



**every  
one**  
needs a place to  
call home



## why shelter?

**Every day, more and more families find themselves in a struggle to keep a decent roof over their heads.**

Caught in punishing cycles of unpredictable rent increases, overcrowded conditions, or lack of access to land and affordable financing, these families live with a constant burden of uncertainty, stress and fear.

Habitat for Humanity knows that safe, decent and affordable shelter plays an absolutely critical role in helping families to create a new cycle, one filled with possibilities and progress. Affordable homeownership frees families and fosters the skills and confidence they need to invest in themselves and their communities. The outcomes can be long-lasting and life-changing.

With a little help, Habitat homeowners are able to achieve the strength and self-reliance they need to build better lives for themselves and their families. They are empowered to overcome the barriers that so often stand between their families and better, healthier, more financially stable lives.

Studies conducted by academics and experts draw a straight line between housing quality and the well-being of children. Surveys of Habitat homeowners show improved grades, better financial health, parents who are more sure that they can meet their family's needs. Wherever we work, we witness tangible evidence that strong and stable homes help build strong and stable communities.

Decent shelter provides the solid foundation for all of this. It's the platform on which a family lives out today's realities and prepares for tomorrow's transformations. Every Habitat house changes lives: those of the families who help build them and pay an affordable mortgage or loan and all those who offer them a hand up in a time of need.



# why is habitat needed?

**Every day, more and more families find themselves in a struggle to keep a decent roof over their heads.**

## Why Habitat is Needed

- The world is experiencing a global housing crisis
- By 2020, it is estimated the world slum population will reach almost 1 billion.
- Lack of clean water and sanitation claim the lives of more than 1.8 million young children every year.
- In the United States, 48.5 million people are living in poverty.
- In Pima County 1 in 4 children are living in poverty.
- Minimum wage is not keeping up with the rising cost of living and many workers struggle to afford decent housing.

## Decent, stable housing provides more than just a roof over someone's head

- Stability for families and children.
- Sense of dignity and pride.
- Health, physical safety and security.
- Increase of educational and job prospects.

## Housing must become a priority

- The percentage of people without access to decent, stable housing is rising.
- Increasing the housing supply across the globe is essential.
- Adequate housing is vitally important to the health of the world's economies, communities and populations.
- If we are to succeed in the fight against poverty, we must support the expansion of housing both as policy and as practice.

**Learn how you can join Habitat in making a difference at [HabitatTucson.org](http://HabitatTucson.org)**



Habitat for Humanity Tucson helps individuals and families achieve

**strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter.**