

# LINDA AND MILLARD FULLER

It was another idea whose time had come. In fact, it was not only a good idea—it was a great idea. *Linda Fuller*

I have never met a man who liked living in a house that leaked—have you?

I have never met a woman who liked living in a house lacking enough insulation to keep warm—have you?

Nor have I ever met a family who liked living in a house with holes in the floor or holes in the ceiling—have you? *Millard Fuller*

“To families in seemingly impossible situations, Habitat becomes a friend and partner. And, by their own labor and with God’s grace, they become owners of a decent home.”

*Linda Fuller*

It is hard to break out of the cycle of poverty that has meant years of get-by living in a broken-down shack. Owning one’s own house has been called the American Dream. But it’s bigger than that. We’re dealing with something that’s universal in scope. The dream is not only universal; it is basic. And people everywhere understand its intrinsic truth: Everyone who gets sleepy at night should have a simple, decent place to lay their head.

*Millard Fuller*

A house is to a family what soil is to a plant: It’s a place where a family can put down roots. The children especially feels safe and secure. In that environment, they are able to grow and blossom into all that God intended them to be. *Millard Fuller*

I have always felt that a house is to a human family what soil is to a plant. You can pull a plant up out of the soil, pour all the water in the world on it, give it plenty of sunlight, and it will eventually die because it is not rooted. A plant needs to be rooted. A family is like that. If a family is not rooted, it will not flourish. It will not grow...will not blossom. But once a family is well-rooted, all kinds of wonderful things will begin to happen. *Millard Fuller*

We are building people.

We are building relationships.

We are breaking down barriers.

We are bringing people together.

We are promoting love and understanding.

We are building and revitalizing neighborhoods.

We are activating faith and planting hope in the hearts of people.

We are truly...an exciting part in building the Kingdom of God on earth. *Millard Fuller*

I see life as both a gift and a responsibility. My responsibility is to use what God has given me to help His people in need. *Millard Fuller*

# ROSALYNN AND JIMMY CARTER

Rosalynn and I are often asked, 'Why do you work with Habitat? What do you get out of it?' I was president of the United States for four years, but I get a lot more recognition for building houses in partnership with poor people in need than I have ever gotten before. Habitat is not a sacrifice that we make for others. It is a blessing for those of us who volunteer to help others. It gives me a life of excitement and pleasure, and adventure and unpredictability, to put it mildly.... *Jimmy Carter*

I get a lot more recognition for building houses in partnership with people than I ever got for the Camp David Accord or for Salt II or for all our projects in Africa or Asia or anything I do now since I left the White House. I can walk down the aisles of airplanes talking with people and invariably the number one thing that everybody says is, "Tell me about Habitat." *Jimmy Carter*

I didn't think I could use a hammer and I didn't want to use a hammer. At first it took me fifteen or twenty strokes for each nail, but before the week was over I could drive one in with only four or five strokes! *Rosalynn Carter*

We have become small players in an exciting global effort to alleviate the curse of homelessness. With our many new friends, we have worked to raise funds, to publicize the good work of Habitat, to recruit other volunteers, to visit overseas projects and even build a few houses. *Jimmy Carter*

Habitat has opened up unprecedented opportunities for me to cross the chasm that separates those of us who are free, safe, financially secure, self fed and housed, and influential enough to shape our own destiny from our neighbors who enjoy few, if any, of these advantages of life. *Jimmy Carter*

Habitat has successfully removed the stigma of charity by substituting it with a sense of partnership. The people who will live in the homes work side-by-side with the volunteers, so they feel very much that they are on an equal level. *Jimmy Carter*