January 12, 2021

Dear Amazing Habitat Family, please see below a message sent to you on behalf of our President and CEO, Mr. Jason Barlow

To all our faithful volunteers and sponsors*,*

*We hope this update finds you well and staying safe. Like many of you, we are keeping our eyes on the rising number of COVID-19 cases in Arizona and are praying for better days ahead.  In the meantime, COVID has continued to peak and we are seeing how we can best prioritize your safety by taking extra precautions.*

***Volunteer Guideline Update***

*As of January 1, 2021, please know that we are temporarily suspending new volunteers from our work sites and require that returning volunteers are those who have previously volunteered on a Habitat build site for a minimum of 8 hours within the past two years.  By utilizing only those who are already familiar with our work and processes, i.e., our frequent or experienced volunteers, we hope to do our part in limiting the spread of COVID 19.  We will be glad to work closely with each group coordinator or Volunteer House Leader in examining our previous volunteer records to determine which returning volunteers we can welcome on our build sites.*

***Returning to a Build Site***

*In regards to build site safety, we are continuing to follow the guidelines recommended by the CDC and those from Habitat International. To view those safety precautions please see our*[*COVID-19 Safety Measures*](https://habitatcaz.volunteerhub.com/go/u/dm6)*. We continue to ask that if you or someone who is in close proximity with you begin to feel sick, experience any symptoms, are suspected of exposure to COVID-19, or are awaiting a recent COVID-19 test result, to please stay home as to not expose any additional staff, volunteers, or homeowners.*

*Additionally, we would like to provide clarification on the number of volunteers allowed per build site below. Please know that moving forward,****all volunteers must pre-register on Volunteer HUB****. Those that do not pre-register**online will no longer be able to come out in efforts of keeping the most accurate headcount on our build sites. For any Leaders needing assistance with Volunteer HUB, please reach out to*[*Luze@habitatcaz.org*](mailto:Luze@habitatcaz.org)

**Exterior Tasks:**

2 volunteers from Habitat partner family

5 volunteer Team/House Leaders

8 verified returning volunteers

**Interior Tasks:**

2 volunteers from Habitat partner family

3 volunteer Team/House Leaders

5 verified returning volunteers

***Looking to the Future***

*We will continue to monitor and evaluate the situation and will let you know as soon as the restrictions have been lifted. We want to apologize in advance for any inconvenience and also want to thank you for your continued patience and flexibility as we navigate this season together.*

*We are thankful to be on a mission with each and every one of you and look forward to when we can bring large groups of volunteers together again to build homes, communities, and hope. We’ve only been able to serve families in the Valley for 35 years because of your loyalty and passion for our mission – and for that, we are eternally grateful.*

*Please take good care of yourselves and your families and have a safe and joyful new year.*

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