
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Evan & Marion Helfaer Foundation	BMO Harris Bank	Casey Madden
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Thrivent Financial	Sandy Olsen	Silvia Rodriguez
Andrew Carlson	Sara Kierzek	Sandra Rubin
Mary Cieslak-Duchek	East Wisconsin Savings Bank	Lisa Sasso
Jennifer Cooper	Stir, LLC	Mona Schroeder-Beers



This report can be viewed on our website <http://hfh-wi-ss0.huterra.com/>

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