

2022 Highlights Report

"To have my home transformed was more moving than I can describe. I feel refreshed, renewed and peaceful. I have received more than I could have asked for. I am happy, I am grateful. And I have been blessed. Amen."

- A homeowner we assisted with interior organizing, landscaping and a bathroom renovation (see story below)

Rebuilding Together North Suburban Chicago

in partnership with social service providers, community leaders, donors and volunteers, helps our neighbors who need essential home repairs they cannot afford to live in dignity and to remain in their homes, safe, warm and dry. We want the homeowners we help to feel cared for, respected and proud of our work. We consider it a privilege to serve.

DURING OUR 2022 FISCAL YEAR (7/1/21-6/30/22) WE:

- Processed over 100 applications for free home repairs from Evanston to Zion
- Worked on 37 single family homes and two not-for-profit organizations in 10 communities
- Served our neighbors in need, many of whom are seniors, veterans, families with children or those with disabilities
- Organized Volunteer Team Projects with 16 Teams at 13 homes with over 300 volunteers
- Worked with many skilled contractor partners and donors to transform homes and lives

Here Are a Few of Our Stories

Volunteers and a Skilled Pro Join Forces to Transform a Home

We assisted a senior with a three-day volunteer team project, disposing of many unwanted possessions and taming an unruly yard. We also rehabbed her bathroom which was in great disrepair. The senior's words of thanks are quoted above.



The Joy of Serving Those with Disabilities ***A Special Project Gives Hope and Freedom***

A homeowner, age 66, worked hard for many years in the trades. At age 52 he was forced to retire early due to a serious back injury. He uses a wheelchair and mobility scooter due to his injury, diabetes and amputations. He desperately needed a wheelchair ramp which he was unable to afford.

We provided this strong and resilient homeowner with an ADA compliant 38-foot aluminum wheelchair ramp made by **Rollaramp**. After not being able to leave his home for almost three months, he is now able to shop for groceries and to go to doctor appointments without assistance. He is deeply grateful to be able to come and go as he pleases. On his first trip down the ramp, when he reached the bottom, he threw up one of his arms and declared, "I'm free!"



***The Privilege of Serving
Those Who Served
Assisting a Distinguished
Veteran and his Wife***

An esteemed Navy veteran, age 74, is dealing with Parkinson's Disease. He served in both the Viet Nam War and Operation Desert Storm. He and his wife purchased their home in 1996 and he re-roofed it himself shortly thereafter. The roof had an active leak, no ventilation and a rotted underlying deck and support system. He requested many other repairs they were unable to afford. First, we replaced the deck, did structural repairs and replaced the roof.



In addition, a team of volunteers worked wonders, replacing the kitchen floor, sink backsplash and many blinds; removing 3-6 layers of wallpaper in one room and painting the walls and ceiling; doing extensive yard work; caulking and painting the foundation and trim; and much more.

In an email the veteran stated, in part, as follows, *"The roofer...did a bang-up outstanding job... I was happy as a clam... On Saturday, 30 April 22, Pastor Bycroft arrived with a crew of 30-40 volunteers from Rebuilding Together. [Their] tasks were done well, completely and most importantly, safely."*

"I am as happy as a clam. Fried in butter, lying on a bed of al dente linguine. Covered with marinara sauce. And extra Parmesan. Thank you, again. I am grateful for all that you...have done. I especially appreciate that crew of wondrous volunteers. I don't know their names, so I will refer to them, most respectfully, as the Golden Horde. They came descended like a flock of worthy, multitalented angels, and set to. They accomplished a lot in a short time. Sincerely, and God's blessing."

Helping Another Hero And his Family with Children

A local Code Enforcement official referred a family with three minor children. The father also is a heroic veteran who served in Operation Desert Storm where he sustained multiple service-related injuries. The mother was forced to retire early from a strong career due to illness. They had no central heat in their home and used space heaters. We installed a new boiler.

In addition, a dedicated volunteer team helped the family organize their home to accommodate disabilities and improve their yard. We also secured a grant from Home Depot, honoring this veteran and his family by providing them with a new washer, dryer and dishwasher and by replacing their damaged fences. This fine family also expressed deep gratitude for all we were able to accomplish for them.



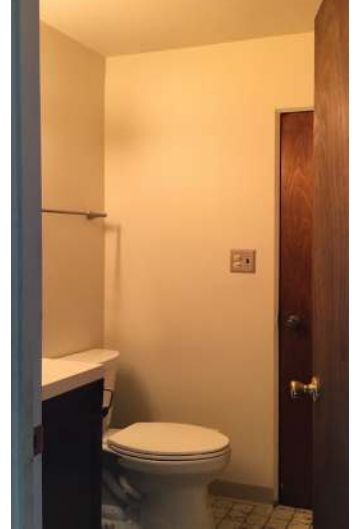
Restoring Safe Walkways and Steps

We did concrete stair/walkway repairs for three seniors, including this project to repair a broken concrete walkway, stairs and porch which were a serious tripping hazard, to assist a 97-year-old townhome owner.



Help for a Senior
Who Supports her Adult Son with Disabilities

A senior caring for her adult son with disabilities had a full bath and powder room in major disrepair. We removed fallen-down wallpaper, replaced old and damaged vanities, sinks, fixtures, toilets and installed a new door.

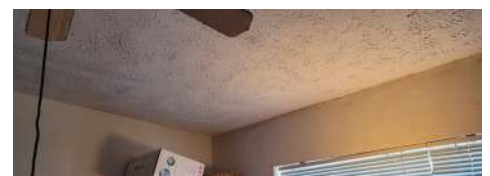


Enabling Two Seniors to
Remain in their Mobile Homes
First Story

Local social services referred a senior who worked as a hospice caregiver and lived in a local mobile home community for 17 years. Five years ago she suffered a debilitating stroke and was forced to retire early.

The homeowner was using buckets to catch the water pouring in when it rained. The ongoing leaks led to advancing structural damage and mold.

In a three-day project, we replaced the roof, tearing off and replacing underlying rotted plywood and roof support. Professionals also repaired the interior structural damage and painted, allowing this fine neighbor to live in greater health and safety.



Second Story

Another senior, extremely hearing impaired, resided in a mobile home since 1976. His roof had an active leak ("like a waterfall") causing part of his ceiling to fall down. Floors were rotted and broken through in many places, plumbing lines needed to be replaced, the bathroom was in terrible shape, the furnace was precarious, and more.

We replaced the roof, floor and rotted subfloor, replaced the plumbing lines underneath the home, rehabbed the bathroom and replaced the furnace and water heater and much more. The senior is overjoyed that he is able to remain in the community he loves where he has friends and deep roots, to age in place in warmth, safety, independence and dignity.

The homeowner wrote to us, *"It's been seven months since this project has been going on. A lot of time, a lot of material going into this project, and the house looks awesome. I love that [the] furnace keeps the house warm; the bathroom works and the shower is awesome. The floors are awesome. Thank you for the time that you have invested in this project. And tell the guys that work for you that they did an awesome job and thank you."*



Bathroom Rehabs, Structural Repairs and Organizing Projects Transform Homes and Lives

A Senior's Home had Two Pressing Needs

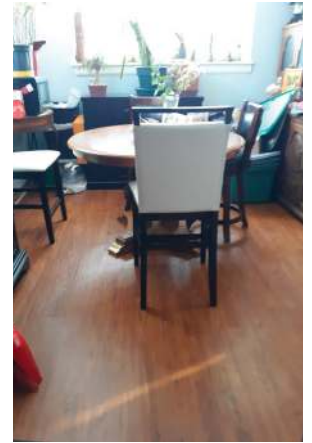
We improved the health and safety of a senior's home with a partial bathroom rehab and the rebuilding of a rotted porch overhang.





New Floors and Carpeting ***Enhanced the Health and Safety of Many Homes***

With the help of a skilled partner, Floor & Wall, Inc., we replaced all or part of the damaged and hazardous flooring and carpeting in a condo, townhome, two mobile homes and at least four single family homes (in addition to the rehabs mentioned above). These improvements not only enhanced the homes' health and safety, but also uplifted the spirits of our homeowners and their families. Here are just three examples of these single family homes' improvements:



A Garage and Driveway Demo ***Helps a Good Neighbor*** ***and a Neighborhood***

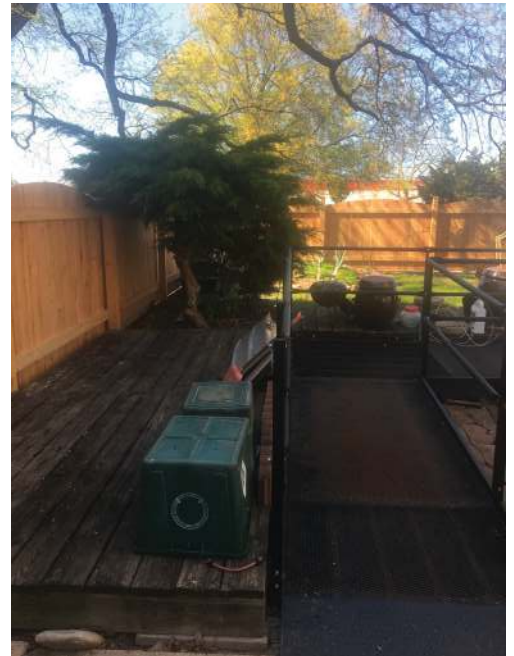
We assisted a senior who was threatened with citations from her city for the condition of her garage and driveway. Much to her delight, and with much appreciation from the city, we addressed both issues.



Repairing and Rebuilding Porches, Stairs and Fences

Replacing fences and rebuilding porches, we dramatically improve many homes. Last fall a volunteer team stained this fence which we had installed the prior spring.

Here are two porches and stairs rebuilt and rehabbed this fiscal year, plus a fence installed and stained:



Impact of Our Work

Thanks to our donors, skilled tradespersons and volunteer teams, in our 2022 fiscal year (7/1/21-6/30/22) we accomplished the following and more:

- New roofs at four homes (one SFH, one garage, two mobile homes)
- Partial (preserving tubs) or total gut and rehabs of six bathrooms in great disrepair
- Replaced flooring and/or installed new carpeting in six homes in addition to above-mentioned bathrooms
- Installed two new boilers, one new furnace, one new water heater, and serviced central air at one home
- Provided five new appliances
- Performed major plumbing repairs in at least six homes
- Tuck-pointing at three homes
- Installed exterior railings and grab bars in at least one home
- Addressed basement leaks and mold at one home
- Painted a food pantry room
- Installed three new fences
- Performed carpentry improvements, including installing new stairs, an exterior door and a porch at one home; major rehab of stairs and a porch at one home
- Repaired concrete exterior stairs, porches and/or walkways at two homes
- Installed new gutters at one home and at one not-for-profit group home
- Painted the exterior and interior of several homes; stained a deck and fence at two homes
- Performed electrical repairs and improvements at two homes
- Tore down a hazardous garage which was an eyesore, and removed the broken concrete driveway at one home
- Performed a major mobile home rehab, including installing new floors, ceiling and walls (in addition to new roof, furnace, hot water heater and bathroom rehab mentioned above)

The **Rebuilding Together North Suburban Chicago** network is composed of donors, house captains, skilled and unskilled volunteers, tradespersons and contractors who make our work possible.

We are grateful to all who support our mission. Donations are greatly appreciated.

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Rebuilding Together

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