

*For Immediate Release*



**Rochelle Sibbio**  
**CEO and President**  
Habitat for Humanity of Summit County  
(330) 745-7734 ext. 203  
habitat@hfhsummitcounty.org



## Thrivent and Habitat for Humanity of Summit County partner to help families stay in their homes during the COVID-19 pandemic

Akron, Ohio (Dec. 11, 2020) – Thrivent is awarding Habitat for Humanity of Summit County a contribution of \$5,000 to help families in Summit County stay in their homes. Thrivent's donation will allow Habitat to provide mortgage relief to Habitat homeowners who need temporary assistance making their mortgage payments during the COVID-19 pandemic. With Thrivent's support, Habitat for Humanity of Summit County will sustain affordable homeownership costs for 5 families impacted by COVID-19 in Summit County.

Prior to the spread of the novel coronavirus, more than 18 million households across the U.S. were paying half or more of their income on a place to live. As the pandemic continues to cause job disruption and economic fallout, many households are enduring lay-offs, unemployment, and pay cuts. This wage loss has amplified the financial burden on households to maintain essential payments and can result in families having to trade-off between bills, mortgage, or medical care.

"We appreciate this support to our families from Thrivent and have assisted five of our local Summit County Habitat families that were impacted by COVID-19 through illness and job loss." said Rochelle Sibbio, President and CEO. "The families were notified and deeply appreciative of the support and peace of mind this provided them during this time."

Habitat for Humanity of Summit County is one of 100 local Habitat organizations across the nation partnering with Thrivent to help families stay in their homes during the COVID-19 pandemic. In total, Thrivent is donating \$750,000 to Habitat for Humanity to assist with mortgage-related relief and prevent foreclosures across the U.S.

"This year has been incredibly difficult for many people as financial hardship has added stress and anxiety to daily lives," said Nikki Sorum, senior vice president of Thrivent Advisors at Thrivent. "This pandemic has underscored how important it is for people to have safe, affordable homes. Given all we have endured in 2020, we are especially honored to provide financial support to Habitat for Humanity to help people stay in their homes so they can continue to build toward financial stability."

## ***About Habitat for Humanity of Summit County***

Habitat for Humanity of Summit County, a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry, works in partnership with people in need to improve the conditions in which they live. Habitat challenges people of compassion to provide the initial capital - through gifts and no-interest loans - to build simple, decent homes with the inadequately sheltered.

Habitat for Humanity and Thrivent began their partnership in 2005. Over the past 15 years, Thrivent and their clients have contributed more than \$275 million to Habitat and have partnered with families to build safe, affordable homes across the U.S. and around the world.

## ***About Thrivent***

Thrivent is a diversified financial services organization that helps people achieve financial clarity, enabling lives full of meaning and gratitude. As a mission-driven, membership-owned organization, it offers its more than 2 million members and customers a broad range of financial products, services and guidance. Thrivent and its subsidiary and affiliate companies offer insurance, investments, banking and advice over the phone, online as well as through financial professionals and independent agents nationwide. Thrivent is a Fortune 500 company with \$152 billion in assets under management/advisement (as of 12/31/19). Thrivent carries an A++ (Superior) rating from AM Best, a credit rating agency; this is the highest of the agency's 16 ratings categories and was affirmed in May of 2019. For more information, visit [Thrivent.com](http://Thrivent.com). You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter.

Habitat for Humanity of Summit County | 2301 Romig Road Akron, OH | 330.745.7734  
[Email](#) | [Website](#)

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