Welcome to Habitat Washington's Cost of Home Campaign Newsletter! If you got this as a forward, I encourage you to subscribe at the link below to make sure you don't miss an edition. If you already subscribe, please share this newsletter and get your friends to subscribe by clicking on the link here - Subscribe to the Habitat Washington Cost of Home Newsletter.

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Habitat in the News

While this last month has seen many projects across the state slowed, stalled, or stopped - the important work of Habitat for Humanity finds a way through. As we at Habitat understand, you can't shelter at home when you don't have a home to shelter in. That is why, during this extraordinary time, we continue to tell our story and, where possible, help our families.

One way Habitat affiliates have been doing that is by sharing their stories with the media. Recently, Habitat for Humanity Spokane was highlighted in this story from 4 News Now (video left). The piece focuses on some of the challenges that they are facing in this moment. As we all know, this are different now and the piece does a good job at illustrating that. However, it ends on a warm note. "We'll get there. We'll get there together" says Janessa Hogan, a homeowner with Habitat for Humanity Spokane.

Another article published recently was seen in the Peninsula Daily News about an awesome partnership between Habitat for Humanity of Clallam County and WeDo Fudge, a drive through fudge and prayer stand in Carlsborg, WA that reopened on Friday, May 1. According to the PDN, "WeDo Fudge will donate 20 percent of all the May drive-through sales to Habitat for Humanity of Clallam County." Sounds like a pretty sweet deal!
Habitat for Humanity affiliates across the state of Washington need your help and support. With stores closed and most worksites closed, your financial support is critical to keeping affiliates doing this important work. If you can, please consider making a contribution. You can find your local affiliate here, or make a contribution to the statewide association here.

Quick Legislative Update

As we mentioned last week, the 2020 legislative session was a success! Of the eight priorities that we saw pass the House and Senate, only one was vetoed - the REET exemption. In his veto statement, the Governor referenced the expected future budget crunch and implied that he had to veto numerous things that he supported. 2021 will be a challenging legislative year, but we hope to build on the success we saw in 2020! Read about the session here.

How You Can Help Today

Please join us in urging Congress to create a Housing Assistance Fund to support families at risk of foreclosure. Even before the pandemic, more than 18 million U.S. households were paying half or more of their income on housing, leaving little or no margin for lost income or increased health costs. Many of those families are now facing additional economic hardship from lost wages or layoffs and are confronted with impossible choices between trying to pay their rent or mortgage and life’s other essentials. Please stand with Habitat for Humanity by urging your member of Congress to sign on here!

Thank you for reading the Cost Of Home Monthly Newsletter. I appreciate you taking the time to read and please let me know if there are things you would like to see in future editions. Also - we are looking for creative names for our newsletter. If you have an idea, please let me know at ryan@habitatwa.org.