

## Rebuilding Together Saratoga County 2014 Annual Report

*Thank you to all of our sponsors and volunteers for supporting our efforts to help low-income homeowners in Saratoga County. With your support, we were able to help 108 families live in safer and healthier homes. Helping our neighbors in need binds us all together by our commitment, compassion and appreciation of each other's contributions. When strangers act like neighbors, communities become stronger. Thank you for helping to build a strong community.*

~Michelle Larkin, Executive Director Rebuilding Together Saratoga County

The mission of Rebuilding Together Saratoga County is to bring volunteers and communities together to improve the homes and lives of low-income homeowners. With the support of our many partners and volunteers, we repaired 108 homes and improved 8 community spaces, impacting the lives of nearly 9,000 people in 2014. We are proud to be **Neighbors Helping Neighbors** live independently in safe and healthy homes.

*One of the homeowners we helped was a victim of domestic violence who fled her home with her son to escape her abuser. She purchased a mobile home in an unfamiliar area that she planned to fix up, but she quickly realized that the work needed to make the home livable was far beyond her resources. She and her son stayed with friends and family, even sleeping in their car at points, to survive last winter.*



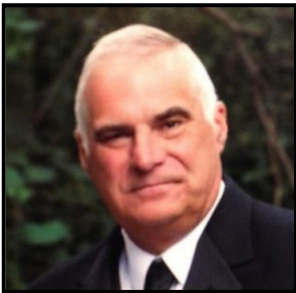
*She writes, "I was living like I was homeless, yet I owned a home and paid lot rent every month. Once Rebuilding Together Saratoga stepped in to help, I finally felt some relief. I couldn't believe how quickly things were happening. The hard work and dedication of the volunteers and staff greatly exceeds anything I could've imagined. I can't thank you all enough for everything you have done as a community to help make my house a home."*



**Who We Are:** Rebuilding Together Saratoga County is part of the National Rebuilding Together organization, which began in 1988 and currently has 166 affiliates across the county working to preserve affordable homeownership and revitalize communities in need.

Founded in 2003 by Michelle and Dan Larkin with the support of the Saratoga community, Rebuilding Together Saratoga County has renovated and revitalized 667 homes and 65 nonprofit centers with the help of more than 6,500 volunteers who have dedicated more than 41,500 hours of their time, bringing hope and renewed pride to homeowners in need throughout Saratoga County.

**What We Do:** When qualified homeowners are not capable of making needed repairs, Rebuilding Together Saratoga County will coordinate the volunteers, skilled labor, tools and supplies necessary to fix the homes. These services are provided at no cost to the homeowner. We also work to rehabilitate properties that house qualifying nonprofit organizations serving our community. We focus our efforts on older adults, individuals living with disabilities, active and retired members of the armed services, and families with children, tailoring services to meet the needs of each individual homeowner. We work year-round to preserve affordable homeownership and ensure that low-income homeowners in our community can live independently in safe and healthy homes.



*On June 22nd, Mike Shpur fell and suffered a severe spinal cord injury. He is now a quadriplegic. Mike and Cindy's home was not wheelchair accessible, but thanks to the hard work and generosity of many, we were able to modify their home so Mike will be able to shower and move within the home in his wheelchair.*

*Mike and Cindy are so grateful for the help and support of the Saratoga community. They said, "We feel like an angel landed on our shoulder when your organization stepped in. Everyone was truly amazing and generous with their time. The bathroom, bedroom and the floors look beautiful. Mike will have a very nice bedroom. Thank you for the ramp and everything you did. We will never forget your generosity."*

**Who We Help:** Last year, we repaired 108 homes, serving 188 people in need and investing a market value of more than \$500,000 into the Saratoga County community. We partnered with more than 1,000 volunteers who gave nearly 5,500 of their time. On average, the families we helped have lived in their homes for over 20 years, and their average income was \$23,209, which is less than 30% of the Area Median Income (considered extremely low-income). 111 of the people we served are living with a disability, and their average age is approximately 60 years old.



## In 2014, together we....

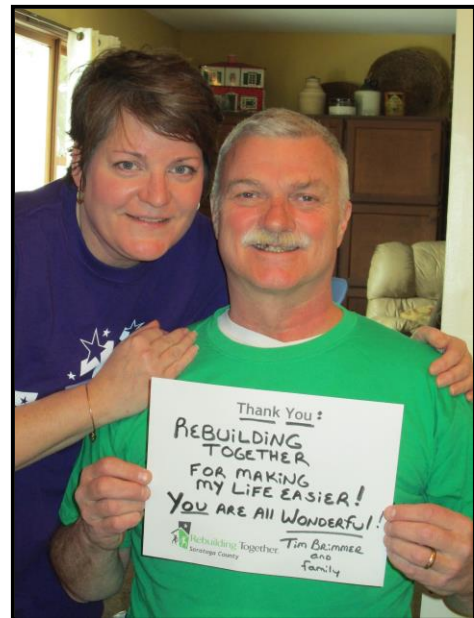
- Helped more homeowners in need than ever before, completing a total of 108 home repair projects along with 8 community space projects-a total of 116 projects.
- Expanded our staff and hired Jeff McLellan, Project Manager; Kathleen Stanko, Administrative Assistant; and Michaela Brown, PR and Grants Advisor.
- Welcomed two new board members, E.J. Harkins and JR George and said goodbye to long-time Board members and volunteers Paula Lomasney and Lisa Mitzen.
- Developed new partnerships with GE Foundation, Veteran's Business Council, AIM Services, Trinity United Methodist Church, Wells Fargo Advisors, Saratoga Honda, and Pioneer Bank.
- Continued and expanded our partnerships with sponsors who have supported us for more than 10 years, including Allerdice, Stewart's Shops, Roohan Realty, Curtis Lumber, Adirondack Trust Bank, Key Bank, Saratoga Builders Association, and Realty USA.
- Were awarded our largest grant to date.
- Successfully completed our first community cleanup day at the Royal Rhino mobile home park.
- Benefited from another hugely successful Saratoga Showcase of Homes (include how much we received?).
- Hosted two new volunteer orientation sessions.
- Established a safety kit program with the generous support of Allerdice that ensures all homeowners receive basic health and safety improvements at the first home preview.
- Recognized two Volunteers of the Year, John Maxam and Jack Grassmann!
- Hosted another successful annual dinner, raising nearly \$80,000 to help homeowners in need!
- Continued to partner with our incredible Weekday Warriors, who volunteer regularly (often weekly or bi-weekly!) basis to help homeowners in need!



With your support, in 2015 we will....

- Hire another part-time Project Manager.
- Welcome new Board member Tammy Crawford of D.A. Collins.
- Expand our office space, thanks to the generous support of the Chazen Company and D.A. Collins.
- Launch a home maintenance workshop for homeowners.
- Implement a new electronic tool for home previews, which will help standardize the process and prioritize safety and health issues.
- Expand our volunteer training.
- Expand our partnerships with mobile home parks for community cleanup days.
- Continue our partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Northern Saratoga, Warren and Washington counties and the City of Saratoga Springs to construct a new home for a low-income family in Saratoga Springs.

*Tim has Multiple Sclerosis and has struggled with being able to get in and out of his home and navigating the home safely and independently due to the layout. With assistance of a grant from NYS Homes and Community Renewal, we installed two stair lifts, as well as completed interior home repairs and modifications. Tim and Amy said, “Thank you Rebuilding Together for making my life easier! You are all wonderful!” It has been a joy to assist this family, and we are happy that Tim will be able to live more comfortably, independently and safely in his home.*





**Rebuilding Together Saratoga County 2014 Donors and Sponsors**

**\$30,000 and above**

Saratoga Builders Association

**\$15,000**

South Glens Falls Marathon Dance

**\$10,000**

Ianniello Anderson, P.C.

Anonymous

City of Saratoga Springs CDBG Grant

Saratoga Casino and Raceway

Global Foundries-Town of Malta Foundation

Lowe's

**\$7,500 - \$9,999**

Marjorie Rockwell Fund for the Disabled of the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region

**\$5,000 - \$7,499**

J.M. McDonald Foundation

Ron & Michele Riggi

Vince & Patti Riggi

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Fingerpaint

Saratoga Eagle

Alfred Z. Solomon Charitable Foundation

Informz

Home Depot

**\$2,500 - \$4,999**

Gilbane Building Co

Allerdice Building Supply

Linda G. Toohey Donor Advised Fund of The Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region

DA Collins Construction Co.

Roohan Realty

Saratoga National Bank and Trust Co

The Adirondack Trust Co.

Curtis Lumber



**Stewart's Shops  
\$1,000 - \$2,499**

Key Bank Foundation, SEFCU Foundation, Saratoga Springs Rotary Club, Soroptimist International, Trustco Bank, The Bank of NY Mellon, Buckmaster DeWolf and Rosemary Ratcliff, Kodiak Construction, Cecy Krajewski, Inge Jacobs, Ed and Lisa Mitzen, St. Joseph's Church, St. Paul's Mission, Standish Family Fund of the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region, Troy Savings Bank Charitable Foundation, Capital Fund of Saratoga County, Inc., Saratoga Casino and Raceway Foundation, Adirondack Trust Community Foundation, Bonacio Construction, State Employees Federated Appeal, Stone Industries, Wallerstein Foundation

**\$500 - \$999**

Presbyterian New England Congregational Church, Mobile Home Solutions, George and Barbara Mitchell, Maureen Nelson, Quakers Springs Methodist Church, Ayco Comp LP, Hudson Road Runners Mohawk Club, Wells Fargo Advisors, United Methodist Church of Saratoga Springs, Claudia and Kevin Bright, Anne Cinquemani and Paula Lomasney, Dave and Christine Blair, Molly and Ed Larkin, George and Julie VanDeusen, Lois Hunt, Split Rock Real Estate LLC, WDR CPA and Business Advisors, Elizabeth and John Collins, Circus Café, Realty USA, Pioneer Bank, Kelleher and Herkenham, Ken and Maureen Rice, AIM Services, ARCH Insurance, McKesson Foundation, All-Type Professional Door Service, Quaker Springs Methodist Church, Lauren Marr-Wood and David Wood, David and Connie Wood, Pom and Gene Fine, Balzer Tuck Architecture PLLC, Michaela and Damon Brown, Rick and Jean Gaylord, Saratoga Honda, Patrick and Christine O'Shea, The Veteran's Business Council

**\$250 - \$499**

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**\$25 - \$249**

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