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Release: June 28, 2021

LOCAL HABITAT EXPANDING

Now Serving Hanover, King William, and the Towns of Ashland & West Point

MECHANICSVILLE, VA, June 28, 2021 - After 30 years serving Hanover County residents, Hanover Habitat for Humanity is expanding their service area into King William County as part of their vision to ensure everyone has a decent place to live. The organization's new name will be Hanover and King William Habitat for Humanity. Habitat operates three key programs in the community, including an affordable homeownership program, critical home repairs, and a ReStore that operates as a nonprofit home improvement store. Joseph Jones, President of the Board of Directors and VP at PNC Bank, says "We are excited to serve even more individuals and look forward to partnering across the community."

Hanover County spans 469 square miles of countryside and Richmond suburb. After adding King William's 274 square miles of rural community, Hanover and King William Habitat will have 743 square miles, 119,547 residences, and 33,788 households.

King William County has a total population of 16,329. 10.9% of those are living below the federal poverty level. In comparison, Hanover County has a population of 103,218 with 5.8% below the federal poverty level.

Anne Mitchell, retired King William Department of Social Services Director, said, "Over the years I have seen a great need for affordable housing as well as housing repairs in King William. The need for repairs is especially critical for the elderly who are on a fixed income with no other resources."

In Habitat's homeownership program, Hanover and King William Habitat typically serves individuals with an annual household income between \$30,000 and \$63,000 depending on family size. In this program, individuals have steady income, but need access to a more affordable housing option to purchase their home. Teachers, first responders and other critical workers in the county often fall within these income levels and can find it challenging to afford a home at market rate. With volunteer labor and subsidized costs, Habitat helps families achieve financial independence. Hanover and King William

Habitat is currently building their latest Habitat home in Ashland on N. Center Street. Habitat is actively searching for viable, buildable land in both Hanover and King William counties for future homeowners.

Habitat's repair program addresses critical needs to keep homeowners safe in their homes when they are unable to afford repairs without assistance. Repairing owner-occupied homes allows a healthy and stable environment for families. Hanover and King William Habitat typically serves individuals with an annual household income less than \$44,000, depending on family size. Most recent repairs have been for senior citizens living on social security. Habitat expects the demand for programs like this to grow as the number of senior citizens living in the area continues to grow. In Hanover County, the number of households with individuals 65 and older has grown 36% since 2010 and accounts for 18.5% of the population. In King William, 16.3% of the county is age 65 or older. Habitat is taking applications for critical repairs for residents of both Hanover and King William Counties. More information can be found on the organization's website at www.hkwhabitat.org.

Hanover and King William Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Renee Robinson says, "The Hanover community has supported us over the years through volunteering and funding. King William has already shown us that they are just as excited to do the same for their community!"

Find more information on ways to get involved or to inquire about the programs available at Hanover and King William Habitat for Humanity, visit www.hkwhabitat.org or call 804-569-6108.

About Hanover and King William Habitat for Humanity

Hanover and King William Habitat for Humanity was formed in 1990 by a committed group of Hanover citizens who wanted to provide safe and affordable housing in Hanover County. For 30 years, they built homes alongside 72 families who pay an affordable mortgage. Habitat's repair program began in 2017 and addresses critical repairs around the home. In 2021, they expanded to serve the residents in King William County. With our help, and the help of the community, Habitat homeowners achieve the strength, stability and independence they need to build a better life for themselves and their families. Hanover and King William Habitat for Humanity is an Equal Opportunity Housing Agency, and an Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Employer. To learn more about the organization visit www.hkwhabitat.org.

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