



Habitat for Humanity of Waukesha & Jefferson Counties Launches First Construction Project in Jefferson County

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Fort Atkinson, WI, July 29th, 2024 – Habitat for Humanity of Waukesha & Jefferson Counties is thrilled to announce its inaugural construction project in Jefferson County, made possible through the generosity of local organizations. Fort HealthCare has generously donated a property located at 700 Schumacher Way in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, while the Fort Atkinson Community Foundation has awarded a substantial grant of \$132,000 to assist with this initial project and provide seed funding to support future operations.

This exciting collaboration aims to provide affordable housing solutions to low-income families in need. The construction project will involve the development of a duplex at the donated property, providing two families with a safe and stable place to call home. Habitat for Humanity is excited to partner with families, volunteers, and local community organizations to create lasting change in the Jefferson County area.

Habitat for Humanity's Chief Executive Officer, Melissa Songco, expressed her gratitude for the support from Fort HealthCare and the Fort Atkinson Community Foundation. "We are thrilled to be embarking on our first construction project in Jefferson County," said Songco. "Thanks to the incredible generosity of Fort HealthCare and the Fort Atkinson Community Foundation, we can make a tangible difference in the lives of local families by providing them with affordable homeownership opportunities."

Michael Anderson, MD, President & CEO of Fort HealthCare, highlighted the organization's commitment to enhancing the community's well-being. "Fort HealthCare recognizes that safe, affordable housing is a crucial foundation for a healthy community, and we are honored to support Habitat for Humanity's first project in Jefferson County," Anderson stated. "We understand the significant impact that housing has on health outcomes and are committed to supporting localized housing initiatives. By investing in this project, we aim to reduce health disparities and improve the overall well-being of our community," added Anderson.

The Fort Atkinson Community Foundation, dedicated to building a stronger and more vibrant Fort Atkinson, also expressed its enthusiasm for the partnership. The Foundation's Board Chairwoman, Sally Koehler, stated, "We are all aware of the need for more affordable housing in our area. Habitat for Humanity of Waukesha County has a proven and impressive track record of success in building affordable homes in Waukesha County. We are excited to have them here, investing in our community and partnering with us toward our vision of A Better Fort Atkinson."

Habitat for Humanity[®] of Waukesha & Jefferson Counties



Proposed renderings of the duplex generously provided by AG Architecture are seen here. These renderings offer a glimpse into the vision and design of the new homes, showcasing a modern and welcoming environment for future residents.

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About Fort HealthCare

Fort HealthCare is committed to improving the health and well-being of our communities, with a vision to be the healthiest community in Wisconsin. As the leading HealthCare provider in the region, it is our goal to reach as many members of the community as possible with health and wellness messages, providing tools and resources to help individuals improve their health and quality of life while collaborating with several partners to positively improve the population's health overall on a long-term basis. Please visit [FortHealthCare.com](https://www.forthhealthcare.com) for more information.

About Fort Atkinson Community Foundation

For over 50 years, the Fort Atkinson Community Foundation has worked with generous donors to pool charitable resources to make a difference in the Fort Atkinson community. Since 1973, the Foundation has distributed over \$24.3 million in grants and scholarships, enhancing the community's quality of life, fostering success for local nonprofit organizations, and investing in their young people.

About Habitat for Humanity of Waukesha & Jefferson Counties

Since 1989, Habitat for Humanity of Waukesha & Jefferson Counties has been the leading provider of affordable homeownership opportunities in Waukesha County and builds affordable homes for families who cannot purchase a home through traditional methods. In October 2023, the organization expanded into Jefferson County. Homeowners earn an affordable mortgage and obtain self-sufficiency while learning valuable skills. They contribute 200 hours of sweat equity (per adult) to constructing their homes, which serves as their down payment. Habitat Waukesha is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Equal Housing Lender. More information is available at [habitatwjc.org](https://www.habitatwjc.org).