



Fundraising for **ANNUAL BENEFIT 2021**



**Get started and be wildly successful
on my.habitatchicago.org**



WELCOME TO THE 2021 ANNUAL BENEFIT COMMUNITY!

We're thrilled to have you join a community of Chicagoans committed to helping more Chicago families access the benefits that homeownership offers. Together, we will raise \$150,000 to completely fund an affordable Habitat Chicago home.

We know that the Annual Benefit is a big commitment, and we are so grateful you are taking it on. This user guide will help you get the most out of [this fundraising site](#). If you have any questions not answered in this user guide, please do not hesitate to contact us at events@habitatchicago.org.

If you are reading this and are interested in participating in the Annual Benefit but do not yet have login credentials, please contact us at events@habitatchicago.org to get started.

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GETTING STARTED

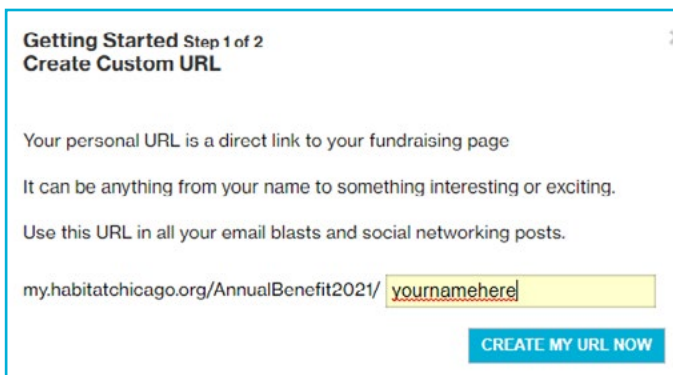
The First Three Things You Should Do!

A great fundraising page is personal. Yes, you are fundraising for the Annual Benefit, but people give to people – and you are in the spotlight here. So, spend a little time right at the start to make your page your own!

The platform makes it easy to personalize your page. The first time you login to the website, you'll be prompted with three easy steps to get started.

A note: we strongly suggest donating to your page (no matter how small) so you can show your friends and family that you, too, think the mission is worthy of investment. (PS: it says donate to your team, but really it goes to your personal page, which will then feed into your team goal).

Step 1: Create a Custom URL for Your Individual Page



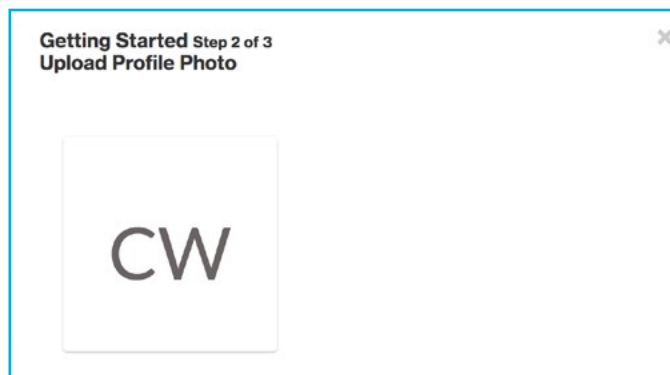
Getting Started Step 1 of 2
Create Custom URL

Your personal URL is a direct link to your fundraising page
It can be anything from your name to something interesting or exciting.
Use this URL in all your email blasts and social networking posts.

my.habitatchicago.org/AnnualBenefit2021/

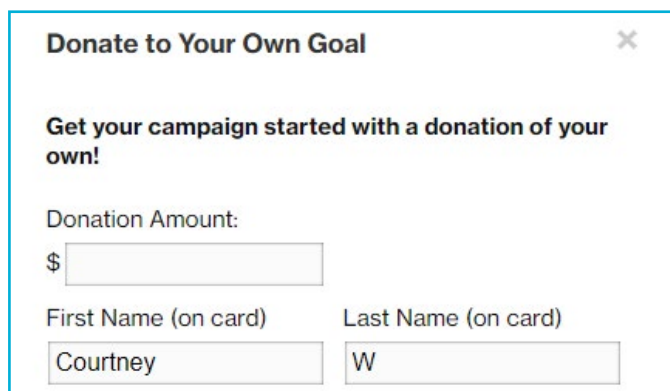
[CREATE MY URL NOW](#)

Step 2: Upload a Photo for Your Individual Page



Getting Started Step 2 of 3
Upload Profile Photo

Step 3: Donate to Your Own Individual Goal



Donate to Your Own Goal

Get your campaign started with a donation of your own!

Donation Amount:
\$

First Name (on card) Last Name (on card)

YOUR DASHBOARD

Your Dashboard View

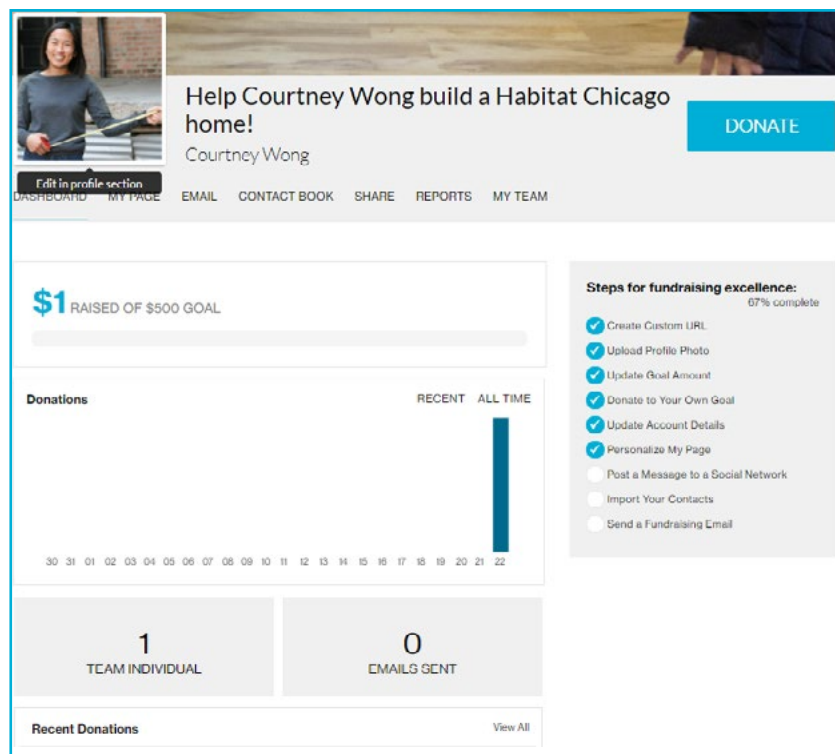
Once you finish those start-up steps, you'll land on your fundraiser dashboard. Your dashboard is like your control panel. Here, you can personalize your outward-facing page, promote your page through email or social media, monitor your fundraising progress, and say thanks to your donors!

Your dashboard will look something like this:

On the left-hand side, you'll see graphs of your donation activity.

Underneath the graph is the Table Host function. **Please do not create a new team or switch teams without first contacting events@habitatichicago.org.**

To the right of the "Create or Join Team" button, you can see how many emails you have sent to potential donors (it will not record thank you emails sent to existing donors). The more emails you send to potential supporters, the greater odds you will meet your fundraising goal!



On the very bottom is a list of all of your donors. You can click the green envelope next to a donor's name to send an email or thank you card to your donor, if they provided contact information.

Recent Donations		View All		
Donor name	Donor email	1/22/2021	\$1.00	

Your dashboard overview continues on the next page.

YOUR DASHBOARD

Your Campaign Progress

The “Campaign Progress” box on the right-hand side of your dashboard contains tasks that are intended to streamline your fundraising success. Once you complete a task, a checkbox will appear on the left. Here’s a snapshot of what each task will do:

Create Custom URL – By default, your campaign URL will contain a bunch of numbers. Create your personal URL so it is simple to find you and easy for you to remember.

Upload Profile Photo – Upload or change your profile picture from your computer or a linked Social Media account.

Update Goal Amount – Your fundraising goal will default to \$500. You can update this goal as many times as you’d like.

Donate to Your Own Goal – Lead by example and donate to the Annual Benefit yourself. A donation made through this task will count towards BOTH your individual and team goals.

Update Account Details – This will allow you to update your information, e.g. your email address, password, address, and phone number.

Personalize My Page – This will direct you to the front of your site to update the description of your page and what visitors will see. A default description will be provided, however, we highly recommend you to personalize it to be authentic to who you are.

Post a Message to a Social Network – This will take you to the “Promote Via Social Media” section, where you can post individual updates to Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn.

Import Your Contacts – Import your contacts from an email account, a previous Habitat Chicago fundraising campaign, or an excel CSV spreadsheet.

Send a Fundraising Email – Send and track emails to potential supporters and existing donors through my.habitatchicago.org. This is an optional feature, so feel free to send emails through your personal email.

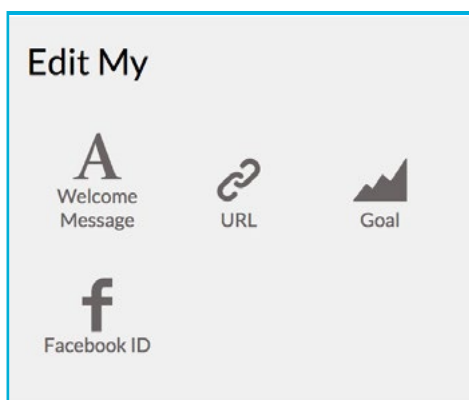
Steps for fundraising excellence:
44% complete

- Create Custom URL
- Upload Profile Photo
- Update Goal Amount
- Donate to Your Own Goal
- Update Account Details
- Personalize My Page
- Post a Message to a Social Network
- Import Your Contacts
- Send a Fundraising Email

PERSONALIZE YOUR PAGE

Personalizing your page is one of the most important things you should do! We will have some added defaults for you, but you'll want to take the extra step to make this page yours.

To get started, select **Personalize My Page** in your campaign progress box. This will direct you to the front of your site to update what visitors will see.



Welcome Message – Clicking on Welcome Message will allow you to edit the title of your page, as well as the body of your page. What should you say here? This is the place to explain why Habitat Chicago is important to you, and what you are trying to achieve. This is a serious mission, but that doesn't mean you can't be charming and funny if that's who you are!

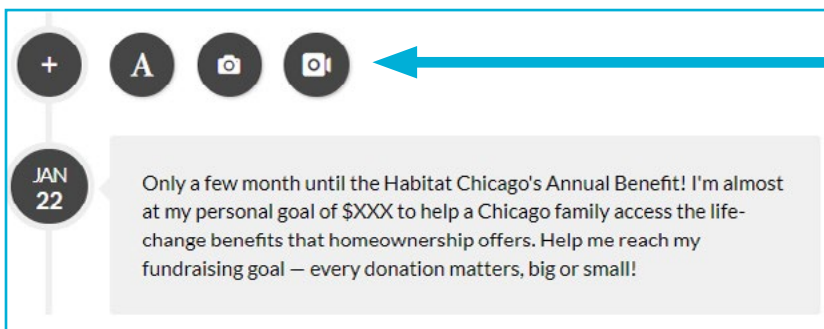
URL – Here you can update the URL that will be shared with your network. Create your personal URL so it is easy for you to remember and for folks to find you.

Goal – Click the goal icon to update your fundraising goal. There is no limit on how many times you can update your goal.

Facebook ID – Inputting your Facebook ID will allow you to moderate the comments people leave on your page. Once you click on Facebook ID, you'll be given instructions on how to find your Facebook ID.

Your Fundraiser Feed

Underneath your body text is your "Fundraiser Feed", which is a living, open connection from you to your network. Each update posted to the feed includes a date stamp! Add text, photos, or videos to captivate and engage your donors as you go.



To add a post, click on one of these icons. We recommend doing this to say thanks to new donors, when you hit a fundraising milestone, or just because! The more active your feed, the better.

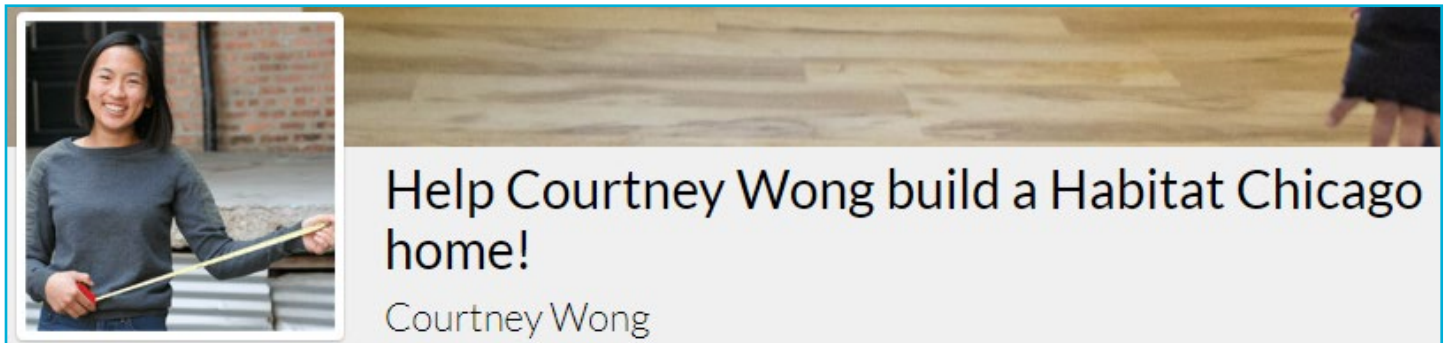
PERSONALIZE YOUR PAGE

Editing Your Profile and Cover Images

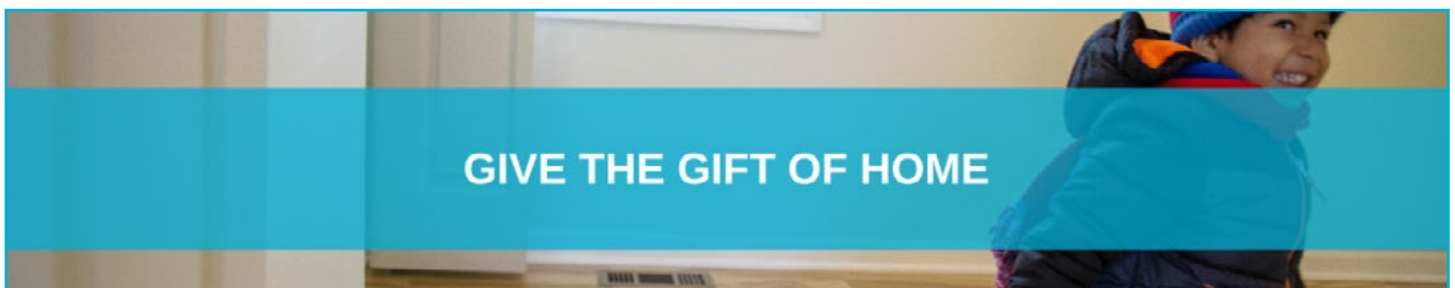
On each personal and team fundraising page, there are two types of photos: (1) your profile image and (2) your cover photo, also called your “campaign image”.

These will be pre-populated with Habitat Chicago imagery, but we recommend customizing them to increase familiarity with your potential donors! Below are definitions and instructions on how to update each:

Profile Image. Your profile image is a picture of yourself or something that represents you! This can be updated through a start-up task or by clicking the appropriate task in your campaign progress list.



Campaign Image. The campaign image is the big, horizontal banner image that appears at the top of your page. When you hover your mouse on this area, you will see an icon pop up that will allow you to update this image. The recommended image dimensions are 2500px x 785px and it will view best as a medium-res.jpg.



SPREAD THE WORD

Sending Emails Through Your Dashboard

This function is completely optional. Please feel free to use your personal email when sending out fundraising emails. If you would like to utilize this function, select “**Send a fundraising email**” in your campaign progress box.

The image shows two parts of a dashboard. On the left, a box titled 'Steps for fundraising excellence: 44% complete' contains a checklist with the following items: 'Create Custom URL' (checked), 'Upload Profile Photo' (checked), 'Update Goal Amount' (checked), 'Donate to Your Own Goal' (unchecked), 'Update Account Details' (checked), 'Personalize My Page' (unchecked), 'Post a Message to a Social Network' (unchecked), 'Import Your Contacts' (unchecked), and 'Send a Fundraising Email' (unchecked). A blue arrow points from the 'Send a Fundraising Email' item to the right. On the right, a form titled 'ADD FROM CONTACT BOOK' is shown. It includes an 'Add Friends Manually:' section with 'Email' and 'Greeting' input fields and an 'ADD EMAIL' button. Below this is a 'Template:' dropdown menu set to 'None - Type Own', a note to 'please review and edit the email before sending.', a 'Subject:' input field, and a 'Message:' text area with a rich text editor toolbar. At the bottom of the message area, there is a link: 'Please visit my personal page <https://my.habitatchicago.org/AnnualBenefit2021/courtsyww>'.

Step 1: Verify Your Email

Your email must first be verified to access these email tools. As soon as you register, you will receive a link to verify your email. If it hasn't yet been verified, you will be prompted to verify it on the “Send a Fundraising Email” page.

Step 2: Choose Your Recipients

You can send emails promoting your page by manually entering email addresses or through the contact book functionality (more on the next page).

You can also send messages directly to your donors by selecting “Update my Donors”. This will send an email to ALL of your donors. To send an email to a specific individual donor, see page 4.

Step 3: Write Your Content

Once you have your audience, you can select an available email template (a preset email message) by clicking the down arrow under the template box. When a template is selected, a subject and message will be entered which can then be customized. Alternatively, you can create your own email message from scratch. If it's a message you think you'll re-use, you can save it as a template.



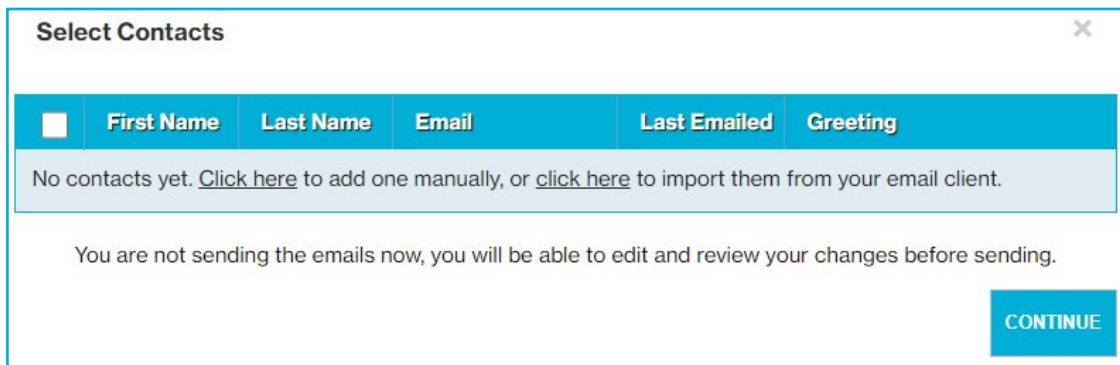
Save Template

Review Email

SPREAD THE WORD

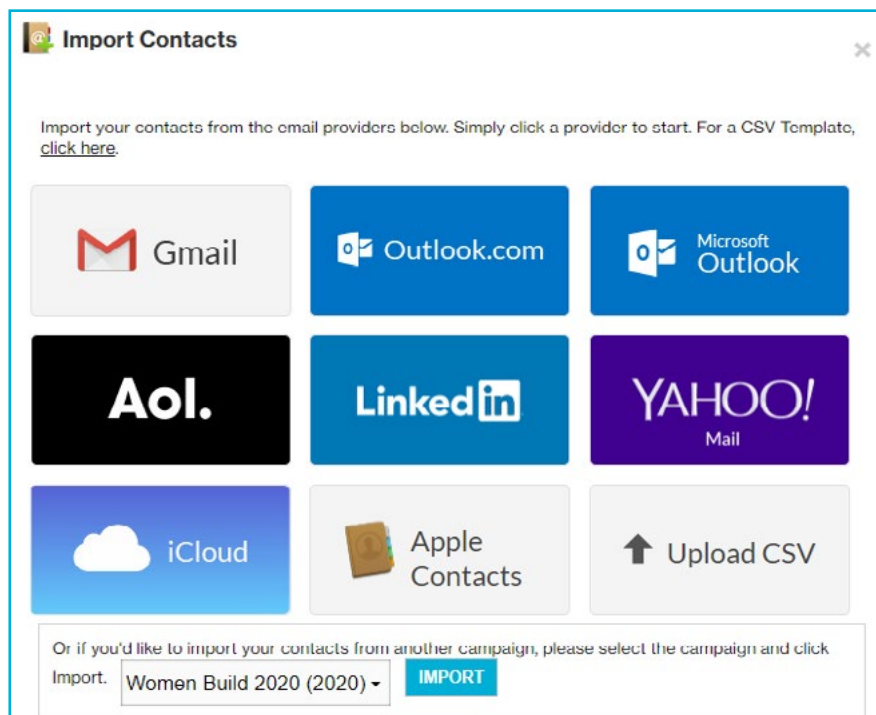
Importing Your Contact Book

If you choose to import your contact book through the “Send a fundraising email” task, this pop-up window will appear.



The screenshot shows a pop-up window titled "Select Contacts" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. Below the title is a table with five columns: "First Name", "Last Name", "Email", "Last Emailed", and "Greeting". The "Email" column is currently empty. Below the table, there is a message: "No contacts yet. [Click here](#) to add one manually, or [click here](#) to import them from your email client." Below this message is another line of text: "You are not sending the emails now, you will be able to edit and review your changes before sending." In the bottom right corner, there is a blue button labeled "CONTINUE".

When you select “click here to import them from your email client”, you can import your contacts from any of the sources below. You can also upload contacts from an excel file in a CSV format or from one of your previous Habitat Chicago fundraising campaigns.



The screenshot shows a pop-up window titled "Import Contacts" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. Below the title is a message: "Import your contacts from the email providers below. Simply click a provider to start. For a CSV Template, [click here](#)." Below this message is a grid of nine buttons for different email providers: Gmail, Outlook.com, Microsoft Outlook, Aol., LinkedIn, YAHOO! Mail, iCloud, Apple Contacts, and Upload CSV. At the bottom of the window, there is a message: "Or if you'd like to import your contacts from another campaign, please select the campaign and click Import." Below this message is a dropdown menu showing "Women Build 2020 (2020)" and a blue button labeled "IMPORT".

If you choose to add contacts manually, you will be prompted to fill in your new contact's first name, last name, and email.

SPREAD THE WORD

Use the power of social media

In your “Campaign Progress” box, you’ll see the task “Post a Message to a Social Network.” This tab will allow you to share your personal fundraising page through any of the social networking sites below:

The image shows two side-by-side panels. The left panel, titled "Steps for fundraising excellence: 44% complete", lists several tasks with checkboxes: "Create Custom URL", "Upload Profile Photo", "Update Goal Amount", "Donate to Your Own Goal", "Update Account Details", "Personalize My Page", "Post a Message to a Social Network", "Import Your Contacts", and "Send a Fundraising Email". A blue arrow points from the "Post a Message to a Social Network" task to the right panel. The right panel, titled "Promote via Social Media", contains the text "Let your network know you're involved. Share, tweet or post an update any time you want." Below this text are three buttons: "Share on Facebook" (with a white 'f' icon), "Share on Twitter" (with a white bird icon), and "Share on LinkedIn" (with a white 'in' icon).

If you are already logged into Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn, clicking on the specific icon will trigger a pop-up confirming your credentials. Once logged in, you’ll have the option of customizing your message before completing your social media post.

Top Social Media Tips

1. Use the Annual Benefit Social Media Kit for pre-made images and templates at <https://my.habitatchicago.org/AnnualBenefit2021/Static/fundraising-resources>.
2. Post early in your campaign and often. Social media algorithms make it so that not all of your followers will see all of your posts. Include a photo or video with every post. These make it so that your post is significantly more likely to appear in somebody’s feed. If you need Habitat Chicago imagery, check out our photo library at <https://my.habitatchicago.org/AnnualBenefit2021/Static/Photos>.
3. Make sure to customize a social media post before you share it. Your friends and family will be more likely to donate if they know why Habitat Chicago matters to YOU.
4. Send direct messages! These really work, especially on Facebook where you can see if someone has read your message. Follow up if you get that “read” receipt and no donation!
5. When someone donates to your page, thank and tag them on social media. Challenge another friend to match (or beat!) the donation.
6. You’re fundraising as part of a team – work together! Comment on and like one another’s posts to boost momentum and the likelihood of your posts appearing on someone’s feed.

DONATIONS 101

People are giving! What happens?

Each time you receive a donation, you'll be notified via email and it will automatically be counted towards your individual goal and your team's goal. It will also appear in your recent donations report in your Fundraiser Dashboard.

Say thanks!

Upon donation receipt, donors will receive a thank you letter and necessary tax information from Habitat Chicago, but it's equally important for you to say thanks personally.

As soon as you see a new donation, send your donor a thank you email by clicking on the green envelope next to their information.

Help Courtney Wong build a Habitat Chicago home!

Courtney Wong

DASHBOARD MY PAGE EMAIL CONTACT BOOK SHARE REPORTS MY TEAM

\$1 RAISED OF \$500 GOAL

Donations RECENT ALL TIME

01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

1 TEAM INDIVIDUAL 0 EMAILS SENT

Recent Donations View All

	1/22/2021	\$1.00	✉
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Steps for fundraising excellence: 67% complete

- ✓ Create Custom URL
- ✓ Upload Profile Photo
- ✓ Update Goal Amount
- ✓ Donate to Your Own Goal
- ✓ Update Account Details
- ✓ Personalize My Page
- Post a Message to a Social Network
- Import Your Contacts
- Send a Fundraising Email

If your donation went to the wrong place...

If someone meant to donate to you, but the gift went to the wrong team or member, don't fret! Simply contact events@habitchicago.org. Include, if you can, the donation date, amount, donor first name, donor last name, and that the gift should be credited to you!

Additional Information for Donors

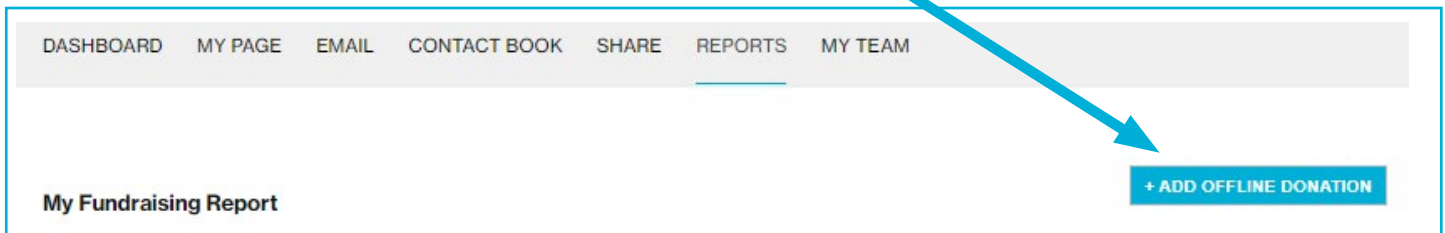
Commonly asked questions: <https://my.habitchicago.org/AnnualBenefit2021/Static/faq>.
Tax information: <https://my.habitchicago.org/AnnualBenefit2021/Static/donor-resources>.
Submitting cash or check donations: On the next page.

DONATIONS 101

Offline Donations: Cash and Checks

When you receive a check or cash donation, here's what to do:

Step 1: Enter an offline donation by clicking “View All” on your “Recent Donations” report on your dashboard. Then select “+Add offline donation” in the top right corner.



Step 2: If a supporter would like to donate via check, please have them:

1. Make check payable to “Habitat for Humanity Chicago”.
2. Include a note in the check that includes your name and indicates the donation should be credited to your Annual Benefit fundraising page.
3. Mail the check to:
Habitat for Humanity Chicago
ATTN: Annual Benefit
1100 W Cermak Rd. Ste. 404
Chicago, IL 60618

If you receive a cash donation, please do not send it via mail. Rather, call the Habitat Chicago office at 312-563-0296 to schedule a time to drop off the donation. Hours and directions can be found at <https://www.habitatchicago.org/directions-hours>.

Step 3: Offline donations will initially be considered “unverified” donations, and they will not be counted towards your goal until they are received and processed by Habitat Chicago. Expect the donation to be credited to your page within 7-10 days of receipt. If you do not see it within ten days, please contact events@habitatchicago.org with the donor’s first and last name, the amount of the donation, and the date on which it was sent to Habitat Chicago.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Fundraising Ideas and Social Media Kit

For fundraising pointers, group fundraising ideas, and a social media kit, visit <https://my.habitatchicago.org/AnnualBenefit2021/Static/fundraising-resources>.

Table Host Resources

If you're table host, this page has resource specific to you: <https://my.habitatchicago.org/AnnualBenefit2021/Static/table-host-resources>.

FAQs

For answers to commonly asked questions regarding fundraising, donating, and volunteering, visit <https://my.habitatchicago.org/AnnualBenefit2021/Static/faq>.

Contact Information

Contact:

events@habitatchicago.org

312-563-0296 x 422

Habitat for Humanity Chicago
1100 W Cermak Rd., Ste. 404
Chicago, IL 60608

Social:

Facebook - [@Habitat for Humanity Chicago](#)

Twitter - [@HabitatChicago](#)

Instagram - [@HabitatChicago](#)

LinkedIn - [@Habitat for Humanity Chicago](#)

#HabitatChicago

GO FORTH, HAVE FUN!

Our biggest thanks!

We can't thank you enough for going above and beyond to ensure that more Chicago families will have access to the long-lasting, life-changing benefits of stable and affordable homeownership.



No matter who we are or where we come from, we all deserve to have a decent life. We deserve to feel strength and stability day after day. We deserve to know we have the power to care for ourselves and build our own futures.

At Habitat for Humanity, this is what unites us. Our shared vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

Because you, me, we – we're all humans. And every single one of us deserves the opportunity for a better future.