

Volunteer Spotlight

The Volunteer Spotlight is here to honor those who have gone above and beyond for Habitat for Humanity-MidOhio! Thank you to each and every individual and group listed below for your amazing dedication and support of Habitat MidOhio. We are a better organization because of you!

In celebration of our current Women Build project, Habitat wants to shine a special light of thanks on... Chris Rotunda and Ellen Dallager!



Christina Rotunda – Women Build Committee Member, Women Build Construction Volunteer

Chris Rotunda began volunteering with Habitat in 2005 on a Women Build project on Lee Avenue. She has been a dedicated Women Build volunteer, committee member, and Habitat supporter ever since! She is currently working on her fourth Habitat house, attends monthly steering committee meetings, and can be spotted at almost every Women Build event. Over the years, Chris says she has, “learned so much. You think you know a lot until you’re out there on site.” You quickly realize there is still a lot to learn.

When asked what keeps her coming back to Habitat, Chris said, “Its good work. You’re doing something good!” She finds herself thinking about how many lives are being changed by the work of Habitat. “It’s not just the homeowners who lives are being changed; it’s the entire neighborhood, and even the volunteers. Sometimes I feel like we get more out of it than they do”. In addition to making a difference in people’s lives, Chris is brought back time and again because of her Women Build friends.. She has built so many strong friendships through the program. “You make relationships with women you may not have ever met in any other way.” Chris enjoys the fact that the volunteers on site come together from all different backgrounds and walks of life.

Outside of Habitat, Chris enjoys cycling, landscaping, and woodworking. She has three dogs that keep her busy. She is happy to announce that one of her dogs is doing well after treatment for lymphoma.

When asked to share any additional thoughts, Chris said, "Always maintain a sense of humor. If people would come out, they would see how great it is!"



Ellen Dallager – Women Build Construction Volunteer

In 2012, Ellen found out about the opportunity to volunteer with Habitat through Women Build. She helped complete a beautiful home on Roselawn Avenue, and has been dedicated to Women Build ever since. She came in with some construction experience, but has learned a lot along the way. She now feels comfortable in a Crew Lead role and truly enjoys teaching other women on site. Ellen also takes time support Women Build at various fundraisers throughout the year including Pint Nights at Fado and the Women Build Golf Scramble.

Ellen enjoys many things about Habitat. She loves the feelings of giving and unselfishness that comes from working on site. She likes going home completely exhausted, knowing that she put in hard days' work for a good cause. Last but not least, Ellen enjoys the camaraderie. The relationship she has with the core Women Build crew keeps her coming back.

Outside of Habitat, Ellen is a professional photographer with her own business, Dallager Photography. She spends her free time, kayaking, golfing, swimming, and volunteering for Meals on Wheels.

Ellen's words of wisdom for future volunteers "don't be afraid. No experience necessary. You will sweat and you will learn!"

