



# YOUTH UNITED

2011-2012 Activity Guide



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# About DuPage Habitat for Humanity

Building  
Stronger  
Tommorows

DuPage Habitat was established in 1995 as the local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, a non-profit, ecumenical Christian housing organization. We work in partnership with families and the community to build and sell affordable housing at no profit to Habitat. Homes are built using funds provided by corporate, faith-based, and individual sponsors.

Building a Habitat home does more than help on Habitat partner family. Building a Habitat home brings the community together to meet a pressing need for affordable housing. Affordable homes mean that hardworking, limited income families are able to pay their mortgage, taxes and insurance, and still have sufficient funds to buy groceries and save for their future. Families that save are more stable financially, and can offer more options to their kids for a better future. Children of homeowners do better in school, have fewer behavioral problems, and are much more likely to attend college.



New Volunteer Orientation Sessions are held every 3rd Saturday and 4th Monday of the month. Please RSVP to attend a session by e-mailing:

[volunteer@dupagehabitat.org](mailto:volunteer@dupagehabitat.org)

# About Our Youth Program

Youth United is a Habitat for Humanity program that brings community youth ages 5-25 together to sponsor and build a home with a local family. The youth are the leaders, planners, fundraisers, public relations specialists, and builders.

Youth work together to raise money and awareness, while youth ages 16-25 build the house on site. Most importantly, through this program youth help fulfill a family's dream of having their own home. It is the opportunity of a lifetime!

Elementary, Middle School, High School, and College Students are all partnering with DuPage Habitat in many ways: as Campus Chapters (see pg. 4), as school partners, and as individual volunteers.

If you want the latest information on Youth United, check us out online or e-mail [youth@dupagehabitat.org](mailto:youth@dupagehabitat.org) to sign-up for our monthly updates!



Become a Facebook fan:  
["Youth DuPage Habitat for Humanity"](#)



Follow our tweets:  
[@DHFHYouth](#)



Read our blog:  
[dupagehfhyouth.wordpress.com](http://dupagehfhyouth.wordpress.com)



Browse our photos:  
[flickr.com/photos/dupagehabitat/](http://flickr.com/photos/dupagehabitat/)



Watch our videos:  
[youtube.com/user/DuPageHabitat](http://youtube.com/user/DuPageHabitat)

# Campus Chapters

A campus chapter is a student-led, student-initiated organization on a high school or college campus that partners with the local Habitat affiliate to fulfill the four functions of a campus chapter: building, fundraising, educating, and advocating.

In order to be officially recognized as a Habitat for Humanity campus chapter, your group must be chartered by Habitat for Humanity International. Chapters are required to sign an affiliate covenant, pay annual dues, and complete an Annual Report each May.

Schools that are not official Campus Chapters can still partner with DuPage Habitat to participate in Youth United events.

## Our Current Campus Chapters:

Elmhurst College

Northside Prep High School

Hinsdale Central High School

Community High School - West Chicago

Glenbard South High School\*

Glenbard East High School\*

\*applications pending

## Our Current Partner Schools:

Wheaton North High School

Hinsdale South High School

Naperville North High School

Islamic Foundation School

Bower Elementary School

College of DuPage

If you are interested in chartering a Campus Chapter at your school, check out the Prospective Campus

Chapter Toolkit:

[http://www.habitat.org/youthprograms/campus\\_chapters\\_suppdocs/prospective\\_campus\\_chapter\\_toolkit.pdf](http://www.habitat.org/youthprograms/campus_chapters_suppdocs/prospective_campus_chapter_toolkit.pdf)

## What are the benefits of becoming an official Campus Chapter?

- permission to use the Habitat for Humanity name and logo
  - eligibility for State Farm grants & sponsorships
  - early-bird registration for Collegiate Challenge trips
- extensive resources and support from Habitat for Humanity International

Contact the Youth Coordinator to learn more: [youth@dupagehabitat.org](mailto:youth@dupagehabitat.org)

# Volunteering

## Youth United & Youth Leadership Council

Youth United typically hosts one event or activity per month, and holds one meeting per month. Meetings are held at the DHFH office in Wheaton (1600 E. Roosevelt Rd., Suite B). Meetings are open to all youth, but please contact the Youth Coordinator if you plan to attend. Most events are open to all ages of youth, but some may require parent permission or a chaperone to participate.

Events, activities, and monthly meetings are planned and led by our Youth Leadership Council.

The 2011-12 youth leaders are:

Jen V. - President (Elmhurst College)

Allie M. - Vice President (Benet Academy)

Blair S. - Fundraising Chair (Benet Academy)

Lisa L. - Outreach Co-Chair (Glenbard East H.S.)

Hannah W. - Outreach Co-Chair (Glenbard East H.S.)

## Build Site

Youth ages 16 and older are allowed to volunteer at our construction sites helping to build the Habitat homes. Youth ages 16 & 17 must be accompanied by an adult chaperone. We welcome out volunteers in teams of 10 on Thursdays and Saturdays. Due to the cost of building homes in DuPage County, all volunteer groups who want to build with DuPage Habitat must fundraise. We request an initial pledge of \$ 1,000. DuPage Habitat will work with you to come up with a fundraising plan including your participation in our major fundraisers such as Nickels for Nails and the Youth Volleyball Tournament.

## ReStore

Youth ages 14 and up can volunteer in our ReStore. ReStore is a facility that recycles used and surplus household and construction materials donated by individuals, retail and wholesale stores, and commercial sites, and sells them to the general public at greatly reduced prices. There are volunteer opportunities for the salesfloor, warehouse, and office help. E-mail [restore@dupagehabitat.org](mailto:restore@dupagehabitat.org) to RSVP for an orientation.

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## Nickels for Nails Change Drive

After a successful event in 2010, DuPage Youth United will organize another Nickels for Nails change drive. Nickels for Nails is both a fundraiser and an advocacy event. The theme of this year's event is "Let's Make Some Change!". Groups will collect spare change during the last week of October, while advocating for affordable housing in their communities.

**When: October 24th-28th\***

**Where: Your location**

\*Groups who cannot participate during this week, can arrange to host a change drive at a later date.



DuPage Habitat will provide groups with empty paint cans to collect the change, as well as an advocacy toolkit. The toolkit will include a template for letters to local representatives, a housing fact book, ideas for creating advocacy displays, and marketing materials.

*All of the funds raised during Nickels for Nails will go towards co-sponsoring a Youth Build in DuPage Habitat's upcoming Prairie Green subdivision.*

To register your group for Nickels for Nails, call or e-mail the Youth Coordinator :

[youth@dupagehabitat.org](mailto:youth@dupagehabitat.org)  
(630) 510-3737  
ext. 305



## Sleep Out Saturday & Rally

Bridge Communities in Glen Ellyn hosts an annual Sleep Out & Rally to raise money for their transitional housing and support services offered to homeless families that live and work in DuPage County. Many of DuPage Habitat's homeowners were supported by Bridge Communities before being accepted into the Habitat program.

**November 5th -6th**  
**Sleep Out @ Your Location**  
**Rally in Downtown Glen Ellyn**

**For more information:**

<https://www.bridgecommunities.org/Sleep-Out-Saturday/index.html>

**To register your group:**

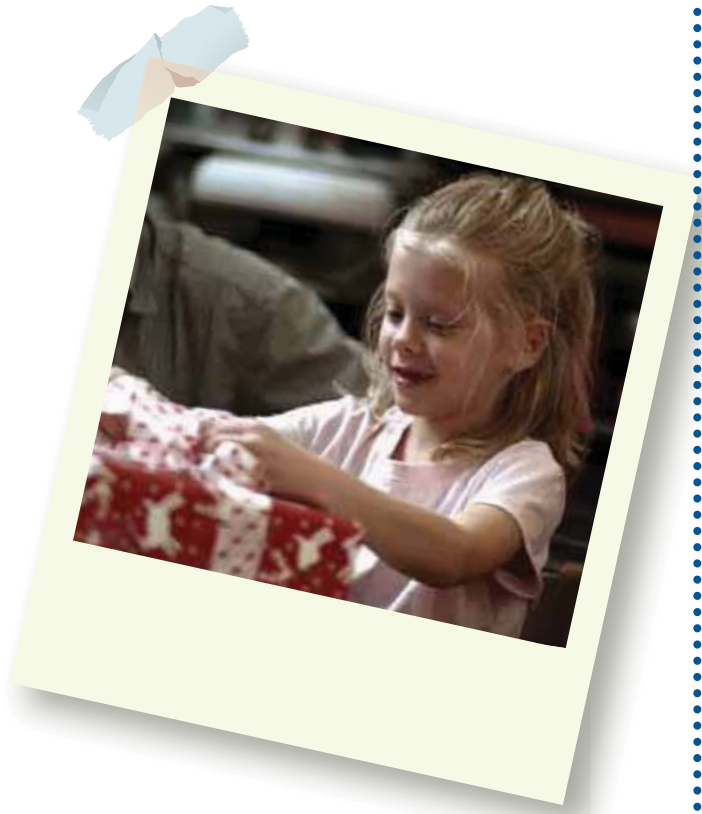
<https://www.bridgecommunities.org/Sleep-Out-Saturday/Register.html>



You will need to designate a location for your group that is safe and well confined. We recommend a location that has indoor facilities in case of inclement weather. Public schools that participate are not typically allowed to sleep on the school property and have typically selected a private home to sleep out. Some groups have slept in public places such as their local park. Bridge can help you get a permit from you local municipality.

Bridge Communities will provide you will extensive promotional, marketing, logistical and education materials to ensure that your group has a great event. Bridge will also provide training and support to your group leader(s). The Tool Kit contains many educational and fun activities. Bridge will also provide groups with marketing materials, such as posters, outdoor banners, DVD's and press releases. All of this material is provided free of charge.

Participants of Sleep Out Saturday are invited to attend the Rally held in downtown Glen Ellyn Many groups find the Rally to be a great way to start their night of activities.



## Christmas Sharing Toy Drive

DuPage Habitat Youth United has partnered with the Humanitarian Service Project (HSP) to provide youth service opportunities to support limited-income DuPage families this holiday. During the months of November and December, groups are invited to participate in a toy drive to collect toys for children who otherwise would not have gifts this holiday.

**When: Nov.-Dec.\***

**Where: Collections @ Your location  
& DuPage ReStore in Addison,  
Wrapping @ HSP in Carol Stream**

\*Specific dates and shifts: TBD in October.

The Toy Drives will take place at your school, church, or other location. There will also be a collection drop-off at the DuPage ReStore in Addison.

During the first 3 weeks of December, groups can volunteer to help wrap presents at the HSP offices in Carol Stream. Wrapping paper and tape will be provided by DuPage Habitat.

For a list of appropriate gifts, visit:  
[http://www.humanitarianservice.org/  
getinvolved/toydrive.html](http://www.humanitarianservice.org/getinvolved/toydrive.html)

To coordinate a toy drive with your group or sign up to wrap presents, contact:  
[hsp@humanitarianservice.org](mailto:hsp@humanitarianservice.org)  
(630) 221-8340

# Holiday Gift Wrapping

DuPage Habitat Youth United will wrap gifts at local bookstores throughout DuPage County. Shifts will be made up of 3 youth and 1 adult. All donations will go towards the 2012 Youth Build.

**When:** December\*

**Where:** Local bookstores



\*Specific dates and shifts: TBD in November.

# Meet the Homeowners

DuPage Habitat Youth United will host a Meet the Homeowners event to give a chance for local youth to ask questions and hear the amazing stories from our Habitat Partner Families. Refreshments will be provided.

**When:** January\*

**Where:** DHFH Office in Wheaton

\*Specific date TBD.





## 15th Annual Youth Volleyball Tournament

DuPage Habitat Youth United and the Special Events committee will host the 15th Annual "SERVE IT UP!" Youth Volleyball Tournament again in 2012. The volleyball tournament is open to youth ages 14-22. All teams must be co-ed. Teams must have at least 6 players and no more than 10. Youth under age 14 are welcome to volunteer at the event with a parent.

**When: Early March \***

**Where: North Central College**

\*Specific date: TBD in October.

Prizes will be awarded for the Tournament Champions, the team that raises the most money, the individual that raises the most money, and all teams that raise over \$500.



Fundraising for the tournament will be different this year. Teams can choose to participate in Habitat sponsored fundraising activities in the months before the tournament (including Sign-A-Stud, Daily Donation Calendars, and more). DuPage Habitat will provide the materials to support these fundraisers.

All teams are asked to raise \$500 (\$50 per person for a team of 10).

Teams must raise \$250 to participate in the tournament and receive their free t-shirts.

For more information about this year's tournament, contact:

[youth@dupagehabitat.org](mailto:youth@dupagehabitat.org)

Registration will open in December.



## Spring Cleaning ReStore Drive

During the months of April and May, Youth United will be hosting a ReStore drive to collect new & gently used tools, paint brushes, and other small building supplies. Youth will promote the ReStore in their schools, churches, and community areas. All products collected by youth during the drive will be sold in the ReStore. 10% of sales from these products will go towards the sponsorship of the 2012 Youth Build.

**When: April & May**  
**Where: Your location,  
& ReStore in Addison**



There are many ways youth can participate:

- 1) Pass out flyers, door hangers, or hang posters.
- 2) Host a drive in your school/church to collect small items: tool drive or paint brush drive
- 3) Volunteer at the ReStore to clean up, price, and stock items for sale.

More information will be posted in March  
on the ReStore website:

<http://www.dupagehabitat.org/restore>



# Fundraiser Ideas



## Sign-A-Stud

DuPage Habitat will provide your group with 2x4 wall studs. Students can sell signatures for \$ 1 and peers can write “well wishes” to future homeowners. The studs will then be used to build a Habitat house.

Glenbard South H.S. combined this fundraiser with a bake sale and called it “Sign-A-Stud(muffin)”.

## Soup-er Bowl Cook-Off

Groups can host a chili or soup “Cook Off” at their school or church. This is a great fundraiser to do before or after a sporting event in the winter. DuPage Habitat can provide a speaker to come to your event and talk about our organization.



## Hoops for Habitat

Groups can organize a sporting event at their school, church, or community center. Bower Elementary School in Warrenville hosts a Teachers vs. 5th Graders basketball game every year that sells out their gym and raised over \$ 5,000 last year. DuPage Habitat can provide a speaker to come to your event and talk about Habitat.

# More Opportunities

## Youth Leadership Conference

In partnership with State Farm Insurance, the 2011 Youth Leadership Conference will be held Nov. 4-6 in Indianapolis, Ind. Join Habitat youth volunteers from around the U.S. for three days of learning, sharing and inspiration. This year's theme is "Local Action Global Impact".

For more information or to register, visit: <http://www.habitat.org/gvylc>.

## Collegiate Challenge Trips

Collegiate Challenge is a year-round alternative break program. Groups of five or more participants, 16 years of age and older, can visit one of Habitat's 200 local affiliates throughout the United States. Groups spend one week working with the local affiliate, community and partner families to help eliminate poverty housing in the area.

For more information, visit:

[http://www.habitat.org/youthprograms/parent\\_teacher\\_leader/collegiate\\_challenge/default\\_collegiate\\_challenge.aspx](http://www.habitat.org/youthprograms/parent_teacher_leader/collegiate_challenge/default_collegiate_challenge.aspx)



## Online Resources

Visit [www.habitat.org/youthprograms](http://www.habitat.org/youthprograms) for an extensive amount of resources. Habitat for Humanity International has compiled lesson plans, activity guides, games, templates, and much more. You can also find more information on Campus Chapters, Collegiate Challenge trips, Learn and Build trips, and other Habitat programs.

