

# Veterans Build November 2023

November 2-4 Kick-Off

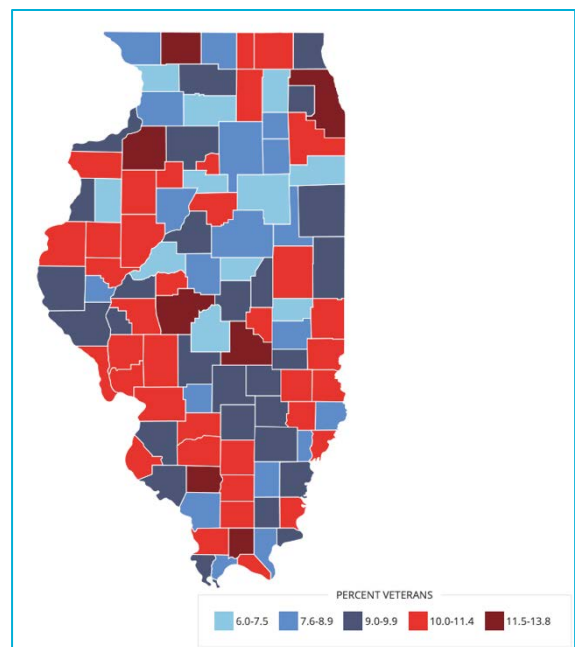


Habitat for Humanity was founded with the belief that everyone deserves a simple, decent place to call home. But we know that a home is more than a roof, walls and a door. Instead, we see a Habitat home as a foundation for a better, more stable future for homeowners and their families. By offering an affordable mortgage payment, and a literal and metaphorical foundation for our partner families, Habitat for Humanity provides the stability that families need to thrive.

## Veteran-Specific Housing Needs

In 2013, Habitat for Humanity launched the Veteran Build program to ensure that the men and women who have served our country could experience safe and stable housing. While the VA reports that veteran households overall have higher employment rates and median incomes than non-veterans, many still face housing problems.

- Nearly 25% veterans aged 55 and older are paying more than 50% of their income for housing.
- Nearly 35% of veterans in this age group report a disability which may require home modifications as they age.
- Female veterans are more likely than their male counterparts to live in poverty. Nearly 50% of veterans who are single mothers spend more than 30% of their income on housing.



To be considered affordable, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development affirms that no more than 30% of household income must be spent on housing expenses. Otherwise, families must often choose between paying rent, and paying for other needs – such as food, heat or medicine.

## Chicagoland Habitat's Veteran Build Initiative

Following the model of Habitat for Humanity's National Veteran Build movement, Chicagoland Habitat's Veteran Build Initiative empowers local military and veteran families to achieve the strength, stability and self-reliance that stable homeownership provides, with the following objectives:

- Nearly Building new and repairing existing homes for veterans
- Offering financial education to support successful homeownership among veteran homeowners

- Recruiting military veterans to work with Habitat as employees, board members, and volunteers
- Providing volunteer experiences that can bring together veterans and military families with their neighbors, easing the transition to civilian life with fulfilling community engagement
- Hosting special events that pay tribute to veterans, raise awareness and mobilize volunteers

## How You Can Help

We need **volunteers** and **sponsors** for this event.

COMMUNITY BUILDER	NEIGHBORHOOD BUILDER	HOME BUILDER	FAMILY BUILDER	PORCH BUILDER	YARD BUILDER	Veterans Build 2023 Sponsorship Benefits
\$50,000+	\$25,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$1,000	Your investment in affordable housing for veterans
Yes						Invitation to speak and recognition at the Veteran Build program
Yes	Yes					Onsite signage on all affiliate build sites
8 teams	4 teams	3 teams	2 teams	1 team		Team of 10 volunteers at a Veterans Build site
80	40	30	20	10		Veteran Build T-shirts and volunteer lunches
Yes	Yes	Yes				Company name included in all press releases and media outreach for initiative
Yes (Logo)	Yes (Logo)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Recognition on all event printed materials, on the Chicagoland Habitat website and social media channels

# 6,636

Since 2013, Habitat's Veterans Build program has partnered with over 6,636 veterans and their families to improve their housing.

**For more information, please contact:**

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