

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 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 God 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*