



*Rebuilding Communities.  
Rebuilding Lives.*

## Rebuilding Together Helps Neighbors of All Ages

Fourteen year old Yu Yang, pictured to the right, finally has the wheelchair-accessible shower he and his mother, Hong, have needed. After years of carrying her son into the shower, causing her significant back problems, Hong reached out to Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley to find a more sustainable solution to shower her son.

In partnership with Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley, Mission Bell helped fund the installation of a wheelchair-accessible shower. Hong's son weighs more than she does, and she was unable to lift him on her own.

"I used to be so powerful and could lift him, but recently my power has been going out," Hong passionately explains. This wheelchair-accessible shower has transformed Hong's life, allowing her to save her back and still get her son in and out of the shower safely.

When Yu was 11 years old, he was the 23rd person in the world to be diagnosed with a rare condition caused by a missing number three chromosome. Today he is unable to walk or talk, causing him to be dependent on a wheelchair and his mother, Hong.

One in every six of Rebuilding Together's clients is a minor like Yu. Rebuilding Together is proud to be able to make it easier for minors to grow up in a safe and healthy home.

Only 10% of people with disabilities live in homes with proper modifications to meet their functional limitations

—The Urban Institute



## Letter from our Leaders:

With the New Year comes time to reflect on the past and plan for what's ahead. As we reflect on 2017, we can't help but think of the power of community: coming together to partner, take action, and make a difference. We are proud and gratified by our impact, made possible by you...

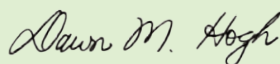
- **699** neighbors received life changing repairs.
- **31%** more community members volunteered through Team Builds and Rebuilding Days.
- **20,386** hours of service were donated to transform lives.

You are making a difference every day by funding safety modifications, like grab bars and half-steps—key ingredients for older adults and those living with disabilities to move safely within and outside their home. In the upcoming year, the Rebuilding Together board and staff remain committed to leveraging our partnerships for greater impact in our communities and making it possible for our neighbors in need to stay safe and secure in their homes.

As we kick off another New Year, thank you for your support! We look forward to your partnership in 2018 so that we can continue transforming our communities together. Thank you.



Beverley Jackson,  
Executive Director



Dawn Hogh,  
Board Chair

### ANNUALLY, REBUILDING TOGETHER SILICON VALLEY:

#### ENGAGES

**2,032**  
VOLUNTEERS

#### REPAIRS

**354** HOMES  
**9** NONPROFIT  
FACILITIES

#### VOLUNTEERS DONATE

**20,386**  
HOURS

#### DELIVERS

**2,682** REPAIRS

#### SERVES

**26,968** PEOPLE

Average homeowner age: **72**

Homeowners who are  
Disabled and/or Seniors: **88%**



# From Community Service to Dedicated and Passionate Volunteer



Seth with George and Jean Sole, the two homeowners he worked with this past Rebuilding Day as a House Captain, and his Volunteer Coordinator, Cassie.

***“I wish other people knew the feeling that you have throughout the entire Rebuilding Day. When you arrive to the project site, you quickly realize that this day is about the homeowner(s) and the repairs they desperately need.”***

Seth Furtado was searching for a nonprofit to volunteer with to complete his high school community service hours when he discovered Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley. He signed up for his first Rebuilding Day in the fall of 2009 and has since participated in 13 different projects! Throughout his time, Seth has served our community as a volunteer and led projects as a Volunteer Coordinator and House Captain. We talked with him about his involvement:

**Q: Tell us about yourself.**

*I am 23 years old and a student at San Jose State University. I was born and raised here in Silicon Valley and enjoy working out, running track, playing video games, growing pumpkins, and watching motorsports racing.*

**Q: What might someone be surprised to know about you?**

*I do not own a smartphone! I actually have a prepaid flip phone that I fill up with minutes once every few months. It's quite nice actually and much less distracting and time consuming than all the smartphones that people go crazy for.*

**Q: Why do you volunteer with Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley?**

*At the end of the day, it's such an accomplishment to see all that has gone into the home, and seeing the homeowner's reaction to the work is priceless.*

**Q: What has surprised you most about working with Rebuilding Together?**

*The way people work together so smoothly on Rebuilding Days. You arrive to these projects and see people you have never met before, and then you all work together to do what you can to make a difference in someone's life.*

**Q: What do you wish other people knew about the work of Rebuilding Together?**

*A lot of times we convince ourselves that our actions would be insignificant and too small to make a difference. But whether it be holding a ladder steady, talking to the homeowner, cleaning up painting tape—everything you do makes the day a success.*

Seth is just one of Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley's thousands of incredible volunteers. Thank you, Seth, for your compassion and dedication to transforming the lives of homeowners in need. To learn more about getting involved and becoming a volunteer, contact our Program Coordinator, Jessica Walter, at [jessica@rebuildingtogethersv.org](mailto:jessica@rebuildingtogethersv.org).



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## Calendar of Events

**Spring  
Rebuilding Day:**  
April 28, 2018

**Supporter  
Appreciation Event:**  
May 10, 2018

**Paint the Town  
Fundraiser:**  
September 21, 2018