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For Immediate Release:

August 20, 2024

Transylvania Habitat Celebrates 100 Critical Home Repairs

Brevard, NC – Transylvania Habitat for Humanity is celebrating new milestones and success with its Critical Home Repair Program, launched in January of 2023, to alleviate any housing conditions that pose an imminent threat to the life or safety of qualified resident homeowners, veterans, and those with disabilities.

Since 1984, celebrating 40 years of nonprofit service to provide new, affordable homes for families in need, Transylvania Habitat wanted to respond to evolving community issues and expand its mission to ensure that current homeowners could remain safely in their forever homes. The program revolves around recognizing that safe, secure homes are a cornerstone of stability, and marks a significant step in deepening the impact of affordable housing efforts in our region. As of August, the Habitat team celebrated a huge milestone by completing 100 critical repairs on over 50 homes within the county.

“This program is a natural extension of our mission,” stated Home Repair Program Manager Cathy Wood for Transylvania Habitat. “For forty years, we’ve built homes for families and individuals in need. Now, we’re thrilled to be able to take the next leap forward by helping our neighbors preserve their homes to live safely, comfortably, and with dignity.”

The Habitat team designed the Critical Home Repair Program using best practices from Habitat for Humanity International and other affiliates that had previously adopted similar initiatives. It offers crucial home repairs for low-income homeowners, veterans, and the disabled by addressing issues such as structural repairs, electrical and plumbing issues, HVAC service, and accessibility modifications such as ramps, walk-in showers, and more.

“Serving our community through 100 critical repairs means that we can help preserve these homes and a way of life for those in need by keeping them in place and promoting stronger neighborhoods

and community cohesion,” commented Habitat Director of Construction Mike Krauter. “We’re so proud to be able to provide this service to those in need.”

Transylvania Habitat is committed to ensuring that local veterans have a safe home, which led to the adoption of the Veteran Services Program as an extension of its current offerings. This program includes critical home repairs, affordable homeownership opportunities for veterans in need, and participation in the Owens Corning Roof Deployment Project—a nationwide initiative that provides new roofs to veterans as a token of gratitude for their service. Since the program’s inception in 2016, Owens Corning and Habitat for Humanity have provided over 500 military families with new roofs and safer living conditions.

“Now, more than ever before, the stock of affordable homes for families, workforce individuals, and even young professionals is virtually nonexistent, creating a tremendous need,” concluded Wood. “This requires us to pivot and adapt by including critical repairs in our mission, so our aging population doesn’t have to compete in an increasingly difficult housing market.”

To apply for a critical home repair with Transylvania Habitat for Humanity, or to take advantage of the Veteran Services Program, those in need are encouraged to contact Cathy Wood at 828-862-5116. Assistance is based on urgency of need, eligibility, and special needs factors. Please visit <https://transylvaniahabitat.org/critical-home-repair/> for the required application and to begin the process.

About Transylvania Habitat for Humanity:

Celebrating our 40th anniversary in 2024, Transylvania Habitat for Humanity is a 501(c)(3) organization with a vision of ensuring that all residents have a safe, decent, and affordable place to live. Join us in our mission to build homes, communities, and hope in Transylvania County. Find out more about purchasing a home, donating to the ReStore, or applying for a critical home repair here: www.transylvaniahabitat.org or call 828-884-3464.