

# We can help you buy an affordable home.

## The American dream

of homeownership becomes a reality for families in need through the work of Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County, a nonprofit organization that builds and sells quality affordable homes in partnership with limited income households and the Pinellas County community.

Our homeownership program offers a hand up – not a handout. In addition to monthly mortgage payments, homeowners volunteer 250 to 350 hours (called “sweat equity”) to build their house and the houses of other Habitat homeowners.

Habitat homes are built through donations of money, materials and volunteer time and are sold to each homeowner at cost, financed with **an interest-free mortgage**. Mortgage payments are used to buy materials to build even more homes.

Thanks to volunteers, donors and partner families, Habitat for Humanity builds more than just houses. We build hope and community.



*Putting faith into action, Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County promotes family stability by providing innovative and affordable housing solutions to qualified individuals and families. In partnership with our community, we work toward our ultimate goal of eliminating substandard housing throughout the county.*

## Income Range Requirements

Check out the other eligibility information inside.



| Number of People in Household | You Must Fall Within This Gross Income Range |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1                             | \$11,900 - \$31,650                          |
| 2                             | \$13,600 - \$36,200                          |
| 3                             | \$15,300 - \$40,700                          |
| 4                             | \$16,950 - \$45,200                          |
| 5                             | \$18,350 - \$48,850                          |
| 6                             | \$19,700 - \$52,450                          |
| 7                             | \$21,050 - \$56,050                          |
| 8                             | \$22,400 - \$59,700                          |

HUD 2011



3071 118th Ave. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33716  
 Open Mon. - Fri. (9am - 5pm)  
 Office: (727) 536-4755 Fax: (727) 209-2191  
 E-mail: [program@HabitatPinellas.org](mailto:program@HabitatPinellas.org)

**Habitat ReStore:** (727) 209-2199  
 Open Mon - Sat (9am - 4pm) Thurs & Fri (9am - 6pm)

Equal Housing Opportunity: We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin.



### Take the first step!

You can complete the pre-qualification form online at

[www.HabitatPinellas.org](http://www.HabitatPinellas.org)

# HOMEOWNER PROGRAM GUIDE



## The key to building your dreams!



Welcome Home



Each year, Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County accepts potential homeowners into our program to qualify for a home built in partnership with community volunteers.

## DO YOU QUALIFY?

You must meet the following criteria:

- Fit a specific income range. (Check out the chart on the back)
- Have a housing need. Are you living in conditions such as:
  - Overcrowded?
  - Substandard, unsafe or unsanitary?
  - Paying a very high percentage of your income for rent (more than 30% of your monthly income)?
- Have lived or worked in Pinellas County for at least one year.
- Have one year of steady, reliable income.
- Have reasonably good credit. We don't require perfect credit. We consider families who demonstrate the ability to make regular payments on their bills.



## HOW TO APPLY

1. **Complete the Homeowner Pre-Qualification Form** online at [www.HabitatPinellas.org](http://www.HabitatPinellas.org). Or get a copy of the form by calling or stopping by the HfHPC office.
2. After reviewing your form, Habitat staff will notify you if you might be eligible and you will be invited to **attend an orientation** to receive an Application for Homeownership.
3. The application asks for specific information and background on your living and financial situation. After you **complete your application**, it is reviewed by a selection committee, which also conducts interviews and a home visit. Be aware that the application review process may take one to two months.
4. Approved households will be invited into the program and can **start on their sweat equity hours** right away. If declined, we encourage you to work on areas of concern and reapply.

**Today's Habitat Pinellas homes just might surprise you!**

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### How long is the program and what am I required to do?

- You set the pace! Expect to be in the program for 6 to 18 months to complete all the requirements.
- Attend 13 homeownership classes on topics like budgeting, home safety and maintenance.
- Volunteer up to 350 hours of "sweat equity." Build your own home with the help of Habitat friends and volunteers.
- Contribute \$500 towards closing costs.



### What makes a Habitat Pinellas house affordable?

- Sold at no profit.
- Financed with a 0% interest, 25 to 35-year mortgage.
- We are able to do this because the homes are funded by local corporations, the faith-based community and individuals, and they are built by volunteers working with future homeowners.

### How much will the home cost per month?

- Monthly payments range from \$650 to \$700.
- Payments include the principal cost of the home (paid over 25 to 35 years with no interest) and escrow for Pinellas County property taxes and homeowner insurance.

Our next home owner could be **YOU!**