

Interfaith Build Project Overview



ROMAN CATHOLIC
Diocese of Calgary

 **Habitat for Humanity**[®]
Southern Alberta

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INTRODUCTION

No matter who we are or where we come from, we all deserve a stable life. Building on the work that began in 2016, multiple Calgary faith communities, including the Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary (*Diocese*), put faith into action by joining together to help build stability and independence for families in southern Alberta.

This faith in action involves time and talent with the Diocese and Habitat for Humanity Southern Alberta (*Habitat*) with the purpose of achieving the Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Build Project's (*Project*) fundraising and build goals.

The Project objectives are the construction of homes, educating and engaging the community around the issue of affordable housing, and raising funds for building material.

This document has been created to ensure a mutual understanding of the Project, the various roles and commitments, and the Project goals.

As you read through this document, we hope you find all the information you require to learn about the project but if you need any clarification or direction, please contact the Committee Lead (Marilou LeGeyt).

PROJECT HISTORY

This Project is part of the Calgary Interfaith Council in conjunction with Habitat. It was developed in 2016 by Rabbi Shaul Osadchey, Beth Tzedec Congregation and Les Sawatsky, Habitat Board Member with a \$1M 10 year goal to build affordable housing for families in Calgary and southern Alberta. The Calgary communities of Pineridge, Bowness and Silver Creek are the locations of the initial Interfaith Build sites. The project is co-chaired by two clergy (Bishop Greg Kerr-Wilson, Anglican Bishop of Calgary and Rabbi Shaul Osadchey, Beth Tzedec Congregation). These two men envisioned this project to have a direct impact on Habitat recipients, interfaith congregations, and clergy in southern Alberta.

"The Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Build Project represents how I can fulfill the Jewish mandate of 'Tikun Olam - repairing our broken world' by bringing wholeness to families in need of affordable housing."

- Rabbi Shaul Osadchey

Other participating clergy include:

Joanne Anquist	McDougall United Church
Adam Bedford	Westside Kings Church
John Chik	Knox Presbyterian Church
Michael Duggan	St. Mary's University
Jeremy Duncan	Commons Church
Debra Faulk	Unitarian Church
Pilar Gateman	McLeod/Lethbridge Anglican
Alan Getty	Meota Parish - Priddis, Turner Valley and Millarville
Rabbi Mark Glickman	B'nai Tikvah
Dalton Harding	Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints
Imam Hadi Hasan	Shi'a
Linda Hunter	Woodcliff United Church
Sultan Mahmood	Ahmadiyya
Bishop William McGrattan	Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary
Dr. R.C. (Bob) Mummery	Holy Nativity
Tracy Robertson	St. Thomas United
David Sacerich	Chaplin at Mustard Seed
Imam Syed Soharwardy	Supreme Islamic Council
Elder Larry Spackman	Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints
Ed Top	Lantern, Christian Reformed Church
Kristian Wold	Hope Lutheran Church
Mark Tremblay	Knox Presbyterian Church

This project addresses many opportunities and challenges in the interfaith community. It addresses the challenge for clergy to find new and impactful ways to engage congregations in acts of loving-kindness and compassion.

Further, it is a unique opportunity for clergy from all faith communities to come together to put their faith into action and help build stability and independence for southern Alberta families in need of affordable housing. Through a collective effort, this project has a dramatic, positive, and permanent impact upon families who in turn can achieve strength, stability, and independence through home ownership.

This project is a powerful statement to the citizens and leaders of southern Alberta that cooperation among leaders of diverse faiths results in good work that benefits everyone and sets a tone of good will that can be modeled in other arenas of public dialogue and action.

Goals and accomplishments to date

To date, they have received approximately \$254,000 in addition to pledges of \$500,000, which represents approximately 75% of their target.

The Anglican Diocese has pledged to raise \$200,000 and the project received a generous gift of \$100,000 from Sam Switzer as part of the Beth Tzedec's Interfaith Build Campaign. In addition to these funds, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary has pledged \$300,000 over two years (\$150,000 in 2017 and a further \$150,000 in 2018).

2017 Interfaith Build Days

Several members of Calgary's faith communities have participated in more than 10 Build Days on Habitat sites in Bowness and Pineridge in Calgary. Some of these groups include:

- Westside King's Church
- Calgary Dream Centre Young Adults via Westside King's Church
- Mid-Sun Community Association
- Woodcliff United Church
- Roman Catholic Diocese of Calgary Youth Program with St. Mary's High School and St. Bonaventure Youth Ministries

This effort is empowered by the Clergy Leadership Team of the Interfaith Council of Calgary and composed of various faith leaders in the Jewish, Christian and Muslim communities. They anticipate other faith groups will join in the near future.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Most people know Habitat's good works and their mission *seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope*. Further information about their work is available on their website (www.habitat.ca or www.habitatsouthernab.ca)

As an aid, Habitat graciously creates print material outlining the need for affordable housing, Habitat's work, and the Diocese involvement. This material is readily available to each committee to use in achieving the goals of education, engagement, and fundraising.

Affordable housing in southern Alberta and Habitat's solution is outlined in the document *"The Issue of Housing Instability and the Habitat Solution"*.

Our particular part of this Project is outlined in the document *Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Build Campaign* and is an overview of the Diocese's involvement, the individual build projects, and engagement

activities. As noted previously in the Project History Section, the project's goal is to raise \$1M to build 10 low-cost, affordable homes for deserving low income families in a 10 year period (2016 – 2026). Members of the Calgary Interfaith Council and their congregations are raising funds to meet this goal as well as contributing volunteers to help construct these homes.

Here are a few bits of information you need to be to know about the Project.

WHAT is the purpose of this Project?

The purpose of this Project is to bring awareness of the needs of families for affordable sustainable housing in southern Alberta and the impact this has on creating lasting measurable change for families, children, and the community. With awareness comes engagement in the form of volunteering to fundraise, educate or engage various stakeholders in helping this Project be successful.

WHAT is the Diocese involvement in this Project?

Bishop McGrattan's dedication to making affordable housing a priority to the Catholic Community has, among others, resulted in a donation in 2017 and 2018 (*Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Build Campaign*, pg 4). The first installment was in 2017 and the second installment will be this year.

This fundraising, education, and engagement project will provide many opportunities to engage the Catholic Community and create awareness of the issue of housing in southern Alberta.

Please refer to the *Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Build Campaign Guide* regarding the specific project builds and their locations.

WHO benefits from this Project?

Qualifying families in need of stability and independence through home ownership.

WHAT is this Project?

This is a fundraising, education, and engagement campaign centered on the issue of affordable housing in southern Alberta and its effect on individuals and the community.

WHEN is the Project?

Our commitment and the Project (see the *Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Build Campaign Guide*) initiative began in 2016. In 2017, members of the Diocese were involved in a build in the Calgary neighbourhood of Pineridge. It is a multi-family development for 24 families that is 2/3 complete.

WHERE is the Project?

Our portion of this Project has 3 components (builds). One is a three-phase construction project of 25 homes in the community of Bowness, a rural initiative in Drumheller, Okotoks, and Medicine Hat, and a legacy build in Silver Creek (further information is in the *Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Build Campaign Guide*).

WHY is the Project taking place?

The Project History section (page 4) outlines the creation of this Project by Rabbi Shaul Osadchey and Bishop Greg Kerr-Wilson who lead this interfaith initiative with the goal of creating affordable housing as a way to engage congregations in local acts of loving-kindness and compassion and to partner with other faith based organizations in creating a community for deserving families to have a safe place to call home.

HOW is the Project taking place?

Our role in this overall Project starts with a steering committee comprised of committed individuals who are able to engage with the community to encompass the needs and goals of this Project (education, engagement, and fundraising).

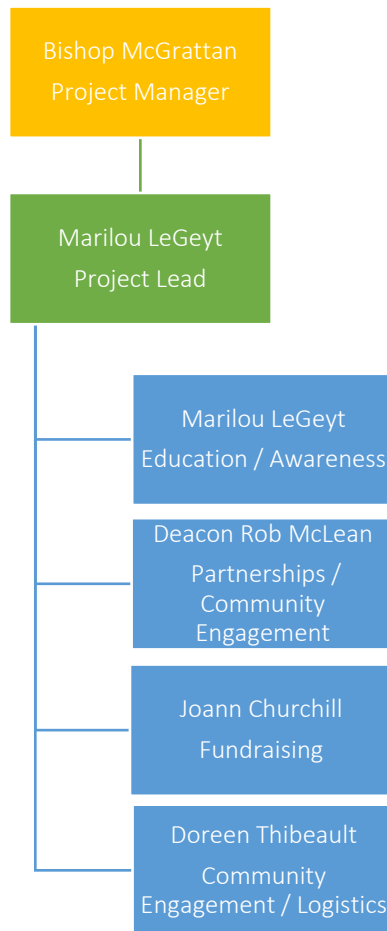
TIMELINE for the Project:

2016	Together in Action Grant Recipient
2017	Together in Action Grant Recipient Bishop McGrattan commitment to the Project
2018	
January	Diocese Committee created
April 19	Diocese Kick Off Event
To Schedule/Plan	Fundraising Engagement Build Days Education to the Diocesan Community Other Activities as scheduled

PROJECT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

The committee was created in 2017 to explore and establish the Diocese’s contribution and participation of this Project under the guidance of the Diocese to help Habitat meet its goal of creating affordable housing for years to come. This committee consist of a number of people planning and executing the various components of the Project (engagement, education, fundraising, partnerships).

To understand the many levels of interest in this Project, this organizational chart has been created to illustrate the vital role each department and person has in making this Project successful.



METHODS OF COMMUNICATION

Committee	Committee Lead	Email	Telephone
Education	Marilou LeGeyt	Marilou.Legeyt@calgarydiocese.ca	(403) 218-5519
Engagement	Doreen Thibeault	Doreen.Thibeault@calgarydiocese.ca	(403) 218-5522
Fundraising	Joann Churchill	Joann.Churchill@calgarydiocese.ca	(403) 218-5534
Partnership	Deacon Rob McLean	Robert.McLean@calgarydiocese.ca	(403) 202-7524