



# Legacies

A newsletter by the Planned Giving department  
of Habitat for Humanity® International

## A message from Habitat's CEO



Dear Habitat partners,

**T**he apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 12 that there are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit; different kinds of service, but the same Lord. Two people from very different walks of life who offered their gifts to Habitat for Humanity recently illustrate how individuals can use their unique talents to serve God in similar ways.

Ron Terwilliger, chair of the board of directors for Habitat for Humanity International, made a legacy gift of \$100 million to be donated to our future work from his estate. That is the largest single donation ever made to Habitat for Humanity. We pray that we will not be using that gift anytime soon. We need Ron's leadership, his talent and his inspiration.

A few weeks later, Super Bowl XXXIV MVP Kurt Warner and his wife, Brenda, joined more than 500 Habitat for Humanity AmeriCorps members and alumni in Cedar Rapids to help build 20 Habitat houses as part of the annual AmeriCorps Build-a-Thon. They worked on behalf of their First Things First Foundation to help those affected by last year's devastating floods in their native state of Iowa. Kurt has helped raise more than \$650,000 from NFL colleagues and fans to help the flood victims.

Housing entrepreneur. Football star. One is a self-made businessman who created a multi-billion dollar company with a presence in nearly every major housing market in America. The other has fulfilled the dreams of countless young boys who tossed a football in the

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## Ron Terwilliger pledges largest individual legacy gift ever



Ron Terwilliger

EZRA MILLSTEIN

### A gift to reach thousands

Within five years of the funds being transferred by Terwilliger's estate, 70 percent of the legacy commitment will be used by Habitat for housing microfinance so that families in countries around the world can improve their living conditions. The remaining 30 percent will be used for the J. Ronald Terwilliger Leveraged Impact Fund, an endowment that will make annual distributions to help support affordable housing efforts.

Terwilliger said he is glad that his gift will be used both in the United States and internationally. One of the "bits of advice" that Nic Retsinas, former HFHI board chair, gave him was to see the world and understand living conditions outside the U.S.

"If you're a U.S. resident," Terwilliger recalls being advised, "you're inclined to be U.S.-centric if you're not careful, and this is an international ministry."

"So I have made a point to go to Asia, to go to South America, to go to Europe, Central Asia, to go to Canada," he said. "And I've also visited across the U.S. over the years and have been really very, very much impacted by visits abroad in seeing the wonderful work we're doing outside the U.S."

**R**on Terwilliger, chair of Habitat for Humanity International's board of directors, recently made a \$100 million legacy commitment to the organization — the largest donation from an individual in Habitat's history. This single donation will help some 60,000 families.

"In my professional life, I've seen housing strengthen health, education, families, communities and economies," Terwilliger said. "Since housing is such a special focus of mine and it's so fundamentally important to human beings and families, I thought that's where I would leave the balance of my wealth."

backyard. They are seemingly worlds apart. Yet both will tell you that their successes have allowed them to respond to situations of need.

Ron has a tremendous heart for those in need of adequate shelter. He invested more than \$3 million in our mission—even before he made the legacy gift, which we estimate will help an estimated 60,000 families improve their housing conditions. I was with him in Macedonia early on when he met a family living in terrible conditions. I could see how his heart was touched by the depth of the poverty in which they lived. However, a spark of excitement began to rise in Ron as he considered the variety of ways that Habitat could partner with this family.

Ron's name is not likely as recognizable as that of Kurt Warner. If you are a fan of football in the U.S.—most likely you know about the Arizona quarterback. It is easy to admire him. We often celebrate what people do, rather than who they are. Celebrities can use that social capital in a variety of ways. The Warners have chosen to use what Kurt earned on the football field as a way to engage others in giving back to the community. His celebrity helped call attention to the importance of a home and to the contributions that AmeriCorps members have made for 14 years in helping build affordable housing. For the Warners, their faith in Jesus Christ comes first. They seek opportunities to live out their faith.

The paths taken by these two men were very different—their dreams were nothing alike. However, Ron Terwilliger and Kurt Warner both felt a sense of urgency in their success to look around them and to use their resources and influence to help better the situations of others.



Jonathan Reckford  
Chief Executive Officer  
Habitat for Humanity International



EBRA MULLSTEIN

Ron Terwilliger plastering the wall of a home being renovated by Habitat for Humanity Armenia.

Jonathan Reckford, HFHI CEO, said Habitat was humbled, honored and grateful for Terwilliger's gift. "It's a solid demonstration of the passion he has for our mission and for decent, affordable housing throughout the world," Reckford said. "His generous spirit will touch tens of thousands of families."

Terwilliger also is committed to continuing his work with Habitat.

"As long as God gives me good health, I ought to use my talents and my energies and my money to some degree to help other people," Terwilliger said. "I made my wealth in housing, and I know an awful lot about U.S. housing in general. I can probably have more impact working in that area, so I've chosen to dedicate the rest of my life to help provide housing solutions to people around the world."

#### **A lifetime of accomplishments**

Terwilliger joined HFHI's board of directors in 2000. Prior to this, he had already given more than \$3 million in support of Habitat's work.

In June, Terwilliger was honored in Washington as the National Housing

Council's Housing Person of the Year. Among other honors, he was inducted into the National Association of Homebuilders Housing Hall of Fame in 2008 and is a distinguished graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy.

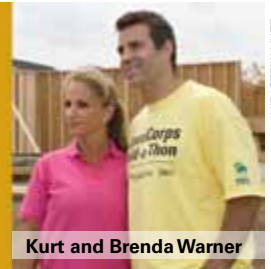
The Urban Land Institute established the J. Ronald Terwilliger Center for Workforce Housing, which is dedicated to ensuring that workforce housing is available to future generations. He has also served on the board of the Urban Land Institute, the Enterprise Foundation and the Naval Academy.

A Baker Scholar at Harvard University's Graduate School of Business, Terwilliger went on to become the driving force behind Trammell Crow Residential, the nation's largest multifamily housing developer. He retired as CEO in 2008 but remains the company's chairman.

*HFHI staff members from Public Relations, Habitat World and Program Communications contributed to this article.*

# Habitat for Humanity AmeriCorps members and NFL quarterback Kurt Warner help rebuild flood-devastated area in Iowa

By Jolanda Logan



**M**ore than 500 Habitat for Humanity AmeriCorps members and alumni recently helped build 20 Habitat for Humanity houses in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, during the 2009 AmeriCorps Build-a-Thon.

Each year, hundreds of Habitat for Humanity houses are built with the help of AmeriCorps members, who convene annually for a week in a different location for a blitz build.

According to Mark Andrews, senior director of U.S. Operations at Habitat for Humanity International, Cedar Rapids was a natural choice for this year's Build-a-Thon, held June 14-20.

"One year ago, residents of Cedar Rapids experienced a flood that proved to be Iowa's worst natural disaster," said Andrews. "Our AmeriCorps members have been vital to Habitat's work in the Gulf following the hurricanes, and we really wanted to help with the rebuilding efforts in this region."

Due to heavy rains, the Iowa River overflowed its banks in the summer of 2008, damaging more than 4,000 homes and businesses in Cedar Rapids and turning 90 Iowa counties into federal disaster areas. Tragically, lives were lost and most of the affected homeowners did not have flood insurance. Nearly one year later, a sense of normalcy has yet to return as thousands remain without their homes, jobs, neighborhoods and churches.



AmeriCorps volunteers work on houses during the Build-a-Thon in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

## Road to recovery

During the Build-a-Thon, NFL Arizona Cardinals quarterback Kurt Warner, and his wife, Brenda, joined Habitat volunteers and AmeriCorps members on the build sites. This was not the Warners' first efforts to help Iowa recover, however.

Within a month of the flood, the Warners — native Iowans — traveled to Cedar Rapids to work with residents and volunteers to clean up the damage left behind by floodwaters. The Warners then decided to lend a long-term hand through their foundation, the Kurt Warner First Things First Foundation.

Established in 2001, First Things First is a vehicle for Kurt and Brenda Warner to reach out to the community and share their blessings with those in need. First Things First established the Midwest Flood Relief Fund with a \$100,000 commitment, which the Warners immediately matched. The foundation chose to partner with Habitat for Humanity International to sponsor as many homes as possible in the regions hardest hit by the disaster.

Fast-forward 12 months and on the first anniversary of the day water from the Cedar River crested, Super Bowl XXXIV MVP Warner and his wife joined more than 500 Habitat for Humanity AmeriCorps members and alumni to help put lives back together.

Established by the federal government in 1993, AmeriCorps is a network of national service programs that engage more than 75,000 Americans each year in intensive service to meet critical needs in education, public safety, health and the environment. AmeriCorps members help Habitat affiliates meet capacity and productivity objectives to solve community-housing needs.

The 2009 Build-a-Thon celebrates 14 years of AmeriCorps members helping Habitat for Humanity affiliates and partner organizations build affordable houses and eliminate substandard housing.

Since the flood, the Warners have helped raise more than \$650,000 from NFL colleagues and fans toward this effort.

*Jolanda Logan is a media relations manager with Habitat for Humanity International.*

## Habitat for Humanity Legacy Society

**T**he Habitat for Humanity Legacy Society recognizes the importance of legacy gifts in eradicating poverty housing.

To become a member of the Habitat for Humanity Legacy Society, you must plan to benefit Habitat for Humanity after your lifetime—whether in the form of a bequest, annuity or other planned giving arrangement—and notify Habitat of your plans.

Habitat for Humanity welcomes these new members to the Habitat for Humanity Legacy Society:

Elizabeth J. Brady  
Roy Churchill  
William and Lacey Collins  
Katherine C. Johnson  
Myron and Mary Kelley  
Larry and Lynn Lott  
Ann McCauley  
Katrina E. Meredith  
Walter and Lucille Novinsky  
Janet L. Robinson  
Dorothy Roedder  
Ed Shearer  
Colonel Eric L. Smith  
Paul R. Stack, Sr.  
Mary D. Tooker

### Contact us

There are several ways you can find out more information about planned giving:

**Write:** Planned Giving department  
Habitat for Humanity International  
121 Habitat Street  
Americus, GA 31709-3498  
**Call:** (800) 422-4828, ext. 7692  
**E-mail:** [plannedgiving@habitat.org](mailto:plannedgiving@habitat.org)  
**Web:** [www.habitat.org/giving/planned](http://www.habitat.org/giving/planned)

*Habitat for Humanity International is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian organization dedicated to eliminating substandard housing and homelessness worldwide and to making adequate, affordable shelter a matter of conscience and action.*

## The simplicity of a charitable gift annuity

By Richard S. Algra

**I**n our current economy, some people feel as if they are less able to give to a charitable cause. But there are ways to give and still have financial security. One of these ways is a charitable gift annuity (CGA).

A CGA is a vehicle that can be used by donors to support a charitable organization that they are passionate about and at the same time receive income for life. A CGA is also a very simple vehicle to understand. For example, a donor who is 72 years old completes a one-page application and writes Habitat for Humanity a check for \$10,000. Based on the age of the donor, the annuity rate will be 5.9 percent. This means that for the life of that donor, exactly \$590 will be paid each year to the donor by Habitat for Humanity. This guaranteed payment is based on a signed contract and backed by the full faith and credit of Habitat for Humanity. The annuity payment to the donor is usually made quarterly, but can also be set up to be monthly, semi-annually or annually.

For the first 14 and a half years, \$413.59 of the annual payment is considered to

be return of principal and is therefore free from income taxes. After that period of time, the entire payment is taxed as ordinary income. Furthermore, with a gift of \$10,000 the donor earns a charitable deduction of \$3,999.70. The reason why the donor's charitable deduction is not the full amount of the gift (i.e. \$10,000) is because the donor is receiving income each year from Habitat for Humanity.

A CGA can also be set up to make payments for the lives of two people, and payments can be deferred to a later date; for instance, at retirement. CGAs can also be funded with appreciated securities, often resulting in capital gains tax savings.

If a charitable gift annuity sounds like it might be something you are interested in pursuing, please contact us at the Planned Giving department of Habitat for Humanity International, and we will be happy to answer any questions. Please visit [www.habitat.org/giving/planned](http://www.habitat.org/giving/planned) or email us at [plannedgiving@habitat.org](mailto:plannedgiving@habitat.org).

*Richard Algra is a development officer with Habitat for Humanity International.*



More than 30 Habitat for Humanity supporters recently attended the 17th annual Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Weekend. During the legacy-focused event, Habitat leadership shared with supporters how they can help make a difference in helping Habitat to address the need for more affordable housing around the world. Highlights of the weekend included a Saturday luncheon with the Carters, as well as Sunday School with the former president.