



Building on 25 years of transforming lives and communities one home at a time

Together we transform the lives of low-income homeowners by improving the safety and health of their homes and revitalizing our communities.



Sharks Foundation Revitalizes Home of WWII Veteran

In January, the San Jose Sharks Foundation in partnership with Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley honored World War II veteran Private First Class Isiah Breaux by providing repairs and upgrades to his Alum Rock San Jose home. Breaux, a Purple Heart recipient, prided himself on taking care of his house since its purchase in 1949.

Now, a 93-year-old grandfather, he and his wife Velma appreciate the help to keep up the home and make adjustments to ensure their safety.

“I love this house,” said Breaux, who worked as a can maker at the S.J. Canneries before

joining General Electric’s former plant on Curtner Road in San Jose as a welder and supervisor. “Everything that had to be done, I did it myself.”

Thanks to the generosity of a \$15,000 donation from the Sharks Foundation, and the work of two dozen volunteers, Breaux’s home received a fresh coat of paint, a new water heater, a mended fence and other much-needed safety repairs.

“We had chances over the years to buy other houses, but we never did,” Breaux said. “We like it here. [It has] a lot of history.”

Thanks to the generous support of our community members, like the Sharks Foundation, Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley can help homeowners like Isiah and Velma continue to live in warmth and safety in their own home.

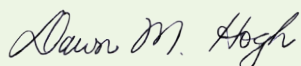
A Message From our Chair:

As we see the damage and displacement caused by the heavy rains and flooding, we are reminded of the importance of warm, dry homes. Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley's twice a year Rebuilding Days are opportunities to make major repairs to impact homeowner warmth and safety. During our October 22 Fall Rebuilding Day, we served 26 homeowners and one nonprofit, engaging 700 volunteers to revitalize our community. Many thanks to you for generously giving of your time and resources.

We look forward to helping more homeowners during our Spring Rebuilding Day on April 22. And we know that once the initial water damage and decontamination from the recent flooding is dealt with, there will be even more homeowners in need going forward.

We cannot help homeowners without community support. A special thank you to Wells Fargo Housing Foundation for their generous \$80K grant that will go far to help Santa Clara County homeowners. We also partnered with the Sharks Foundation to repair the home of a WWII veteran (story on pg. 1). These community donations are vital to our mission of revitalizing our communities and transforming the lives of low-income homeowners by improving the safety and health of their homes. By generosity providing critical funds and hands to repair homes and nonprofits, you make a difference in our community.

Thank you for your continued support!



Dawn Hogh, Board Chair

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OUR 2016 IMPACT

We believe everyone deserves to live in a safe and healthy home. For over **25 years**, we have transformed the lives of low-income residents in need by repairing and rebuilding homes and community facilities across Silicon Valley. As we work to transform even more lives in 2017, here's a look back at last year's impact:

DID YOU
KNOW?

8 people

Last year,
with a staff of



we repaired over **376** homes and nonprofit facilities.

Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley

also supports one of the **LARGEST** concentrations of **MOBILE HOME PARK** communities in California.

That is a direct impact to **679** local homeowners



and over **21,300** nonprofit clients!



Each year, we address client needs that exceed

3,000+ total repairs/modifications.



...converting every dollar donated,



into **\$8 DOLLARS** of much-needed repairs.

Revitalizing America's Aging Houses



In Silicon Valley, with the high cost of housing, we think of homeowners as lucky and secure. But what if you can't afford the maintenance on your home?

That is the case for the homeowners Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley serves.

Consider 74-year-old Martin. He has lived in Milpitas for 43 years and worked as a city employee. He has a small pension and social security. Martin and his wife, who passed away last year, never had children. Age-related medical conditions eat up most of his money, so there isn't anything left for home maintenance and modifications.

Not only is Martin's home in need of long-overdue repairs, but he cannot manage the steps leading up to his front door. "I used to [get out and] walk the neighborhood," said Martin. "But it's hard for me to get up the steps, even though it's just four."

The Challenge

Older housing stock is ill-equipped to accommodate the needs of a large, rapidly aging population. According to a report released by the Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies and AARP Foundation *Housing America's Older Adults—Meeting the Needs of An Aging Population*, the number of adults in the U.S. aged 50 and over is expected to grow to 133 million by 2030, an increase of more than 70 percent since 2000.

These older homes need accessibility modifications to eliminate physical barriers to mobility. Declining

balance and unsteadiness while walking or standing greatly increases the risk of falls for seniors. Installing grab bars in bathrooms, wheelchair ramps and proper lighting can help a person with declining mobility remain living safely in their home.

One-fourth of Americans aged 65+ falls each year.

—The National Council on Aging

The Solution

Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley provides repairs and accessibility modifications at no cost to low-income homeowners. Last year, RTSV completed more than 3,000 home repairs and accessibility modifications, impacting 679 Silicon Valley resident homeowners.

RTSV helped Martin maintain his independent living by making it easier for him to go in and out of his home safely by installing half steps, which are reduced-height steps, and railings.

According to Martin, the steps have made a world of difference: "I'm happy now. I can take my daily walks and I'm happy."





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Helping Coyote Creek Flood Survivors

Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley is committed to safe and healthy housing and that's why we're embracing the opportunity to assist low-income homeowners impacted by the Coyote Creek floods. RTSV staff and volunteers have been reaching out to families impacted by the floods and coordinating repairs and volunteer teams to assist

homeowners in the Golden Wheel mobile home park to make necessary repairs to their homes.

If you'd like to offer your support to RTSV in helping revitalize communities, please use the enclosed envelope or visit www.rebuildingtogethersv.org to make a contribution.

Calendar of events



Saturday, April 22:
Spring Rebuilding Day

Thursday, May 11:
Spring Supporter Appreciation Event

Friday, September 22:
Paint the Town

Saturday, October 28:
Fall Rebuilding Day



Support Paint the Town Fundraiser

Our annual fundraiser event, **Paint the Town**, will be held **Friday, September 22**. Underwriters and auction items are critical to raising funds to help low-income homeowners and our community. If you'd like to underwrite or donate auction items, such as event tickets, vacation rentals and hotel packages, please contact Terry Gallo, terry@rebuildingtogether.org.