

# Habitat for Humanity

## PRE-ORIENTATION PROGRAM

2011



## About Habitat for Humanity



JHU Habitat members taking part in a Spring Break worktrip in Raleigh, North Carolina

Habitat for Humanity is an international organization that has built and rehabilitated more than 200,000 homes since its founding in 1976. It has touched more than 3,000 communities worldwide and has sheltered more than 1,000,000 people with the help of volunteer labor as well as monetary and material donations. Contrary to popular belief, *Habitat is not a giveaway program*. Homeowner families are responsible for down payments and monthly mortgage payments. These payments are only slightly below those associated with typical bank loans since Habitat houses are sold to partner families at zero profit.

In addition to payments, homeowners must invest hundreds of hours of labor, or “sweat equity,” into building their own as well as other Habitat houses. Thus, it is common for volunteers and future-homeowners to work side by side during construction.

## JHU and Sandtown

The JHU campus chapter partners with Sandtown Habitat for Humanity (our local affiliate) to aid in the revitalization of the Sandtown-Winchester neighborhood of West Baltimore. The neighborhood is a resurgent community transitioning from a difficult past to a bright future. Many proud and well-kept homes in Sandtown stand interspersed with long-abandoned and deteriorating ones. Habitat for Humanity undertakes complete floor-to-ceiling overhauls of the blighted structures with the aim of restoring them into decent, livable homes.

Hopkins Habitat helps support the neighborhood’s renewal by sponsoring the restoration of a house both financially and through hands-on participation in the home’s construction. JHU Habitat is responsible for raising \$20,000 annually for sponsorship fees and holds Saturday worktrips throughout the year in which students work with architects, builders, and volunteers in the renovation of our sponsor-house from the ground floor up. We dedicated our tenth Sandtown home this past April and will be starting our eleventh house this coming year.



JHU Habitat members learning how to construct and install framing in the basement of a Sandtown home

# PRE-ORIENTATION PROGRAM 2011

JHU Habitat for Humanity would like to invite all incoming freshmen to come work with us in Sandtown and other local neighborhoods during our annual Pre-Orientation program. This year, the program has 20 available openings and will run from **Friday, August 19th** through **Tuesday, August 23rd**.

Participants will be allowed to move into their dorms on Friday during business hours. We will begin working on our sponsor-house in Sandtown on Saturday and will also participate in other local volunteer projects over the next several days. **You do not need ANY construction experience to participate**, just tennis shoes or boots and clothes that you don't mind getting dirty. Someone will always be available to teach whatever you need to know and you only need to participate in what you feel comfortable doing.

We will also be visiting other fun places in and around the city such as the Towson Mall and the Inner Harbor. You'll get an early opportunity to see and learn about what Baltimore has to offer!

The Habitat for Humanity Pre-O may seem somewhat expensive. Why should you come? You get to work several days for a great cause. You get to move in earlier than other students (five whole days!) and can get to know the campus and area before school begins. You'll also get to know some of your classmates by working alongside them. The students involved in Pre-O often remain good friends throughout their time at Hopkins.

*Being part of Pre-O was one of the best decisions I made freshman year. It let me interact with the city in a truly positive way and—as an added bonus—it was just incredibly fun.*

## REGISTRATION & COST

To reserve a spot, please fill out one of the registration forms available on our website [www.jhu.edu/habitat](http://www.jhu.edu/habitat) and submit it to [JHUhabitat@gmail.com](mailto:JHUhabitat@gmail.com). Applications must be received by Tuesday, July 19th, 2011 at 11:59 PM (EST).

The program requires a registration fee of \$350 with any additional contributions greatly welcomed. This fee covers the cost of moving in early, bus transportation, breakfast, lunch, at least two dinners, and anything left over goes to our sponsor-house through Sandtown Habitat.

**Checks can be made out to Johns Hopkins University** and are due by July 29th, 2011. The mailing address for checks is:

JHU Habitat Pre-O  
Center for Social Concern  
3103 North Charles St.  
Baltimore, MD 21218

Since this program is open to the entire freshman class, the spots will fill up quickly. Don't hesitate to sign up!

## CONTACT INFO

For more information about the Habitat for Humanity Pre-O please visit our website [www.jhu.edu/habitat](http://www.jhu.edu/habitat). Any questions can be sent to [JHUhabitat@gmail.com](mailto:JHUhabitat@gmail.com) with the subject "Pre-O Question."

Questions can also be directed to the Pre-O Coordinator by call or text (preferred) at 201-334-6062. The JHU Center for Social Concern can also answer questions at 410-516-4777.

JULY

19

### Registration Forms Due by Email

Registration forms should be emailed to [jhuhabitat@gmail.com](mailto:jhuhabitat@gmail.com) by 11:59 PM. The form is available at our website [www.jhu.edu/habitat](http://www.jhu.edu/habitat).

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AUGUST

19-23

### JHU Habitat Pre-Orientation Program

Move into your dorms early and start getting to know Baltimore with JHU Habitat for Humanity

