



## Frequently Asked Volunteer Questions for Groups

***A Group is defined as an entity of 10 to 25 volunteers. Donations provided by groups and individual are important resources that help build affordable homes for families who can least afford them.***

### **Group Build Donation Rates:**

- Saturday group rate for Corporate Partners (up to 25 people) is \$5,000
- Saturday group rate for Churches, Community Groups and Schools (up to 25 people) is \$2,500
- Mid-Week group rate for Corporate Partners (up to 25 people) is \$2,500
- Mid-Week group rate for Churches, Community Groups and Schools (up to 25 people) is free

### **How do I sign up our group to volunteer?**

The first step is to download and complete the [Group Interest Form](#), then forward to the contact that best fits your group. Please contact one of the following Relationship Managers:

- Corporations and Companies      Laura Wulf ([lwulf@habitatla.org](mailto:lwulf@habitatla.org))
- Schools and Youth groups      Melissa Killian ([youthprograms@habitatla.org](mailto:youthprograms@habitatla.org))
- Faith, Non-Profit and Civic groups      Patty Lee ([plee@habitatla.org](mailto:plee@habitatla.org))

### **How many individuals can we include in our group?**

For general construction projects we ask that you limit your group to 20-25 individuals. If you are volunteering with A Brush with Kindness, please limit your group to 10-15 individuals. If your group is volunteering in the store, please limit your AM and PM shift to 8 volunteers each. If you have a question concerning the size of your group, please feel free to discuss the matter with your contact listed above.

### **Where does our donation go?**

All donations support the work of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles in building decent and affordable housing for families that can least afford them.

### **Should we print the required volunteer forms before coming to our volunteer day?**

Yes. Please [download the Adult Volunteer Packet](#), print, review, complete and bring the required volunteer forms to your volunteer day. This will help to ensure that your morning runs smoothly. Your relationship manager should forward these forms to your group contact through email. We will need these forms for each site you work in case of an emergency.

### **Where are your construction sites?**

Our construction projects are located in the Greater Los Angeles area.

### **What should we bring/wear on our build day?**

- Please wear closed toed sturdy shoes and comfortable clothes that you don't mind getting dirty.
- Please bring your own water bottle as we have Sparkletts jugs for refilling on site.
- Bringing sunglasses, a hat and sunscreen is always a good idea.
- All tools and building supplies will be provided for you. If you bring your own tools, please be sure to mark them with your name as we are not responsible for lost or stolen items.



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### How old must our group members be to volunteer?

Individuals must be at least 14 years of age to volunteer in the Home Improvement Store and at least 16 years old for the construction site and office. In consideration of potential risks, no one under the age of 16 will be allowed on a site while construction is going on.

- Volunteers ages 14 through 17 must have a parent or guardian sign the [Minor Release Waiver of Liability](#) and bring it to their work day.
- Volunteers ages 16 and 17 may perform general construction work, but may not engage in certain activities that are considered hazardous. These include the use of power tools and motor vehicles, as well as involvement in demolition, excavation operations, roofing or working from a height of six feet or more.

### Should we still come to site in the case of bad weather?

Yes. We will contact you if we need to cancel construction due to weather conditions. If weather conditions impact construction, the site supervisor will adjust the build day schedule on site and we will work through bad weather if the situation is safe. Please come unless you have been told otherwise. A shortage of scheduled volunteers impacts the schedule of construction.

### If my group needs to cancel what do we do?

Please make every effort to plan your build day well enough in advance to avoid a cancellation. If everyone in your group cannot come, we would prefer some, rather than none, come to volunteer. The construction schedule is dependent on confirmed volunteers. Cancelling on short notice creates a hardship on staff and impacts effective production for the work day. If you must cancel due to unforeseen circumstances, please contact your relationship manager as soon as you are aware of your need to cancel.

### How far in advance should we schedule our build day?

Certain days of the week and certain months of the year are more popular than others to volunteer with our organization. Because of this, if you desire a particular day of the year or week, submit your [Group Request form](#) as early as possible. The nearest opportunity may be a couple months in the future, depending on your needs. Volunteer opportunities on construction sites and in the store are available Tuesday through Saturday on a first come, first serve basis.

### What will we be doing the day we volunteer?

Because the nature of construction is fluid, volunteer assignments vary from day to day. We ask that you be flexible when volunteering and allow the site supervisor to assign an appropriate task. You will never be asked to perform a task that you do not feel comfortable doing. Please know that all stages of construction are important and your help is needed at each and every one!

### How many times can my group come out to volunteer?

Groups can volunteer as regularly as we have space available. Group donation rates apply to each build day.



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### Do we need to provide lunch?

HFHGLA does not provide lunch for our volunteers unless the group is contributing \$5,000 or more. Lunch on site begins around 11:30 and lasts approximately 45 minutes. Individuals in a group may bring their own lunches. Each build site is close to a number of eateries that site supervisors and crew leaders can suggest on your build day. Your relationship manager may also make suggestions for local catering companies we have worked with in the past.

### Can a representative from Habitat come and speak to our group?

Please contact your Relationship Manager for more information.

### Do we need any construction experience to volunteer?

No. Construction experience is not needed to volunteer. Crew Leaders on the build site will instruct and guide you on your assigned tasks. We ask for your willingness to work hard, learn and have fun!

### How long is a typical volunteer day?

If your group is volunteering in general construction or at A Brush with Kindness, please arrive at site at 8am. The work day generally ends around 4pm. If you are volunteering in the store, the morning shift is from 9am to 1pm, and the afternoon shift is from 1pm to 5pm. The general build day schedule is as follows:

8:00 a.m.	Volunteers Arrive & Register
8:20 a.m.	Orientation, Safety Briefing and Assignment of Tasks
8:30 a.m.	Work Starts
11:30 a.m.	Lunch
12-12:30 p.m.	Work Starts Again
3:30 p.m.	Clean-up
4:00 p.m.	Work Day Ends

### What is A Brush with Kindness (ABwK?)

ABwK provides free exterior repairs to low-income homeowners. The program restores a home to a safe and decent environment while bringing volunteers together to help a homeowner in need. These construction projects include: exterior repairs on siding, roofs, windows, doors, building fences, exterior painting, landscaping and more.

### What is the Home Improvement Store?

The Home Improvement Store recycles overstocked, discontinued, new and used building materials, furniture and home decor donated by manufacturers, stores, contractors and individuals. These donated items are used in two ways: to build simple, decent homes for low-income families and to be resold to the general public to finance Habitat for Humanity building projects. Volunteers are needed to help unload trucks, greet and help customers prepare donated items for display, and help run registers.



## Frequently Asked Volunteer Questions for Groups

### What are “additional sponsorship opportunities” as seen on the [Group Interest Form](#)?

Opportunities are available to sponsor events, programs and entire build sites. Please contact your Relationship Manager if you are interested.

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