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Transylvania Habitat Employee Earns Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist Designation

Brevard, NC – Brevard native Cathy Wood, of Transylvania Habitat for Humanity, is now one of the select group of professionals nationwide to earn the Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS) designation, identifying her as a Home Repair Program Manager with the skills and knowledge necessary to remodel or modify a home to meet the unique needs of the older population, disabled owners or their visitors.

The National Association of Home Builders, in partnership with the AARP and NAHB Research Center, created the CAPS program, which includes training and education on the technical, business management and customer service skills essential to compete in the fastest-growing segment of the residential remodeling industry — home modifications for aging-in-place.

Since launching the Critical Home Repair Program in January 2023, Transylvania Habitat for Humanity has completed repair projects in more than 50 homes throughout the County. The average age of repair recipients is 65.7 years, having received bathroom modifications, ramp installations, new roofs, and HVAC installations, to name a few, all of which classify as aging-in-place home modifications. “I look forward to continuing the Vision of Transylvania Habitat as “A world where everyone has a decent place to live”, said Wood, “and enabling them to live in their homes for a long time.”

CAPS graduates include remodelers, builders, designers, architects, occupational therapists and others who help homeowners remain in their homes safely, independently and comfortably as they age.

In three days of coursework, the CAPS curriculum incorporates market demographics, communication techniques, marketing, common barriers and solutions, building codes and standards, product ideas and resources and business management.

CAPS program graduates are required to maintain their designation by attending continuing education programs and/or participating in community service projects.

For additional information about the CAPS program, visit www.nahb.org/caps.

About Transylvania Habitat for Humanity:

Celebrating their 40th anniversary in 2024, Transylvania Habitat for Humanity is a 501(c)(3) organization with a vision of ensuring that all residents have a decent 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.