



1988-2023 Celebrating 35 years of repairing homes and restoring hope!

THIS IS OUR WHY

Rainbows are one of the most admired meteorological phenomena across the globe. A rainbow appears when sunlight and atmospheric conditions are just right, and the viewer's position is just right to see it. We see rainbows because of the geometry of raindrops. When the sun shines from behind us into the rain, incident rays of light enter the droplet and are refracted inwards. They are reflected from the back surface of the raindrop, and refracted again as they exit the raindrop and return to our eyes. Refraction is responsible for splitting the sunlight into its component colors. Science is very good at explaining *how* natural phenomena occurs, but is often lacking an explanation as to *why* they occur.

So, why do rainbows exist? The answer to this question takes us back over 4,000 years to sometime around 2,348 BC. According to ancient scriptures, "The LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time." (Gen 6:5) This grieved God deeply, so he cleansed the His creation with a devastating flood sparing only Noah, his wife and their three sons and wives along with a diverse cadre of animals that would ultimately repopulate the earth. After God stopped the rains, he created the first recorded rainbow in history saying: "I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. I will remember my

covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life." You can read all about this in Genesis 6 and you will understand why rainbows exist.

How? and Why? The word "How" is a question used to know the manner in which something has happened, whereas "Why" is asked to find out the reason. For example: 'How did you get here?' I took the bus. 'Why did you come here?' Because I wanted to see you. The deeper meaning is always found in the "Why."

Since its inception in 1988, Good Works staff and volunteers have repaired over 1,100 substandard homes. Repairing homes for low-income residents of Chester County is an honorable mission,

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. REVELATION 3:20

but Good Works has always been so much more than simply replacing roofs and windows. The Good Works home repair model is uniquely different from that offered by a contractor, handyman, or even other non-profit organizations.

When a homeowner applies for assistance, they will typically identify a few urgent projects needed in their home. Good Works response to that request is to conduct a total home inspection. Our goal is to identify everything needed to ensure the



home is warm, safe, dry and healthy and to perform the work at no cost to the homeowner. The comprehensive project list often takes 12-18 months to complete and it all starts with them simply opening the door of their home to our staff and volunteers. Why does Good Works embrace this more extensive and expensive home repair model? We respond this way because it illuminates the deeper purpose of our mission.

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**2022
METRICS**



**162
FAMILIES
ASSISTED**



**7,725
FAITH
TOUCHES**



repairing homes and restoring hope

Welcome New Ambassador Affiliates

When the Good Works Replication Committee envisioned expanding operations into other communities of need nationwide, it was envisioned as a network of loosely federated affiliates bearing the Good Works name and operating the Good Works way, i.e. home repair as ministry. But, God had a different idea and He connected us with the Coalition for Home Repair. The Coalition is a national association of non-profit home repair organizations. Few people realize that there are over 3,000 home repair non-profit organizations in the United States, but few if any have ministry initiatives as vibrant as our Good Works Ambassador program. After launching the Coalition's Faith Affinity Group back in 2019, Good Works introduced the Ambassador Ministry Affiliate program to encourage faith based non-profits to launch their own Ambassador ministries. Organizations that sign up receive a year's worth of Bibles, tracts, training and support in exchange for sharing what they are doing and the outcomes. Our first two Ambassador Program Affiliates are the Nehemiah Project Community Development Corporation of Fairburn, GA and Alabama Rural Ministries of Auburn, AL.

Good Works Vision: Repairing homes and restoring hope nationwide

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Our approach is about relationships, not simply home remodeling. We recognize that the situations many of our homeowners face are too often a result of broken relationships. So, workday after workday, the bond between the residents we serve grows deeper and more intimate. We often work together, laugh together, pray together and break bread together. It is no wonder that our post home completion surveys regularly cite the relationships built with our volunteers as the greatest impact. But, the "why" is even deeper and more

The Nehemiah Project Community Development Corporation (NPCDC) was established in 2002 as a community outreach to South Fulton County, Clayton County and the City of Atlanta, Georgia. Its mission is to improve quality of life through assisting and empowering individuals in the areas of housing, health, economic development and education. Their vision is to become an unprecedented model in Fulton County, centered on revitalization through a holistic and empowering approach. That's why Ingrid Thompson, Nehemiah Project Executive Director, reached out to Good Works after a presentation at the Coalition for Home Repair Reframe Conference. "After attending one of the sessions led by Good Works, I felt like the Lord wanted Nehemiah Project to become an Affiliate in order to be more effective in sharing God's love and the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the families we serve. We have had several opportunities to witness to, pray for and share God's love with many of our clients. However, we had not been intentional in making this a planned priority. Good Works provided us with the tools needed to do just that by becoming an Ambassador Affiliate."

Alabama Rural Ministry coordinates home repair efforts and children's day

profound than this. Our relational home repair model is a metaphor for what Christ offers to each of us. Jesus tells us that He stands at the door and knocks, and that when we open the door of our heart to Him, He will enter and dine with us (Rev 3:20). He takes care of everything. Good Works can repair someone's home, but only Jesus can repair someone's heart. So, our mission is to ensure that everyone on every workday comes to know and experience the saving grace of Jesus Christ. This is our Why!



camps in rural areas of Alabama. Its mission is to discover, develop and deploy spiritual leaders who, as disciples of Jesus Christ, minister with under-resourced communities to create sustainable homes, strengthen families, and build strategic community partnerships for the glory of God. According to Anthony Cook, ARM Housing Director, "We believe Christ's love must be expressed in action to people in need." Anthony also attended the Coalition's Reframe Conference where he felt, "a genuine spirit and shared passion to spread the Word of God and reach others through real ministry that extends beyond church walls and buildings." After learning more about Good Works Ambassador program, he too committed to become an Affiliate. "This will give us the tools we need to meet our goals at ARM to discover, develop and then deploy Ambassadors for Christ throughout our local communities. ARM is a hands on ministry; responding to people through Christian love with an emphasis in home repair and children's ministry. it's all about building the family!"

Need Prayer?

We believe in the power of prayer. If you need prayer for anything, press the prayer button on the Good Works homepage, and our prayer warriors will lift your concerns up to God.

pray



Your Truck has Arrived!

In July 2021, Good Works' Repair Supervisor Joe Lisowski received some bad news. His 2002 GMC could no longer pass its annual vehicle safety inspection. Good Works launched a new truck fund raising campaign in 2022 which raised \$59,000 from some very generous donors. However, finding a new truck in the wake of the pandemic presented quite a challenge. New trucks were unavailable and late model used vehicles were selling at a premium, so Joe was forced to wait until the new year to even place an order. Local dealers did not have 2023's on their lots and could not even commit to getting one. D'Ambrosio Auto Group accepted Good Works deposit and suggested that it might be possible to have one by June 2023. With no other options, the Good Works team would need to continue transferring trucks around the county for at least another six months. But, on February 7, Joe received a phone call. "Your truck has arrived!" said the salesman in amazement, "I have never seen anything like this in all my years. Yours was the only truck that delivered. We don't expect any others until summer at the soonest." Although the dealership didn't understand how we could get a truck five months earlier than its expected delivery date, we do. God knew what we needed, when we needed it and He provided just as He always does.

"I have never seen anything like this in all my years."

We Need More Than Carpenters



Good Works volunteers do so much more than repair homes. Yes, we always need workday volunteers and leaders, but we also need Ambassadors, Lunch Providers, and Administrative Volunteers. Learn more at: goodworksinc.org/volunteer

Well Done Good and Faithful Servants

Volunteers are the lifeblood of Good Works and the men and women who lead our volunteers are nothing short of spectacular. Our workday volunteer leaders might serve as Operations or Ambassador Directors, Work Crew Leaders, Technical Advisors, Ambassadors, Material Coordinators, Lunch Providers and more. Each leader plays a significant role on their assigned workday and Good Works ability to repair homes and restore hope rests squarely on their shoulders. In appreciation, we recognize our leaders after completing five years of service and then again every five years afterward.

This year we recognize and thank:

VOLUNTEER LEADERS

5 YEAR

Rich Coster
Sally Maday
Jim Powers
Nancy Russell
Jo-Ella Santori
Chaucer Tang
Russ Weiser

10 YEAR

Marsha Menendez
Frank Newby
Jeff Speaker

15 YEAR

Garry Huddell
Mike McDonald
Scott Cornell

20 YEAR

Gerry Hoekzema
Gail Hoekzema

25 YEAR+

Lois Schmidt

30 YEAR+

Joe Lisowski
Gary Schmidt

STAFF

5 YEAR

Bob Bryan

10 YEAR

Kim Paul

20 YEAR

Denise Jordan

If you would like to learn more about becoming a Good Works volunteer leader, please contact Jo-Ella at volunteer@goodworksinc.org.



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Good Works Inc.
P.O. Box 1441, Coatesville, PA 19320
610.383.6311
goodworksinc.org

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I Still Can't Believe This is My House

When Lacey called Good Works she had nowhere else to go. Her home was crumbling down around her. Recommended by her grandmother who had received Good Works assistance, Lacey reached out and her life and home were transformed.

Experience her story at:
goodworksinc.org/about-us/videos



TOOL CONTEST

Win a Good Works ball cap!

What is the purpose of this tool? Respond at goodworksinc.org/toolcontest. The winner will be drawn from all correct answers received by June 1, 2023.



Homeowner Liaison

Laurie Meyer heard about Good Works when Bob Beggs, Executive Director spoke at her church in Exton, PA. Bob had described the need for Ambassadors and volunteers who could assist homeowners with connecting to support services beyond those Good Works provides. Laurie recognized that her skills and experience in social work were a natural fit. "I love to come alongside people to help them achieve independence and experience the love of Christ," she shared. Since beginning work at the end of last year, Laurie has blessed multiple Good Works homeowners with her knowledge, experience and compassion.



Ways to Financially Partner With Us

To help you help us, we have some convenient options that can be used to send donations to Good Works through:

- Direct deposit from your credit card or bank
- Our website: goodworksinc.org
- Donation of appreciated stocks
- Check to see if your company has a matching gift program

Please contact our Development Director at 610.383.7240 for more information.

We continue to offer the following opportunities to give via:

- United Way of Chester County (simply designate to Good Works)
- United Way of Southeastern PA (code number 10255)
- Remember Good Works in your Estate plans.



Give online at:
goodworksinc.org/donations

The cost to complete a home increased **27% in 2022!**



PARTNER SUPPORT

Some helpful information to keep in mind if you need the services of a good local business... try using a company that supports Good Works!

Visit goodworksinc.org and look for companies under the "Partners" tab.