



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact:  
Jessica Bauer-Phipps  
262-309-6025 x207  
jessica@habitatwaukesha.org

**House gets a facelift, family gets a home**  
*Habitat for Humanity dedicates home in Waukesha*

**Waukesha, Wis.** (June 24, 2017) - Habitat for Humanity of Waukesha County held a ribbon cutting and home dedication today at 337 Wilson Ave in Waukesha. The new homeowners, Josh and Deb Smith, received the keys to their new home at the ceremony attended by more than 50 people, including Habitat volunteers and staff, as well as public officials.

"This is a home, it's not just a house anymore," said Paul Farrow, Waukesha County Executive. Farrow welcomed the family to the community, saying that Waukesha is "an awesome place to live and raise a family."

"Habitat for Humanity does amazing work to help families, such as your own, get a step up," said State Representative Scott Allen in a letter read to the family at the dedication.

"This is what we do. We put families in homes," said Diane McGeen, executive director for Habitat Waukesha.

The 99-year old house was rehabbed by Josh and Deb alongside Habitat crew and more than 75 volunteers. The outside received a face-lift with new siding, windows and doors, and the inside was completely renovated, including moving a staircase to add a bedroom and bathroom on the second floor.

"This dream of ours would not have been possible without all you of you," Josh said to the assembled group.

Immediately following the dedication, attendees were invited to tour the home.

"We're just thrilled with how it turned out," said Kevin Raines, who sold the house to Habitat Waukesha in January 2016. Raines' family had lived in the home for five generations.

In May, Habitat Waukesha started construction on two homes on White Rock Avenue. Over the next few years, the organization will build or rehab a minimum of ten homes on the street near Frame Park. Habitat Waukesha dedicated a side by side condo on Bethesda Court to two families in February and will dedicate two more homes on Ryan Street in July.

**About Habitat for Humanity of Waukesha County**

Since 1989, Habitat for Humanity of Waukesha County has addressed the lack of affordable housing in our area by providing decent homes with an affordable mortgage to help lower-income families obtain self-sufficiency and break the cycle of poverty. Habitat partner families help build their home alongside volunteers and make regular mortgage payments. Through financial support, volunteering or adding a voice to support affordable housing, you can help families achieve the strength, stability and self-reliance they need to build better lives for themselves. Through shelter, we empower. To learn more, please visit [www.habitatwaukesha.org](http://www.habitatwaukesha.org).

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Habitat for Humanity of Waukesha County  
2020 Springdale Road  
Waukesha, WI 53186

262-309-6025  
[info@habitatwaukesha.org](mailto:info@habitatwaukesha.org)  
[www.habitatwaukesha.org](http://www.habitatwaukesha.org)