

every connection



July 17, 2019

What a difference a year makes.

When I stepped into my role as Executive Director in July, 2018, I knew about some of the great work that Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sioux Falls had done. I had heard about the ReStore's efforts to divert waste from the landfills in our community and the Neighborhood Revitalization projects that were helping keep families in their homes. I had seen news stories on the many families who earned their once in a lifetime homeownership opportunity through Habitat's ministry. **What I didn't realize was how many of you have opened your hearts to make Habitat's work possible.**

I received a visitor during my first week on the job who stopped by my office to welcome me into the Habitat family. She introduced herself and explained that she was one of our first homeowners nearly 30 years ago. She talked about working on her home with volunteers, the generosity of those who made it possible, and the opportunities it provided her and her family. She told me that, even after 30 years, sometimes she stops when she walks through her front door and thanks God for all those who made it possible. **What I didn't realize was the kind of impact your support is making decades down the road.**

A lot of things are happening in Habitat and our community. Some of those things we can change and some of them we cannot. Finding a safe and affordable home is harder than ever for many hardworking families – building costs are through the roof and buying property to build homes is more expensive than any other time in Sioux Falls history. However, because of you, our Sioux Falls Habitat built its 160th home a few weeks ago and plans to dedicate 8 new homes, as well as finish 20 Neighborhood Revitalization projects, in 2019. **What I didn't realize was how resilient Habitat's supporters and partner families are.**

You have helped make amazing things happen. I hope you will continue to partner with us and focus on those things we can change. We can still help save our environment by diverting waste from our landfills. We can still help our neighbors stay in a home they can be proud of. We can still provide life changing opportunities to local families. We can reach our goal of funding and dedicating 8 new homes in 2019.

Today, I'm asking you to donate and think about the possibilities. All the things we may not even realize we can accomplish together.

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rocky Welker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rocky Welker
Executive Director

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