



## Habitat for Humanity Greater San Francisco Awarded Prestigious Impact Grant by Palo Alto Community Fund

*\$100,000 grant recognizes the homebuilding nonprofit's achievements in advancing affordable homeownership for low-income families in East Palo Alto and Menlo Park*

**SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. - (June 6, 2024)** - [Habitat for Humanity Greater San Francisco](#) (Habitat Greater San Francisco), a leading nonprofit dedicated to providing affordable homeownership and combating displacement, is pleased to announce it has been honored by the [Palo Alto Community Fund](#) (PACF) with two grants, including the prestigious Impact Grant, for its work to deliver transformative solutions to critical issues in the local community. The generous grants total \$110,000 and will help the nonprofit build and preserve more affordable homeownership opportunities for low-income families in San Mateo County.

Since its founding, Habitat Greater San Francisco has worked to provide nearly 300 families across San Mateo County with a place to call home and helped another 100 families stay in their homes by completing critical repairs. Several new projects are planned in the area, including 18 townhomes along Independence Drive in Menlo Park and a new affordable homeownership development in Belle Haven, a historically underserved neighborhood in Menlo Park.

The PACF Impact Grant is specifically designed to help local nonprofits serving the communities of Palo Alto, East Palo Alto and Menlo Park significantly move the needle towards addressing long-term systemic issues like housing security. As Lisa Van Dusen, PACF's Executive Director, explains: "This year, our three Impact Grantees stand out for their commitment to collaboration and putting those they serve at the center of their work. Habitat for Humanity Greater San Francisco's work in East Palo Alto and Menlo Park is absolutely critical and their commitment to partnering with other nonprofits in our community is providing innovative and meaningful solutions. The more we collaborate, the more we can invest in the future, respond to the moment, and close the gaps together."

The grants come at a critical time when affordable homeownership has become increasingly out of reach for far too many Bay Area families. The [median home price in San Mateo County now hovers at \\$2 million](#), more than double the median home price in the rest of California. Lack of affordable housing impacts all Californians - especially communities of color and, in particular, Black families. Affordable housing is a key pillar of community stability and improving racial equity.

"We are deeply grateful to the Palo Alto Community Fund for their recognition and support, which will enable us to expand our impact and serve even more families in the years to come," said Maureen Sedonaen, Chief Executive Officer at Habitat Greater San Francisco. "These grants are especially helpful in that they provide general operating support, giving us the stability and flexibility we need to quickly pursue new projects. The Impact Grant is a testament to the incredible dedication and hard work of our volunteers, staff, and supporters



who have worked tirelessly to make affordable homeownership a reality for so many San Mateo County families. Homeownership not only brings security, improved health and better long-term outcomes, but it also helps combat displacement and build generational wealth. We're proud that 89% of our homeowners are people of color.”

To get involved or learn more about Habitat Greater San Francisco, visit [www.habitatgsf.org](http://www.habitatgsf.org).

### **About Habitat for Humanity Greater San Francisco**

Habitat for Humanity Greater San Francisco (Habitat Greater San Francisco) builds homes and community in partnership with thousands of annual volunteers, hard-working families, donors, civic leaders and other engaged community members in Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo counties. The work supporters help us do provides a critical path to financial security for families who live and work here and strengthens neighborhoods across the Bay Area. Habitat Greater San Francisco has built more than 270 affordable homes in the Bay Area. More information can be found at [www.habitatgsf.org](http://www.habitatgsf.org).

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