

2017 PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES

Habitat for Humanity of Wake County works to increase support for safe, affordable housing in Wake County and throughout North Carolina with an emphasis on affordable homeownership opportunities. We monitor local and state policies related to housing, community development, and nonprofit organizations. In 2017, our policy priorities are:

FUNDING FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Habitat Wake supports the preservation and expansion of resources for affordable housing along the housing continuum with an emphasis on affordable homeownership. Homeownership enables long-term wealth building and promotes healthy, more financially stable futures. Resources that ensure safe, affordable housing options are available in Wake County include federal programs such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investments Partnership programs, as well as housing and community development funding available at the city, county and state levels.

PUBLIC TRANSIT AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Habitat Wake recognizes public transportation as a key component to cultivating a healthy and vibrant community. We support efforts to expand public transit options in order to meet the needs of residents in all areas of the county. Accessibility to public transit results in greater economic opportunities for residents and can reduce transportation costs and commuting time, which are substantial household expenses for working families. Habitat Wake will continue to be involved in the Wake Transit Planning process to ensure that Wake County grows in such a way that those who need access to transit are able to afford housing.

LAND USE AND PLANNING

Habitat Wake recognizes the important role that land use and planning at the city and county levels play in the development of affordable housing. Land use restrictions can impact the location, amount, and type of affordable housing units available, and we advocate for decisions that include affordable housing as part of the development plans. We will continue to work with local governments to help develop policies that result in inclusive, thriving, mixed-income communities, with an emphasis on affordable homeownership opportunities.

Additionally, we support policies that encourage contributions to charitable organizations, which strengthen their ability to achieve their missions. We support Habitat for Humanity International's advocacy on federal and international policies that help to develop more affordable housing and to eliminate poverty housing around the world.

For updates on advocacy activities and action alerts, sign up for our advocacy e-newsletter, Build Louder by going to habitatwake.org/advocacy.

Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.

TOGETHER, WE BUILD.