



Marshfield Area  
**Habitat  
for Humanity**®

[www.marshfieldhabitat.org](http://www.marshfieldhabitat.org)

Winter Newsletter 2018

715-384-7533

## **Leikness Family Chosen as 2018 MAHFH Partner Family**

Persistence might be the theme of the Leikness family. Ashley, who was born in Alaska, lived in the Marshfield area as a child until her family relocated to Florida. She first met Marshfield native Daren when she was visiting cousins for the summer. Years passed between that first meeting and the time that Ashley decided to return to Marshfield in 2011. Shortly after her return, she and Daren reconnected and they were married in 2014. Daren and Ashley have three children: Jaden, 11, who lives with Ashley's mother in Florida, Paityn, 9, and Zander, 4. "It's been quite the journey," chuckles Daren.

Part of that journey involved the family moving from rental to rental, sometimes as often as twice in one year. "We just moved so much," says Ashley, "and we were just sick of it."

Daren gives Ashley credit for being the one who originally applied for a home from Marshfield Area Habitat for Humanity (MAHFH). She was familiar with the organization but, even though they hadn't been able to qualify for a traditional mortgage, hadn't considered that they might qualify. In fact, the Leikness family came very close to being chosen as a partner family around three years ago. But when another family was chosen, Ashley says they were strongly encouraged to reapply.

After taking a break to regroup and recover from the heartbreak of not being chosen with their first application, Daren and Ashley decided to try again three years later. Fortunately for them, MAHFH had a vacant home that had been built in 2015 waiting for a family. Ashley says, "I'd drive by this house every day since it was built, and I'd think 'man, we could just move in there!'"

When asked if they'd be willing to move into a previously built home, the Leikness family was quick to agree. They are currently working to complete their required 'Sweat Equity' hours and will soon sign their mortgage and own their home. "I never saw us being able to buy a home," Ashley says. "That dream was pretty far off."

The Leiknesses are thankful that they had a second opportunity to be a partner family and for the helpful and friendly Marshfield Habitat representatives they've been able to work with. Now that the dream is nearly a reality Daren feels, "after this, the sky's the limit."





## How You Can Help the Mission of MAHFH

Marshfield Area Habitat for Humanity depends on its many volunteers to help with building or rehabbing a house, serving on its Board of Directors and many committees, for which we are very grateful. At this time, we have four openings on our Board for someone with a background in real estate, mortgage/banking, fundraising and public relations. All of our Board members serve a minimum of 3 years with a maximum of six years. You would also serve as a member or Chair of one of our Operating Committees. Your commitment would be anywhere from 3 hours per month to 2 hours per week as needed.

We are also seeking committee members for the following committees:

**Development:** Responsible for coordinating the fundraising operations to sustain MAHFH. Tasks include fundraising campaigns and special events, possible grant writing, and building relationships with our donors. They shall emphasize and promote the importance of Christian stewardship in the servicing of donors and supporters.

**Public Relations:** Responsible for educating and informing the public regarding our mission and purpose, the need for better and more affordable housing in our service area, and the steps being taken to meet this need. The tasks to be coordinated by its members shall include public speaking, communicating with the news media and publishing a semi-annual newsletter.

**Family Selection and Support:** Responsible for updating our selection criteria and policies, interviewing applicants and recommending applicants to the Board for approval as prospective homeowners. Provides our Habitat homeowners and prospective homeowners with a support system, education opportunities and a forum for discussions pertaining to home ownership and maintenance, all for the purpose of helping families to break the poverty cycle and become independent.

**Site Selection:** Responsible for targeting the area or areas of our service area in which we will develop our projects, investigating and researching the availability of property and recommending it to the Board for acquisition. Work in conjunction with the Building Committee to evaluate the suitability of potential sites prior to acquisition.

**Building Committee:** Responsible for planning and implementing the construction projects of the corporation. Tasks include obtaining house plans, soliciting professional help and donations of building materials, coordinating volunteers and supervising construction. (All Board members must help at least one day during a build).

**Technology/Marketing:** Responsible for developing and updating our website. Marketing for our affiliate by designing or updating brochures, and other materials as needed.

We hope you will prayerfully consider these needs and if you are interested in serving on our Board or on one of our committees, please contact one of our current Board or committee members or call our office at 715-384-7533. Thank you.

### Board of Directors

Jack Farris

President

Ed Korlesky

Secretary

Maggie Hilgart

Treasurer

Susan Campbell

Kathy Gessert

Ryan Krause

Alexandra Westerhausen

Brent Ystad

### Committee Members

Tiffany Halan public relations

Ed Plotka technology and build

Don Zais Build and Critical Home Repair

### Office Manager

Arlene Norberg

# Thank you for your generous support

## Gifts from October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018

### \$5000 +

Margaret King Habitat for Humanity Fund  
Umhoefer Foundation

### \$1000-\$4999

Forward Financial Charitable Giving Money Market  
Ousley, Mary  
Umhoefer, Lois

### \$500-\$999

Armstrong, Mary Rose  
Ewert, Brian & Rulka, Kathleen  
Hayes, John & Stephanie  
Mauston ReStore  
Plotka, Ed & Marie  
Schieber Estate

### \$100-\$499

Berninghaus, Gisele  
Billings, Joyce & Ken  
Borchardt, Mark & Stone, Gwen  
Breu, Leah  
Brink, Patty  
Cain, Jim & Janet  
Cleveland, David & Tina  
Dalum, Pat & Peter  
Denny, Ed & Nelke, Laura  
DeVetter, Dennis & Roberta  
Duffy, Douglas & Linda  
Earl, Gordy & Nancy  
Espada, Carmen & Cancel, Efrain  
Farris, Jack & Tharp, Julie  
Fleming, Spring & Poeschel, Nick  
Gribble, Mindy & Bob  
Hasenhorl, Kathleen

Hayes, John & Stephanie  
Kelman, Don & Cynthia  
Krake, Tom & Darlene  
Marshfield Lions Club  
Mauston ReStore  
Mauston ReStore  
McGivern, Dave & Karen  
Michael Smith & Associates  
Mueller, Diane & Ralph  
Nafziger, Lee & Linda  
Neve, La Verne  
Partners Bank - Marshfield  
Penno, Linda & Tim  
Peters, Richard & Marge  
Praxel, Theodore & Kathleen  
Radeztsky, Carole  
Rotary Winter Wonderland  
Schmoller, George & Marian  
Schreiber, Donald  
Thomalla, Gail & Vince  
Wagner, Stephen & Patricia  
Weber, David  
Woolworth, Haldon & Virginia  
Zittleman, Ken & Norma

Give the gift of housing  
this holiday season.  
Your donation builds  
**STRENGTH, STABILITY  
SELF-RELIANCE and  
SHELTER.**

### \$1-\$99

AmazonSmile  
Baker, Kurt  
Brubaker, Barry & Margaret  
Burger, Joe & Terry  
Campbell, John & Kathy  
Hansen, Donna  
Henning, Dave & Glenda  
Hilgart, Gerald  
Hopperdietzel, John  
Kofka, Karen  
Meyer, Sue  
Moen, Noreen  
Morris, Jane  
Nickerson, Gretta  
Nystrom, Don & Barb  
Stevning-Roe, Bart & Ann  
Swenson, Ken & Jean  
Vornholt, Karen  
Wolfe, Janet E.  
Writz, Paul & Nina  
Wyman, Lynn & Rick

Marshfield Area Habitat for Humanity  
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715-384-7533

## Novy Fund Update

The primary focus of the Novy Fund is to assist Marshfield area individuals/families who need safety items (grab bars, hand rails, ramps) installed, small home repairs and replacement of items needed for living (water heaters, roofs). The program will require repayment of the costs of material (with potential longer term repayment), with labor provided by Marshfield Area Habitat for Humanity volunteers. From July 2017-June 2018, the Novy fund provided:

- Minor door repairs for an elderly woman
- Critical home repair
- Two ramps for two separate homes
- Installation of a portable aluminum ramp
- Purchasing of lumber for home repairs
- Replacement of a temporary ramp with a permanent ramp. Then moved the temporary ramp to a new location.
- Construction of a 28 ft. ramp for an elderly woman at her mobile home.
- Exploration of a request for new shingles for a veteran located in the county and found other options for this request.

## Ways to Give

**Donate** – Habitat is supported through individual donors and private grants. Your support of a monthly or annual donation of any amount you can afford helps local families build an affordable place to call home.

**Amazon Smile** – shop at smile.amazon.com and the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of your eligible purchases to a charitable organization. Just choose Marshfield Area Habitat for Humanity!.

**Thrivent Choice** – a program for members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Allows members to designate a portion of their premiums to non-profit charitable organizations such as Habitat.

**Cars for Homes** - When you recycle your vehicle, you help MAHFH build more homes. Call Cars for Homes toll-free at 1-877-277-4344 for more information (they take boats, RVs and trucks too).

## Mauston Habitat ReStore

Marshfield Area Habitat for Humanity has partnered with the Mauston ReStore to collect items for donation which help fund our local community builds from the resale of all donated items.

The Mauston ReStore is located just two miles south of Mauston, WI and accepts many different items including kitchen cabinets, furniture, building materials, electrical supplies, appliances, flat screen TV's and many other items. All donations must be functional, in good repair, reusable and able to be resold.

The ReStore will even pick up your items. Call 715-384-7533 or 608-847-2000 to schedule a pick up.

Store hours are Tuesday-Saturday 9am-4pm.  
For more information, visit  
[www.maustonrestore.com](http://www.maustonrestore.com)

**Regional Habitat ReStore**  
**N3696 Hwy 12-16**  
**Mauston, WI**



**Serving 7  
Central  
Wisconsin  
Counties!!**

Near I-90/94 in Mauston for the public to shop & donate - (608) 847-2000