



Women Build Month

October 2022 | Greater Grand Crossing

chicagowomenbuild.org | [#CHIWomenBuild](https://twitter.com/CHIWomenBuild)

Table of Contents



Welcome!

We are thrilled to welcome you to a community of women committed to the idea that every woman deserves the equal opportunity to build a strong future for herself and her family through quality, stable, and affordable homeownership.

Team Leaders are the driving force in making Women Build a success – thank you for taking it on! We rely on your communication and influence to make sure your Women Build team has a positive experience and each of your members knocks her goals out of the park. 2022 marks our tenth annual Women Build – let’s make it the best one yet!

Team Leader Guide

We’ve put together this guide to help get you started on the road to Team Leader triumph! In here you will find:

Page	Content
3	Overview, Goals, and Previous Successes of Women Build!
4-6	Build Day at a Glance and COVID-19 Agreements
7-13	Getting Started as a Team Leader
14-18	Going Above and Beyond as a Team Leader
19-20	Frequently Asked Questions
21	Keeping in Touch
22	Social Media and Vision Statement

You can also access this packet and additional Team Leader resources electronically on the “Team Leader Resources” page at chicagowomenbuild.org.

Overview + Goals

Women Build Month: October 2022

Location: The Habitat Chicago build sites in Greater Grand Crossing, Chicago, IL 60619. The exact build site address will be emailed to all participants before the event. Be sure to mark events@habitchicago.org and volunteer@habitchicago.org as a known sender so you don't miss any important information.

Our Fundraising Goal

\$475,000 in peer-to-peer fundraising to help cover tools, materials, and construction leadership costs for our homes that will be women-owned.

Women Build Hall of Fame: In 2021, we raised \$478,238, exceeding our \$375,000 goal!

Team Goal

\$8,000 – We are asking each Women Build team of 10 to raise a minimum of \$8,000.

Women Build Hall of Fame: In 2021, top fundraising team Women of Mass Construction raised \$27,332!

Individual Requirements

\$450 – Each Women Builder is required to raise at least \$450 by the end of Women Build month (11:59 PM on 10/22/22). If a participant doesn't meet this minimum, she may be ineligible to participate in future Women Builds.

Women Build Hall of Fame: In 2021, top fundraiser Tammy P. brought in \$10,820!

Build Day at a Glance

Transportation + Parking

Take a car – Free street parking is available near the build sites, but limited. We recommend carpooling or ridesharing with other Women Builders.

Public Transportation – The build site is accessible by CTA transportation.

Schedule

7:30 am	Registration
8:00 am	Welcome and Safety Orientation Any volunteer who is absent for the Orientation may forfeit her right to volunteer that day
8:15 am	Work Begins
11:15 am	Group Photo Taken by Habitat Chicago volunteer photographer or staff
11:30 am	Lunch Break Provided by Habitat Chicago
12:30 pm	Work Resumes
2:30 pm	Site Clean-Up
2:45 pm	Whole Group Wrap-up
3:00 pm	Volunteer Departure

Build Day at a Glance

What You'll Be Doing

We will be working across multiple homes that will be in various stages of construction. Your flexibility and enthusiasm for the task at-hand is most appreciated. Some typical volunteer activities might include framing, siding, painting, roofing, laying flooring, hanging doors or windows, trim work, finishing, landscaping, or cleaning.

What to Wear

Get ready to get dirty! You're joining us on an active construction site. With that in mind, here's what you should wear:

- Each participant will be given a Women Build t-shirt the morning of her build – come ready to put it on!
- Thick pants, no shorter than your knees, that you don't mind getting dirty.
- Closed-toed, durable shoes. Boots preferred, sneakers acceptable.
- Layers! Weather in October can vary and you may be working outdoors or indoors.
- Avoid wearing jewelry.
- Secure long hair.
- Each participant will need to wear a hard hat and safety glasses throughout the day – Habitat Chicago can provide all protective equipment, but you are welcome to bring your own if they meet our safety standards!
 - Safety glasses should be rated ANSI Z87.1.
 - Bump caps are NOT allowed in place of hard hats.

What to Bring

Items you should consider bringing to make your day even better:

- A filled reusable water bottle. Shared water coolers will not be available on site. We suggest bringing at least 64 ounces of water.
- Face mask.
- Work gloves (if you have some- we'll provide if you don't).
- Sunscreen, chapstick, etc.
- Rain coat or poncho.

We will have labeled bins for you to store the stuff you don't need while you build!

Who can Build

Any self-identifying woman over the age of 16; all volunteers under the age 18 are required to bring a guardian-signed youth waiver with them to the build site and be accompanied by a chaperone over the age 21. You will be working under the direct supervision of trained Habitat Chicago Crew Leaders. There is no experience necessary to volunteer – just a willingness to listen, learn, and get the job done!

Build Day at a Glance

COVID-19 Volunteer Agreement

In order to keep all of our volunteers and team members safe, we are asking that all volunteers abide by our COVID-19 Volunteer Agreement. You can read the full text [here](#) and will agree to this document through your registration process.

Please understand that by volunteering with Habitat for Humanity Chicago, where you will be in the proximity of other people, you may be at risk of contracting the virus, even though precautions are being observed.

Whether or not you have been fully vaccinated*, please refrain from volunteering:

- If you or someone in your household has had these symptoms or has had contact with anyone who has exhibited symptoms of COVID-19 in the last 10 days, including but not limited to: fever, cough, difficulty breathing, respiratory or flu-like symptoms, sore throat, etc.
- If you have been medically directed to self-quarantine due to possible exposure to COVID-19.
- If you have been in contact with a person who has a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 10 days.
- If you have traveled outside of the United States in the last 10 days.

If you have not been fully vaccinated*, please refrain from volunteering:

- If you have traveled via airplane in the last 10 days.
- If you have been in any group larger than 10 where social distancing was not maintained.

*As defined by the CDC, people are considered fully vaccinated:

- 2 weeks after their second dose in a two-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
- 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine

If you are able to volunteer, please take adequate precautions by practicing good hygiene and social distancing on site. To volunteer with Habitat Chicago, you must follow all safety precautions outlined, including but not limited to:

- Wear a face mask when less than 6 feet from another person.
- Bring your own Personal Protective Equipment whenever possible (face mask/shield, gloves, ANSI Z87.1 safety glasses, etc. where applicable). If you are not able to bring the appropriate PPE, it will be provided for you.
- Clean hands often with an alcohol-based sanitizer (at least 60-95% alcohol, or wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; wear gloves whenever possible.)
- Keep a 6-foot distance between other people whenever possible.
- Avoid hand-shaking or contact greetings.
- Disinfect reusable supplies at the end of the day and whenever possible throughout the day.
- Provide your own water; there will be no communal water cooler.
- Commit to utilizing and touching only your assigned tools and equipment.
- Communicate with Habitat Chicago if you are subsequently diagnosed with COVID-19 or discover you came in contact with someone who has been diagnosed prior to your volunteer day.

Getting Started as a Team Leader

Step 1: Know Your Key Dates

- June 30-July 31:** Recruit your team! Make sure they register on your team page URL.
- August 1:** Public sign-ups open on chicagowomenbuild.org; interested individuals will be placed on teams with open spots.
- August – September:** Optional monthly Zoom drop-ins will be offered to all Women Builders for additional support on fundraising and building team camaraderie.
- September 26:** **The final day to make changes to your Women Build team roster.**
- October 5-22:** Women Build (remember: your team builds for just one day of the event)!
- October 22 (midnight):** Fundraising deadline for top team contest and fundraising prizes. Donations can still be made after this date, but they will not count towards prizes.

Step 2: Register yourself to fundraise on chicagowomenbuild.org + familiarize yourself with the website

Chicagowomenbuild.org is your hub for all things Women Build. Each Women Build team will have a custom team page and each Women Builder will have a personal fundraising page. All of the money raised by your individual team members will automatically feed into your team page so that you can easily track both your individual and team progress.

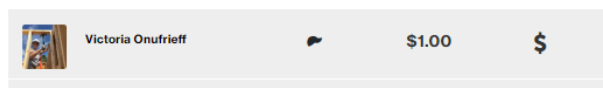
You'll receive your team page URL from events@habitatichicago.org after the Team Leader Kickoff. On your team page, there will be a "Join Our Team" button. **You can ONLY register by joining through a team page (the register button on the homepage will not work).**

The life-changing benefits of affordable homeownership are immense: it improves school performance, decreases crime, improves financial outcomes, and enhances the health and well-being of children and adults – among many others. But due to gendered barriers like the pay gap and its impact on credit access, and uneven child care responsibilities that limit time and financial resources, it is far more difficult for a woman to own a home than a similarly situated man.

Victoria's Test Team is doing something about this. We're linking arms, picking up our power tools, and joining in Habitat for Humanity Chicago's Women Build to knock these barriers down. Alongside 400 determined women, we will raise \$275,000 to help build affordable homes that will be owned by women! Then we're hitting the Habitat build site in October to help construct the homes.

Help us reach our goal so we can change the lives of these women forever and prove that there is nothing a committed group of women can't achieve when they come together. Every donation - big, small, or somewhere in between - helps to build a strong, stable, and equal future.

Thanks,
Victoria's Test Team



\$3

raised of \$6,500 goal

Donate

\$1,000

\$500

\$250

\$100

\$50

\$25

Other

2 Builders

recruited

[JOIN OUR TEAM](#)

You will automatically be made the Team Captain by being the first person to join your team, so it is critical you join first before instructing your members to register.

If you have participated in Women Build before, you can join your Women Build 2022 team with your existing credentials. You will also have access to information from your previous fundraising campaigns, such as donor contact information.

Step 3: Join the Women Build Facebook Group + Use the Women Build Social Media Kit

The Women Build volunteer planning committee has created a private Facebook group for Women Builders. We encourage everyone to use the group as a communication tool to stay in touch with each other and post questions, ideas, victories, challenges, and more. This is a closed group. Our committee members will be monitoring and granting approval to all Women Builders on an ongoing basis! The group can be found:

- By the direct URL: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChicagoWomenBuild>
- By searching “Habitat for Humanity Chicago’s Women Build” on Facebook



There is a Women Build Social Media Kit available to you, which includes: text and images for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram posts and stories. Using the kit will not only boost awareness of your fundraising efforts, but the Women Build mission at large. You can access the kit contents at:

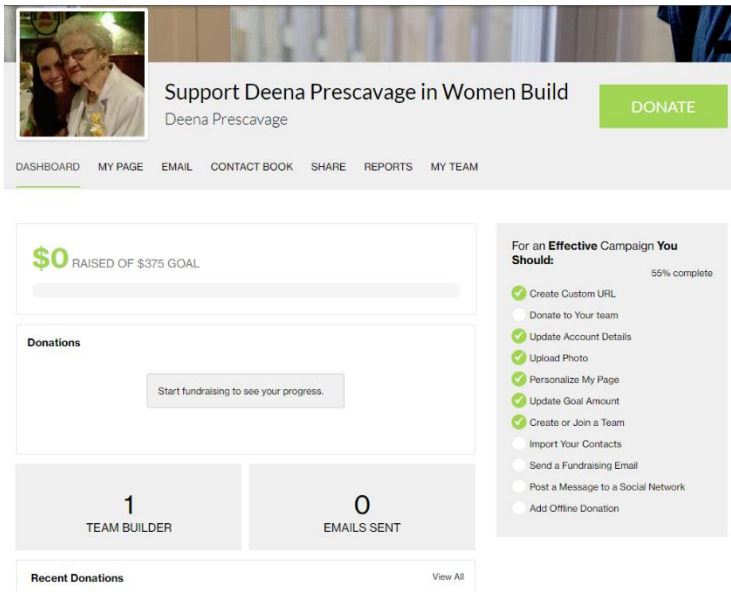
<https://my.habitatchicago.org/WomenBuild2022/Static/fundraising-resources>

Step 4: Customize your personal AND team fundraising pages + Explore your Dashboard resources

When you log in to the Women Build website for the first time, you will be prompted with action steps to take for setting up your personal page and making a donation to your personal page.

Once you work through these steps, you will land on your fundraising dashboard. Think of this as your command center! There’s a whole lot you can do from your dashboard, but in this guide, we will focus on the areas most important **to you as a Team Leader**. For additional info, check out our user guide on the Women Build [fundraising resources page](#).

<Step 4 continued on the next three pages>

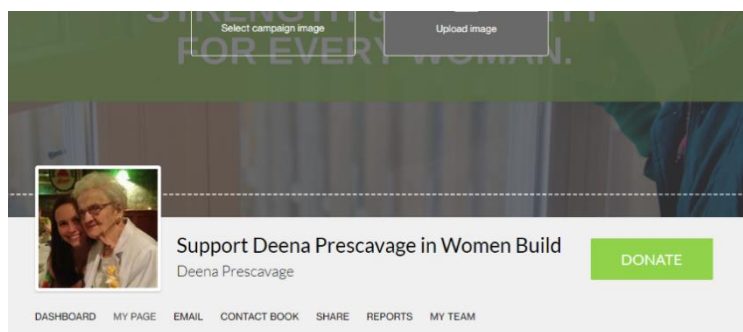


The screenshot shows a fundraising dashboard for 'Support Deena Prescavage in Women Build'. At the top, there is a header with a photo of Deena Prescavage, the campaign name, and a 'DONATE' button. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: DASHBOARD, MY PAGE, EMAIL, CONTACT BOOK, SHARE, REPORTS, and MY TEAM. The main content area includes a progress bar showing '\$0 RAISED OF \$375 GOAL', a 'Donations' section with a 'Start fundraising to see your progress.' button, and two summary cards: '1 TEAM BUILDER' and '0 EMAILS SENT'. On the right side, there is a checklist titled 'For an Effective Campaign You Should:' with 10 items, 5 of which are checked, and a '55% complete' status. At the bottom left, there is a 'Recent Donations' section with a 'View All' link.

This is the landing page of your fundraiser dashboard. Here you can:

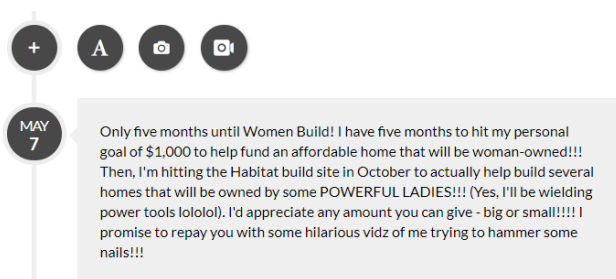
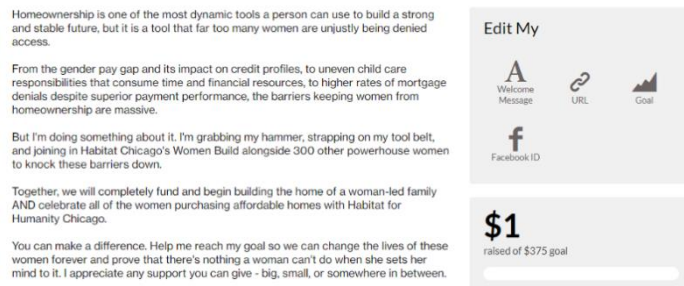
1. Donate to your own page to show others YOU believe in the Women Build mission (we've seen this make a BIG difference in fundraising success!).
2. Monitor your personal fundraising progress.
3. Track recent donations and send thank you emails directly to individual donors.
4. Invite members to join your team by clicking the Team Women Builder icon.
5. Complete that handy-dandy checklist on the right to have the most effective campaign possible! Note that this is where you can upload or change your personal profile picture.

To customize your personal page, select “My Page” from your dashboard menu. Set an example for your team members by customizing your personal page right at the start!



Once on your personal page, you can customize:

1. Your page's cover photo (campaign image).
2. Your welcome message, i.e. the big body of text on the left.
3. Your personal page URL (note: once you edit this, your previous URL will be invalid, so after you share the URL, it's a good idea not to change it again).
4. Your personal fundraising goal.
5. Your Facebook ID, which will allow you to moderate comments left on your team page.



On your personal and team pages, you also have a fundraiser feed at the bottom. This is a living stream where you can post text, photo, and video updates directly to your page. This is a great way to engage potential supporters and thank those who have already donated! Check out [Team Hammer Time's page from 2021](#) for a great example.



As the team captain, you are the only person who has the ability to customize your team's page. To personalize your team page:

1. Select "My Team" from your dashboard menu.
2. Select the green "My Team Page" button, which will take you to the front end of your team page.
3. Follow the same steps you took to customize your personal page. If you are a returning Team Leader, it's a great idea to use photos and videos from previous Women Builds. There's an excellent chance that there is a photo of you and your team in a Women Build photo album on [Habitat for Humanity Chicago's Facebook page](#).

Support Deena Prescavage in Women Build
Deena Prescavage

DASHBOARD MY PAGE EMAIL CONTACT BOOK SHARE REPORTS MY TEAM

TEAM MEMBER	CAPTAIN	RAISED	GOAL
Deena Prescavage deena.prescavage@habitatichicago.org		\$1.00	\$375.00
Deena Prescavage habitatdp@gmail.com	+	\$1.00	\$375.00

Team Information

- Team Name: Sample Page
- Total Builders: 2
- Total Pending Builders: 0
- Team Goal: \$6,000.00
- Amount Raised Online: \$2.00
- Amount Raised Offline: \$0.00
- Total Amount Raised: \$2.00

MY TEAM PAGE

Psssttt.... If you'd like to make one of your teammates a co-team leader, you can do so by clicking the + button next to her name on your team member list.

Please let Habitat Chicago know that you are co-leading so that we can recognize both of your efforts!



Once on your team page, you can edit:

1. Your team's cover photo (campaign image).
2. Your team's profile photo.
3. Your welcome message, i.e. the big body of text on the left.
4. Your team's URL (note: once you edit this, your previous URL will be invalid, so after you share the URL, it's a good idea not to change it again).
5. Your team's fundraising goal.
6. Your Facebook ID, which will allow you to moderate comments left on your team page.

Support Sample Page in Women Build
Sample Page

DASHBOARD MY PAGE EMAIL CONTACT BOOK SHARE REPORTS MY TEAM

TEAM MEMBER	CAPTAIN	RAISED	GOAL
Sample Page samplepage@habitatichicago.org		\$1.00	\$375.00
Sample Page samplepage@gmail.com	+	\$1.00	\$375.00

Team Information

- Team Name: Sample Page
- Total Builders: 2
- Total Pending Builders: 0
- Team Goal: \$6,000.00
- Amount Raised Online: \$2.00
- Amount Raised Offline: \$0.00
- Total Amount Raised: \$2.00

MY TEAM PAGE

Edit Team Info

- Welcome Message
- Photo
- URL
- Goal
- Facebook ID

The life-changing benefits of affordable homeownership are immense: it improves school performance, decreases crime, improves financial outcomes, and enhances the health and well-being for children and adults – among many others.

But due to gendered barriers like the pay gap and its impact on credit access, uneven child care responsibilities that limit time and financial resources, and higher mortgage rates and denials, it is far more difficult for a woman to own a home than a similarly situated man.

Sample Page is doing something about this. We're linking arms, picking up our power tools, and joining in Habitat for Humanity Chicago's Women Build to knock these barriers down.

Alongside 300 determined women, we will completely fund and begin building the

Step 5: Recruit Your Team

Your team will have 10 participants, including you. As a Team Leader, we ask for your help to recruit a full team. Our only requirements are that they meet the minimum age of 16 to participate (with a 4:1 youth to adult chaperone ratio for any builders under age 18 on the day of the build) and that each team member meets the minimum \$450 fundraising goal. Think beyond your best friends! Women Build appeals to many women and with a little brainstorming, you will come up with a big list of women to ask.

Consider women who:

- Have a profession or interests that align with Habitat Chicago's mission.
- Would connect with the woman-focused, strength-building mission of the event.
- Are excited about the idea of helping and championing fellow women.
- You know through various circles, such as work, family, friends, school, church, the gym, etc.

Within chicagowomenbuild.org, there is an “Invite friends to join your team” template under the “Email” tab in your dashboard that you can utilize. The highlighted sections are areas you will need to customize.

DASHBOARDMY PAGEEMAILCONTACT BOOKSHAREREPORTSMY TEAM

PROMOTEEMAIL TEAM BUILDERS THAT HAVEN'T RAISEDEMAIL ENTIRE TEAMUPDATE MY DONORS

ADD FROM CONTACT BOOK

Add Friends Manually:

EmailGreetingADD EMAIL

Template:

Invite friends to join your team

Note: please review and edit the email before sending.

Subject:

Join me in Habitat for Humanity Chicago's Women Build!

Message:

Source | [Icons]

B I U x₂ x² [Icons]

Styles | Format | Font | Size | [Icons]

Hi friend,

I wanted to personally invite you to join my team for Habitat for Humanity Chicago's Women Build 2019.

This October, I will be working alongside 350 women to help more women access the life-changing benefits of affordable homeownership. As an important woman in my life, I know you would be a wonderful addition to the team and supporter of Habitat Chicago's mission. Women face countless gendered-barriers in achieving the strength and stability of affordable homeownership, and Women Build volunteers set out to change that.

Here's a bit of how Women Build works:

Save TemplateReview Email

12

Private sign-ups (through July 31st)

Before public sign-ups open on August 1st, your team spots are yours to fill. **Habitat Chicago will be creating your team URL and sharing it with you following the Team Leader Kick-Off. You will automatically be made the team captain when you are the first person to join, and you will have the option to add a co-team leader after you've registered yourself.**

Now through July 31st is when your team spots are guaranteed to be yours- once the sign-ups go public on August 1st, we will begin placing individuals on teams, so recruit early and get those spots filled to ensure there is space for all of your interested recruits.

Here is how to have women register before August 1st:

- Share your team URL with any interested women.
- On your team page, there will be a "Join Our Team" button.
- Women can then create an account, or login to an existing account, and they will be automatically made part of your team. Again, women can only register for Women Build by clicking "Join our Team" on a team page.
- Once you have 10 registered builders, no additional women will be able to join your team.
- If you need to replace any registered builders, please contact us at events@habitchicago.org.

Public sign-ups (beginning August 1st)

Beginning August 1st, the general public will be able to sign up for Women Build. Habitat Chicago will be working with individuals to get them placed on teams. If, at this time, you do not feel you will be able to fill your ten spots, let us know and we will give your team priority. If we place an individual on your team, you will be notified via email so that you can welcome them and let them know about any group events or campaigns you have planned!

If at any point, you need to switch out builders, contact us at events@habitchicago.org. The final date to make changes to your roster is **September 26th**, with exceptions to illness or emergencies.

Going Above and Beyond

Set a Team Stretch Goal

Each team is required to set a minimum \$8,000 goal, but to hit (nay, exceed) our shared goal, we need teams to go above and beyond! Don't sell yourself short with your goal; once you get started, you'll see how easy it can be to fundraise as a team!

Encourage your team members to set their own personal stretch goals, as well!

Welcome New Team Members

When a woman joins your team, you will be notified via email and provided with your new team member's email address. Please do your best to reach out and welcome her to the team within 1-2 weeks. (You guessed it, we have an email template for that!). The more connected your team feels, the more successful you will be!

Once public registration opens on August 1st, you might have women join your team whom you don't know. Please do your best to make our individual builders feel a part of your crew. If you try reaching out and she isn't responsive, let events@habitatchicago.org know and we can hop in to help.

Have the Answers (Or Ask for Them!)

There is a wealth of information available to you on chicagowomenbuild.org. Some items we'd like to call out:

- Why Women Build Matters: <https://my.habitatchicago.org/WomenBuild2022/Static/why-women-build-matters>
- Meet our Homebuyers: <https://my.habitatchicago.org/WomenBuild2022/Static/meet-our-homebuyers>
- Fundraising Resources (social media kit found here!): <https://my.habitatchicago.org/WomenBuild2022/Static/fundraising-resources>
- Team Leader Resources: <https://my.habitatchicago.org/WomenBuild2022/Static/team-leader-resources>
- Donor Resources: <https://my.habitatchicago.org/WomenBuild2022/Static/donor-resources>
- Prizes: <https://my.habitatchicago.org/WomenBuild2022/Static/fundraising-prizes>
- FAQs: <https://my.habitatchicago.org/WomenBuild2022/Static/faq>

Keep in Touch with Your Team

Get your team started fundraising by helping them develop an outreach list.

Ask yourself who:

...is on my holiday card list	...do I work with	...is from my old neighborhood
...do I write checks to	...do my family members work with	...was in my fraternity/sorority
...is/was on my latest party invitation list	...have I done business with	...goes to my health club
... owns or manages my favorite restaurants	...attends my place of worship	...would like to do business with me
...did I support with a donation to their charity or fundraiser	...is one of my high school/college fellow alums	...owes me a favor

Draft messaging that speaks to each group. Encourage your team members to do the same!

Track Progress

One of the most common questions we get is “How is our team doing? Are we in good shape?” Every team is different and we’ve seen some surpass their goals months in advance of their build, while still others hit their goals the final day of Women Build. To give you some benchmarks, though, here’s a breakdown of the **average** progress your team should strive for:

60 days before build = 30% or more of goal

30 days before build = 50% or more of goal

10 days before build = 70% or more of goal

3 days before build = 95% or more of goal

Please note for 2022: We have updated our website notification settings so that you will not receive an email every time someone on your team gets a donation to curb inbox overload. To see how your team is doing, you will need to log in and view your team’s progress on your fundraising dashboard.

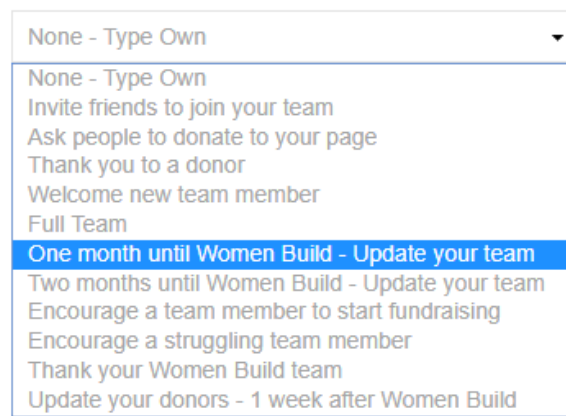
Keep Your Team Up-to-Date

Keep your personal and team fundraiser feeds up-to-date with your progress! Here are some ideas of when to update:

- **Countdowns (for both team and personal pages)**
 - “We are 60 days away and have raised \$”
 - “We are 30 days away and have raised \$”
 - “We are 10 days away and have raised \$”
 - “Women Build starts TOMORROW, and we’ve reached \$”
 - “This is the last day of WB, and we’ve reached \$”
- **Milestones (for team and personal)**
 - We’ve reached (1/4) of our fundraising goal
 - We’ve reached (1/2) of our fundraising goal
 - We’ve reached (3/4) of our fundraising goal
 - We’ve reached our fundraising goal! But we can keep going, (set new goal)

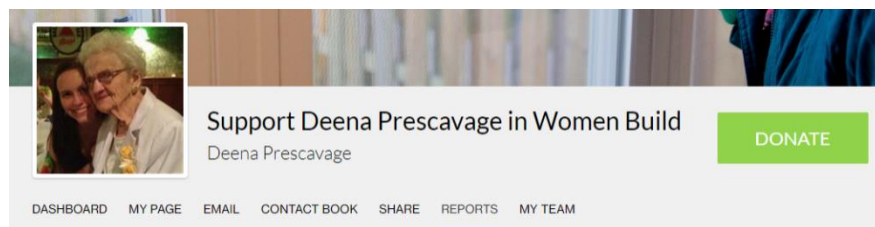
We’ve developed email templates for checking in with your team two months and one month before your Women Build volunteer day. Use and customize as you see fit!

Template:



A screenshot of a dropdown menu with a light blue border. The menu is open, showing a list of email templates. The first option, "None - Type Own", is selected and highlighted in blue. Below it are several other options: "Invite friends to join your team", "Ask people to donate to your page", "Thank you to a donor", "Welcome new team member", "Full Team", "One month until Women Build - Update your team" (highlighted in blue), "Two months until Women Build - Update your team", "Encourage a team member to start fundraising", "Encourage a struggling team member", "Thank your Women Build team", and "Update your donors - 1 week after Women Build".

There also are reports available to you in your dashboard to track your team’s progress



- Your dashboard reports will allow you to track donations and donor info made to your:
 - Personal page
 - Team page
 - Any previous Habitat Chicago fundraising campaigns you’ve done with this current account, including previous Women Builds.

Celebrate Progress!

- There are so many ways you can recognize and celebrate your team's progress! Here are just a handful of ideas:
 - Post group and/or individual pictures when donations are received to your team fundraising page or on social media.
 - Celebrating the group as well as highlighting successful individuals.
 - Organize virtual or in-person team happy hours when you hit fundraising milestones to celebrate successes, or when you've hit a plateau to motivate new progress.
 - Gift small prizes to your team members as they hit or exceed their fundraising goals (a hand-written card, coffee, lunch, balloons, by doing something silly, etc.).

Encourage inactive or struggling team members

- You guessed it – we have email templates for you to send to members who haven't started fundraising or are a bit away from reaching their \$450 minimum!
- Share some tactics that have been working for you!
- Link struggling members to the fundraising resources page on chicagowomenbuild.org.
- Connect with Habitat at events@habitatichicago.org whenever you need some guidance!
- Remind your team members about the prizes they can earn and encourage the friendly competition of Women Build!

Amount Raised Prize

\$450+ Your Women Build t-shirt and the ability to participate in future Women Builds.

\$900+ An invitation to our post Women Build celebration event.

Top Five Individuals A restaurant gift certificate for two to a top Chicago restaurant.

Top Team! A shared experience for your team of 10!

Attend the Fundraising Support Series

We will be hosting two virtual fundraising support sessions for all Women Builders. We encourage you, and your team members, to pop in to ask any questions, share what's working for you, get advice, or just to get to know your fellow Women Builders. Dates and Zoom meeting details to come.

Ready Your Team to Build

- An email will be sent to all registered Women Builders 7 days and 1 day before your build with all important build day information. Make sure your teammates have events@habitchicago.org and volunteer@habitchicago.org marked as a known sender.
- Go above and beyond:
 - Organize a carpool to the site.
 - Set up a post-build day celebration.
 - Get matching swag – you'll be provided t-shirts, but teams in the past have gotten matching nail aprons, tool belts, water bottles, hard hats, work gloves, and more! If you're unsure if any of your PPE meets our safety requirements, email us at events@habitchicago.org.

On your build day

- Come with a positive attitude and ready to build! Build days can be long and might have your team out of their comfort zone - as a Team Leader we ask that you help to rally your team and keep them energized throughout the day.
- You can keep fundraising until the end of Women Build month (October 22nd)! We've seen previous teams raise thousands of dollars from sharing photos and videos on social media that they took on-site.
- Use your build day to both fundraise and thank your donors. Here are just a handful of ideas:
 - Create a Facebook or Instagram Live video to introduce your team, show off the construction site and your projects, and capture the excitement of the build day.
 - Capture and post photos with the women whose homes you are working on (with their permission, of course).
 - Thank your donors! Find a personalized way to give a shout out to your donors on-site. For example, make a sign that says "Thanks" with the names of all of your donors and share it with them via email or social media.



Frequently Asked Questions

What if I have more than 10 team members?

What a great problem to have! Let us know about it and we'll work to get your women placed on another team building on the same day. The event will still be a blast and a great experience regardless of who you build with. Bottom line: only 10 women per team.

What if I don't have enough team members?

That's okay! Do your best to recruit a full team, but if you aren't able to fill your entire team, we'll help you. Open spots can be filled with overflow from other teams or from individuals who join the event on their own. As soon as you know you won't be able to fill your team, [let us know](#). We will work with you to make sure you have a full team by the time your build day rolls around.

What if I can't be a team leader or I'm sick on my build day?

We hope this doesn't happen! If it does, let us know as soon as possible. The sooner we know, the more likely we'll be able to help you find a replacement or find another volunteer to fill your position. It's critical we have a full roster to hit our \$475,000 goal.

What if there's bad weather?

We will build, rain or shine, as long as we can keep all volunteers safe! However, if the weather is bad enough that we are not able to keep all volunteers safe and need to cancel the day, we will alert all team leaders via phone and send an email to all builders by 7am. You can call (312) 563-0296 x422 if you have questions or concerns.

What if my build day can't happen?

Our hope and goal is to allow all Women Builders to spend a day furthering construction on our homes. If your on-site volunteer day doesn't happen due to weather, pandemic restrictions, or your own personal circumstances, your advocacy in telling the Women Build story and your fundraising are still essential to our mission of more women becoming homeowners.

If my team has a group fundraiser, how do we get the money we raised added to our page?

Please mail funds collected from fundraising events to Habitat for Humanity Chicago. Do not mail cash. Send an email to events@habitatichicago.org, letting the Habitat team know to expect the check and to credit your fundraising team accordingly.

What if my team members don't hit their fundraising goals?

Most of our Women Builders do an awesome job fundraising and far surpass their goals. Throughout the next several months, you'll have lots of opportunities to communicate with and encourage your team to gather donations from their family and friends! It's important that each woman strives to hit the \$450 requirement. Team members who do not come close to meeting their fundraising goals by the end of Women Build will not be able to participate the following year.

How do matching gifts work?

Each company has a different process and system. Reach out to your HR team to see what's available. Please also read our [Matching Gift Policy](#) document to learn how and when Habitat Chicago can apply matching gifts to your fundraising page.

For more commonly asked questions and answers, visit our [FAQs page](#).

Keeping in Touch



Women Build Facebook group

The Women Build volunteer planning committee has created a private Facebook group for Women Builders, in which the committee will post family updates, fundraising ideas, and more. We encourage everyone to use the group as a communication tool to stay in touch with each other and post questions, ideas, victories, challenges, and more. The group can be found:

- By searching “Habitat for Humanity Chicago’s Women Build” on Facebook
- By the direct URL: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChicagoWomenBuild>

Email updates

Emails will be sent directly to participants from Team Women Build (events@habitchicago.org and volunteer@habitchicago.org) with key event information. Please mark us as known senders, and instruct your team to do the same so that you don’t miss any important information.

Questions before Women Build month

If you have any questions or concerns leading up to the event, we are here for you. Please reach us by:

Email: events@habitchicago.org

Phone: 312-563-0296 x422

Paying a visit or sending us mail:

Habitat for Humanity Chicago
ATTN: Women Build
1100 W Cermak Rd., Ste. 404
Chicago, IL 60608

Questions during Women Build month

You can reach a member of the Women Build team on the build site by calling (312) 563-0296 x422.

Share your stories, inspire others:

Facebook: [Habitat for Humanity Chicago](#)

Twitter: [@HabitatChicago](#)

Instagram: [@HabitatChicago](#)

LinkedIn: [Habitat for Humanity Chicago](#)

#HabitatChicago | #CHIWomenBuild



You are now all set! If we missed anything, let us know. We'll do our best to address it immediately, but even if we can't, your feedback can help make this guide more useful for Team Leaders going forward. And at that, we'll leave you with this last thought - the words that drive us here at Habitat Chicago. We hope it sparks in you the same inspiration that keeps us working hard every day:

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 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.

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