



## Rebuilding Together Twin Cities 2017 Highlights and Accomplishments

With the support of our many partners and the hard work of volunteers, Rebuilding Together Twin Cities preserves affordable homeownership for low-income families, older adults, individuals living with disabilities, and active and retired members of the armed services in our community. **Together, we are able to provide the repairs and accessibility modifications needed for these homeowners to remain in the homes and neighborhoods they love.** Our geographical area is the Twin Cities Metro Area encompassing the counties of Anoka, Carver, Hennepin, Dakota, Ramsey, Scott and Washington.

*Carolyn, 81, moved into her South Minneapolis home more than 20 years ago. A retired nurse, Carolyn now suffers from severe arthritis that has greatly limited her mobility. She loves her home, where she is surrounded by friendly neighbors, and is close to grocers, the library, and her church. But getting around is a significant challenge. She has fallen in her home several times and is now wheelchair-bound when going outside. We modified Carolyn's home to make it more accessible and restore her ability to get in and out of her home independently, and we made other repairs to her home. When we spoke with her, Carolyn mentioned memories of hosting family gatherings for Christmas and Thanksgiving at her home. With these repairs, she will be able to make new memories in her home for many years to come.*



We work year-round to preserve affordable homeownership, build healthy neighborhoods and ensure that homeowners in need can live independently in safe and healthy homes. Our programs serve low-income homeowners and address three primary needs: **Accessibility, Livability and Community.**

### Accessibility Services:

- Safe at Home Program provides volunteer-delivered safety and fall prevention modifications and ramps for older adults or those living with a disability so that they can continue to live in safety and independence in their own homes.
- Access for Always Program provides larger, contractor-delivered environmental home modifications such as doorway widening and kitchen or bathroom renovations to enable aging-in-place and single-level living.

### Livability Services:

- Home Repair Program creates healthier, more livable homes by providing volunteer-delivered repairs including weatherizing, cleaning, installing flooring, patching and painting, siding, landscaping, and almost anything that restores the homeowners' independence, safety and security.
- Essential Systems Repair Program provides timely contractor-delivered repair or replacement of essential systems such as HVAC, electrical, plumbing, outer envelope and roofs that are critical to healthy, livable homes.



### **Community Services:**

- Community Strong fosters vibrant communities by providing safe and welcoming spaces for communities to gather. Projects include renovation and beautification work for community centers, schools, supportive housing facilities and outdoor community spaces.
- ReNeighboring Program transforms donated vacant homes into safe, healthy and affordable housing for qualified homeowners who earn less than 120% of the Area Median Income. Proceeds from the sale of these professionally-rehabilitated homes are invested back into Rebuilding Together programs.

**In 2017, we partnered with 780 volunteers who gave over 5,800 of their time to complete 70 Accessibility Services projects, 38 Livability Services projects, and 16 Community Services projects!**

We completed more projects than ever before last year, while undertaking more in-depth work at each home and implementing a comprehensive Healthy Housing Principles-based approach. We also completed four small business revitalization projects, and most of these businesses are minority-owned and are located in economically-challenged neighborhoods.

In addition, we focused on implementing Rebuilding Together National's Community Revitalization Partnership model last year. We have a long history of partnering with community organizations to address the comprehensive needs of our clients, but we welcomed the opportunity to implement this approach in a more formalized manner by targeting our efforts in a very defined geographic area and deeply engaging residents, other stakeholders and community partners in our work. In 2017, we focused our community revitalization efforts in the Powderhorn neighborhood of South Minneapolis. These efforts culminated in a Rebuild event in October, which engaged nearly 200 volunteers in the completion of six home repair projects, a community garden, improvements to a neighborhood church, and other community-building projects. As part of an NFL-sanctioned event, Rebuilding Together's 23rd Kickoff to Rebuild in February 2018 celebrated the community efforts completed in this neighborhood in 2017.

**We are extremely grateful for the support of our partners and volunteers, which has made it possible for us to help homeowners like Carolyn, as well as community organizations serving those in need. Thank you for supporting our efforts to help low-income homeowners in the Twin Cities live independently in safe and healthy homes.**