



A Birthday to Remember

When the tree came down on Sandy's mobile home on the day after the New Year, it not only crushed her roof, it crushed her spirit. Already mourning the passing of her brother during the holidays, the last thing she needed was another disaster. Sandy remembers how the winter wind was buffeting her mobile home, when she heard a loud crack followed by the sickening sound of broken metal, wood and glass. Her garden shed was crushed, which absorbed a portion of the energy, but not enough to stop the limbs of the tree from piercing her roof, crushing the rafters, and smashing the window of her bedroom. "I could see the sky through my ceiling and the branches were in my bed." Had she been in the bedroom at the time, this story could have ended far more tragically. When municipal Emergency Services arrived, it was clear that Sandy could not remain in her home. Sandy is 76 years old and the last thing she needed to hear was that her home was now "unfit for human occupancy."

Thankfully, Sandy's caregiver Brianna came to her rescue and helped her to get assistance from the Red Cross and the Chester County Department of Aging. They put her up in a local hotel but Sandy had no idea if or when she would ever be able to return home or to see her pet cats again. As it turns out, Brianna had helped Sandy apply for Good Works a year ago and some preparatory work had begun on her home last August. When the call

came into Good Works from Emergency Services on January 10th, it was to advise us that the home would be condemned unless we were able to remove the tree, repair the damaged roof and ensure the security of the home on its support piers. Repair Supervisor, Joe Lisowski inspected the situation and collaborated with municipal authorities. He had his staff and volunteer teams immediately begin the work of removing the tree from atop the home, rebuilding the rafters, installing a new metal roof and adding insulation, fresh drywall and new laminate flooring. An upgraded electrical panel was installed and other repairs completed to ensure the home was safe for Sandy's return.

Sandy's 77th birthday occurred on Monday of the last week of February. Brianna visited her at the hotel and brought her some balloons, small gifts and good news. Sandy's home had just that day passed its technical and occupancy inspection and she would be moving back home that very week. On Thursday, February 29th, Sandy came home. Greeted by her cats, Brianna and members of the Good Works staff,



she was able to witness for the first time all the repairs that enabled her to reclaim her home. The look on Sandy's face was priceless as she entered her renovated bedroom. "It's beautiful," she declared as she gazed out the new window that had previously been shattered by the tree, "I just love it." Everyone shared some "Happy Birthday and Welcome Home Sandy" cake and talked about how good it is to be home. Good Works is committed to several other major additional upgrades to Sandy's home including a renovation of her bathroom to install a walk-in shower and other accommodations to improve accessibility and safety. Sandy's extensive home repairs have been funded by the Chester County Whole Home Repairs program.

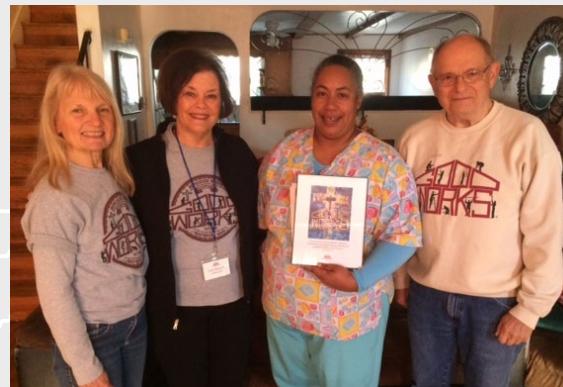
"I could see the sky through my ceiling and the branches were in my bed."



repairing homes and restoring hope

So Much More...

*“And I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
“Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”
Then I said, “Here I am! Send me.” Isaiah 6:8*



We often hear that Good Works is “so much more” than home repair. There is no doubt, that Good Works has an enviable reputation of making homes warm, safe and dry for low-income families in Chester County, but how those repairs are delivered makes us unique. Good Works always performs a total home inspection, even though most homeowners only request repairs for one or two critical needs. That inspection, more often than not, leads to an exhaustive list of projects needed to ensure the home is warm, safe, dry and healthy. We complete them all at no cost to the homeowner, thanks to the talent of our volunteers and the generosity of our donors. But if all we did was repair homes, we would be little more than free contractors or well-meaning DIYers. Good Works is so much more than that! We recognize that the poverty our homeowners experience is not due solely to a lack of financial resources, or even a run-down house. More often, it is a result of broken relationships and a lack of hope that things will ever change. And, don't miss this...it is not only our homeowners that struggle with this poverty...it can affect anyone of us, at any time.

Since Good Works' mission is to repair homes and restore hope, our response to poverty is a strategic two-pronged approach. In parallel with the physical renovations, Good Works Ambassadors focus on repairing broken emotional and spiritual relationships. Ambassadors are a special breed of volunteers who put

their faith into action by sharing the hope, joy and dignity that can only genuinely come from a personal relationship with Christ. Motivated to honor God, Ambassadors cultivate friendships, provide encouragement and share a kind of hope that only comes from the author of hope – Jesus Christ.

A Good Works workday can be a chaotic experience for a homeowner and their families. Their greatest asset — their home — can be turned upside down as volunteers embark on the demolition and rebuilding process. It takes time and typically extends over 12-18 workdays. It can be overwhelming, but the Ambassadors provide much needed stability, comfort and hope in the midst of the storm. Ambassadors seek to understand where relationships are broken and employ prayer and biblical wisdom to restore people to a right relationship with themselves, with others and with God. Once the repairs are completed, the home dedicated, and after the repair volunteers have moved on to another project, the relationship between Good Works and the homeowner continues through our Beyond the Workday Ambassador program.

The significant impact made by our Ambassadors is evident from the comments received from thankful homeowners and the Faith metrics reported monthly, but the impact on our Ambassador's lives is equally impressive.

“If I didn't show up on Saturday morning, I would have missed the blessing of a front row seat of God working in a mighty way. This is too good to miss. I can't wait for what God will do next month!”

“I don't have all the answers and at times I feel overwhelmed, but I remember God has all the answers. We study the Bible and pray for answers together. Both of our faiths are growing.”

“Anne's only family is her dog. She is so excited to see me. We read the monthly scripture message each month and discuss it. The next workday can't come soon enough!”

Deb Damon, Good Works Outreach Director, who oversees the Ambassador program says it this way, “As an Ambassador, your mission is bigger than you. It's a God-sized mission that He calls people to be His hands and His feet to whomever crosses your path. God's got an amazing plan...don't miss out!”

God has “so much more” for each of us and DIY home repair experience isn't necessary. Imagine the impact God could have in your life and the life of others if you would become a volunteer Ambassador. Imagine ten times that impact if you and nine friends from your church combined forces once a month to become a Good Works Ambassador Partner Church. God doesn't call the equipped, He equips the called. Good Works provides the training, the tools and the opportunity to respond to God's command to “Go Ye” and you can be assured that the impact of a decision to commit only one day a month will reap eternal dividends that far exceed your effort and expectations. Learn more at: www.goodworksinc.org/ambassador

2023
METRICS



174
FAMILIES
ASSISTED



10,284
FAITH
TOUCHES

Only God

Good Works 35th anniversary year in 2023 was one of gratitude, trepidation and anticipation. The gratitude was for all that God accomplished through Good Works over the previous 35 years. The trepidation came as we took stock of our financial situation in January 2023. Having received the discouraging word that we had not been chosen for a Federal Home Loan Bank grant for 2023 due to changes in their award criteria, the outlook for our anniversary year looked bleak at best. We prepared for the worst, but began praying with anticipation for the best. And true to form, God responded. Hearing of the potential for a new Chester County program, Good

Works partnered with two other non-profit home repair agencies; Good Neighbors of Kennett Square and Habitat for Humanity of Chester County to form the Whole Home Repairs Program (WHRP) Coalition. The WHRP Coalition proposal found favor with the county Department of Community Development resulting in a lucrative contract award with a potential to complete critical repairs for over 150 homes over the next 3 years. Add to that, the Federal Home Loan Bank responded favorably to our 2024 proposal and awarded an Affordable Housing Program grant in December to fund work on another 18 homes! God provided in a manner that no one could have foreseen. Prayer answered! Trepidation crushed! Anticipation renewed! Gratitude overwhelming!



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 5 years of service and then again every 5 years afterward.

This year we recognize and thank:

VOLUNTEER LEADERS

5 YEAR

Bill Holman
Hob Pusey
Marty Smith
Denny Scheffler

10 YEAR

Jim & Vonny Chambers
Annette Glaudel
Ray Mazza

15 YEAR

Jim Mulry

25 YEAR

Linda Rummel

30 YEAR

Russ Herrick
Lois Schmidt

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



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, 2024.

Need Prayer?

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



repairing homes and restoring hope



Leah Waldeyer,
Administrative
Assistant



David Brubaker,
Repair Technician



Jim Scott,
WHRP Program
Manager



Sue Moore,
Development
Director

New Faces at Good Works

Good Works is pleased to introduce five new members of the Good Works team. Each brings a wealth of experience and new ideas to the ministry.



Christine Miller,
Accounting Manager,
The Quantify Group

*Good Works Vision:
Repairing homes and restoring hope nationwide*



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DAVID BOWMAN (SECRETARY)

DAVE EVANS (TREASURER)

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NORA MCEVOY

MATT REDDING

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JIM SCOTT

SCOTT SHELLHAMER

JACKIE SWEENEY

BETTY TRAYER (PRESIDENT)

ANNE-MARIE WALTERS

NORM ALEXANDER (EMERITUS)

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JO-ELLA SANTORI VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

JIM SCOTT WHRP PROGRAM MANAGER

LEAH WALDEYER ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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:

- Mail check to:
Good Works, PO Box 1441,
Coatesville, PA 19320
- Visit our website:
www.goodworksinc.org/donations
- One-time or Circle of Faith options
- Direct deposit from your credit card or bank
- Donation of appreciated stocks
- Does your employer offer a matching gift program?

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](http://goodworksinc.org/donations)

Please contact our Development Director at 610.383.7240 for more information.



**Inflation has raised the
average cost to complete
a home to almost \$15,000!**

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.