

PRESS RELEASE

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Habitat for Humanity to begin developing Green Valley Community

BOONE, NC—Watauga County Habitat for Humanity, a nonprofit organization dedicated to building affordable homes for families living in substandard housing, will begin preparations for a new community located near Green Valley Elementary School.

Habitat for Humanity strategically bought the twenty acre property to begin development on a proposed twenty to thirty homes. The organization is actively seeking donations and gifts toward the planned community. Monetary donations and gifts in the form of materials are the most necessary elements to the success of the Green Valley Community.

Habitat is partnering with Appalachian State University Building Science students to incorporate green building programs in the community including Energy Star, Systems Vision, and NC Healthy Built Homes, as well as passive solar energy, trail systems, and community green space. They also are working toward a synergistic relationship with Green Valley

Elementary School that will provide students with educational opportunities in green building, conservation, and recycling.

The first three families selected for the Green Valley neighborhood have eleven children who will move from substandard housing to affordable, sustainable homes. Hopefully with the help of donors and volunteers, more than twenty proposed families will move into the Green Valley Neighborhood.

"Collaborating with caring community partners, we, together, can make this neighborhood a success; a place where children have a fresh start in a safe and healthy home," says Director Caito.

Watauga Habitat for Humanity was formed in 1998 after working with Avery County for ten years as Blue Ridge Habitat to build in both Avery and Watauga counties. For the past eleven years the Watauga Habitat for Humanity has built twenty-one homes in scattered areas. The Green Valley Community will be the first neighborhood project for this chapter of the organization.

Watauga Habitat for Humanity also has a local ReStore located off of Old 421 Highway. The ReStore sells donated used home goods and appliances at affordable prices. For more information, please contact Executive Director Tony Caito at (828) 268-9545 or visit wataugahabitat.org.