



## IU Habitat Newsletter 2009

Dear Friend of IU Habitat,

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for your time, hard work, and donations that have made IU Habitat what it is today. This last year has been an amazingly successful one, most notably with the completion of Leslie Shephard-Long's house. We began building with the floor in September, and on December 13<sup>th</sup> we welcomed Leslie and her three kids, Eden, Mason, and Anika, to their new home.

I look forward to working with all of you, whether you have moved on from IU or not, to promote and achieve IU Habitat's mission of ending substandard housing in Monroe County. Please enjoy the rest of the newsletter to find out what all we've done, what is coming up, and how you can continue to contribute to IU Habitat for Humanity.

Thanks again for your continued support,

Sean Fick, President



Volunteers braved the heights and the heat to shingle the roof.

## Fall 2008 Recap

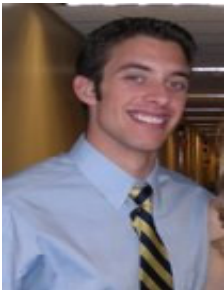
- **Bucket 100-** In our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual fundraising bike ride between Bloomington and West Lafayette, 40 dedicated riders peddled 160 miles and raised over \$20,000 for the IU and Purdue Habitat for Humanity chapters. Never has so much progress been made to eliminate substandard housing in Indiana just by sitting down!
- **Rake-a-Thon-** Despite miserable Indiana winter weather, nearly 100 students spent two weekends raking the leaves of Bloomington homeowners. In total almost fifty were completed by the last day, earning over \$2000 for IU Habitat.
- **Worksite-** Hundreds of students spent their Saturdays and sacrificed tailgating to help build a house for the Shephard-Long family. Volunteers worked alongside high school volunteers as
- **Winter trip-** Seven students left for Biloxi, Mississippi during winter break to volunteer at one of the most active Habitat for Humanity affiliates in the world.

## Volunteers of the Month



### DECEMBER 2008: ALLI WEBB

Alli Webb is a sophomore from Goshen, IN. She hopes to get a Bachelor Degree of Fine Arts focusing in ceramics, along with a major in Sociology. She is a transfer student and this is her first semester in Habitat and first semester at IU. Habitat has allowed her to help in the community and meet a lot of great people. She is looking forward to an exciting next semester at the worksites and various committees.



### NOVEMBER 2008: NICK ADDLEMAN

Nick Addleman is a junior from Carmel, Indiana majoring in Biology. This is his second year with IU Habitat. He has participated in the 5K Walk/Run, several work sites, and is going to the Biloxi area to help the Hurricane Katrina victims. He loves going out with Habitat to make a difference in people's lives and can't wait to get out to more worksites.



### OCTOBER 2008: AMANDA SORRENTINO

Amanda Sorrentino is a sophomore from Oceanside, New York majoring in journalism and culture and communication. This is her first semester in Habitat on the publicity committee. She enjoys writing press releases for Habitat to help inspire and excite the campus about upcoming Habitat events like Rake-A-Thon and Bucket 100. Amanda likes being involved in an organization that focuses on the community's needs and can't for next semesters events!

## A Note from Lauren Courtney, Vice President of Funding

*Building a house for a family is an experience that cannot be articulated into words. This semester, I have had the privilege of working on Leslie Long's home. It was an awesome experience learning how to build walls, shingle a house, put up siding, and talking to the lovely homeowner herself. Our chapter's work and financial support has provided Leslie and her three children an opportunity to live in a home in which they own. In order for our chapter to continue helping underprivileged families, everyone's financial assistance is continually needed. Thank you for your continued support and wish IU Habitat for Humanity continued success in the near future.*

## What's to Come

Even after the completion of our fall build, there is plenty of work that needs to be done. This spring we will be hosting numerous volunteer opportunities as well as fundraisers. These include;

- **More worksites-** Monroe County Habitat for Humanity builds year-round, and often needs more volunteers for worksites. We will inform you when these opportunities come up, and tell you how you can sign up for them.
- **ReStore-** The Monroe County Habitat for Humanity ReStore takes item donations from all over Bloomington and resells them to the public. All profits go towards Habitat and building more houses. They are in constant need of volunteers who will work weekdays as well as weekends to work in the store, organize the warehouse, or collect donations. We will be focusing much of our volunteer efforts towards them this semester.
- **Spring Break Trips-** We will be travelling to Delray Beach, Florida and Mandeville, Louisiana during Spring Break this year to work with the local Habitat for Humanity chapters. If there is enough interest, we may also make a trip to less warm Minnesota. Spots will be first-come, first-serve; however IU Habitat members will have priority over non-members. You can get more information at our website, or by contacting our Special Events Director, Maria Miller.
- **5k Run/Walk-** Our annual 5k is our biggest fundraiser in the semester, and this year it promises to be as successful as ever. The 3.1 mile course takes runners and walkers through campus during one of the most beautiful times of the year. It's the perfect excuse to get some exercise, enjoy the weather, and meet fellow Habitaters. And it's for a good cause too!

## Membership News

*Fall of 2008 has been a transitional semester for IU Habitat, particularly for our membership involvement with the integration of MyPoints, our point-based incentive program. With MyPoints fully up-and-running this semester, thanks to our Webmaster, Mike Keucher, our members have been able to open accounts and log participation points for their volunteering efforts. It is a nice way for them to record their time with Habitat. Additionally, when a member accumulates a particular level of points, they receive recognition, a reward, and they are distinguished amongst other volunteers for their irreplaceable efforts. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our members that have enrolled (99 thus far) with MyPoints and that have used this past semester as a chance to help reduce substandard housing in Monroe County. If you would like to learn more about MyPoints, please log on to [IUHabitat.org](http://IUHabitat.org) and open your own account.*



*Kaci Smolenski, Vice President of Membership*

# How to Contribute

We realize that not all of you are able to come out to site and swing a hammer. Fortunately there are numerous ways to get involved with IU Habitat that can be fit perfectly into your schedule. This spring will include many volunteer opportunities including worksites, ReStore, and our main fundraiser, the 5k Run/Walk. Aside from that, we encourage all current members to join one of our committees. These committees are integral to our success, and require people who want to take a leading role in IU Habitat. There are three great committees to join, all with something unique to offer you.

- **Chapter Development Committee** - The chapter development committee's goal is to supplement IU Habitat for Humanity's main events (such as Rake-a-thon, 5K) with fundraisers throughout the year. If you are creative and energetic; if you want to work with Habitat but are perhaps wary of construction work, special events is the committee for you.
- **Publicity Committee** - The IU Habitat Publicity Committee is a very crucial part of the Habitat for Humanity organization as a whole. Habitat depends on its volunteers in order to thrive and the publicity committee gets the word out.
- **Major Events Committee** - The Major Events Committee help several annual benefits held to raise money for the construction of a Habitat home. Because these events are so large, including the 5K Walk/Run, Spring Break trips, Rake-a-Thon, and others), a committee of volunteers has been created to help us organize these events. We need to form a strong, reliable committee full of people willing to give their time and put forth the effort necessary to make these events a success.

Those of you who cannot take active roles in IU Habitat, we still need you more than ever. Any personal donations are greatly needed and appreciated. Please find out how you can contribute more on our website.



IU Habitat would like to thank the following for their extra support:

IMU Catering

State Farm Insurance

Bloomington High School North

Thanks again and we look forward to working with you in the future to end substandard housing.

IU Habitat for Humanity

[iuhabitat.org](http://iuhabitat.org)