



Building bridges through service

In his annual Easter message to all Habitat for Humanity teams, our global CEO Jonathan Reckford, shared an inspiring message about creating bridges through service. In his reflections, Jonathan talked about bringing people together as a key part of our mission.

This year, there is a rare convergence of interfaith celebrations in April and as such, it is a timely reminder for us all, to create more bridges, forge more connections and celebrate more of what makes humanity so special.

Despite the resurgence of COVID-19 in Hong Kong, we have much to celebrate. We would like to thank everyone who donated to our Emergency Appeal to support vulnerable families affected by this 5th wave of COVID-19. Thanks to your generous support, we significantly exceeded our fundraising target of HK\$400,000 and raised an astounding HK\$1 million to help even more families in need of essential home hygiene packs and testing kits. This funding has enabled us to work with 19 local NGOs to distribute packs to 2,500 low-income and elderly families in the last few weeks alone.

We also want to celebrate the generous gift given to Habitat for Humanity International and 84 of the US-based Habitat affiliates by philanthropist, Mackenzie Scott. You can read the full press release [here](#) to find out how the funds will be distributed and spent. Whilst we won't be receiving any funds at Habitat Hong Kong, we are celebrating the trust-based gift and the message it sends to the world about the importance of unrestricted funding and the essential need of a safe and sanitary home. At a time when so many people around the world are suffering, the act of giving – whether it is one dollar or one million, gives me renewed faith in humanity.

As Hong Kong gradually starts to open again, we look forward to a time when we can celebrate the re-launch of our in-person service volunteer programmes with you. In the meantime, we wish each and every one of you a month that is full of celebrations!

Jo Hayes
CEO, Habitat for Humanity Hong Kong



Voices of Volunteers

In celebration of Habitat Young Leaders Build, Thomas Huang, a member of our Development Committee, has shared why he decided to join Habitat Hong Kong and the impact that the younger generation can have on the community. Thomas is a young entrepreneur, co-founder and COO of Happyer.io, and our youngest committee member!

Thomas shared one of his first Youth Build volunteer experiences in rural China with us, "My mother always shared stories of her struggles, as a Cambodian refugee, escaping genocide and living without a home. It felt so rewarding to provide homes, shelter and more importantly a sense of belonging for these families through fundraising, building and raising awareness around the cause".



Our local impact

We have finished renovations at the PathFinders community support centre and the outside areas at Mother's Choice! The Pathfinders community support centre located in Tai Kok Tsui provides more facilities and a better environment for counselling, education, and health care services. The project has upgraded an existing shelter which offers emergency and temporary accommodation for migrant domestic workers and their new-born babies who have no alternative accommodation in Hong Kong. We have also now finished renovations of the outside areas of the Child Care Home at Mother's Choice! We are happy to help and provide a safer and more welcoming environment for the babies and special needs children cared for at the Home. Thank you again to Goodman!

[Read the full version](#)

[Read our post](#)



Our global impact

As millions of refugees flee violence in Ukraine, Habitat for Humanity is on the ground in four neighboring countries – Poland, Romania, Hungary and Slovakia – helping meet the shelter needs of displaced families. We are supporting refugees on the move, supplying them with emergency travel kits and hotel vouchers. Habitat is working on mid- and long-term accommodations for refugees, by subsidizing rentals, refurbishing communal spaces that can act as shelter and supporting mid-term hosting arrangements with families who have opened up their homes. Habitat also is lending our housing and construction expertise to governments and other partners, to create social rental programs in cities, for example, and to repurpose so-called empty spaces – such as unused schools and factories – to serve as shelter for refugees.



Together, we build a better future

Habitat for Humanity Hong Kong is a proud NGO Partner for @rethinkhk on 5-6 October 2022 at HKCEC!

Stepping into its 3rd edition, ReThink HK is the city's most ambitious business event for sustainable development, a large-scale, cross-sector platform that champions ESG transformation and showcases game-changing innovation.

This year, ReThink HK will gather 300+ expert speakers over 7 themed Theatres/Stages. Join us and hear insights on 6 key themes: circular economy, cities & mobility, decarbonisation, food & the natural world, people & purpose as well as redefining value. Register for your Super Early-bird delegate pass with the promo code - [HCHK22] (Valid between 3rd May and 4th Sept). We look forward to meeting you at ReThink HK 2022 on 05 & 06 October!

[Donate now!](#)

[Register now!](#)

Housing in the news

In Hong Kong

- Finance chief's rental deferral plan for small Hong Kong firms in trouble as Carrie Lam wants cabinet to decide whether to support bill ([South China Morning Post](#))
- Aspiring Hong Kong homeowners rush to sign up for chance to buy shoebox flats the size of 1½ car park spaces ([South China Morning Post](#))
- Housing Society jumps on rent-relief bandwagon ([The Standard](#))
- Wait for Hong Kong public rental housing rises to 6 years ([Hong Kong Free Press](#))
- All private flats built in Hong Kong must be at least 280 sq ft in future under new government rule ([South China Morning Post](#))

In Asia

- Some low-income households to get extra S\$15,000 in housing grants, option to buy 3-room flats ([CNA](#))
- The man who lived in a Singapore forest for 30 years ([BBC](#))
- In unaffordable Seoul, housing is at the centre of the S.Korea election ([Reuters](#))

Around the world

- How do non-parental family members affect LGBTQ youth housing stability? ([UC Riverside News](#))
- Mayor Gloria Launches New 'Bridge To Home' Program To Create More Affordable Housing ([Asian Journal Press](#))

How you can support



Become a monthly donor now

Please help us to achieve our vision of a world where every one has a decent place to live. Monthly donations help us to be a sustainable organisation and enable us to plan ahead. Become a #HopeBuilder and give families hope for a brighter future.



Yes, I want to join!

Habitat Hong Kong provides free home cleaning, repair, and renovation services for elderly and low-income families, to provide a healthy, safe and sanitary home. You can join us to provide these families with a decent place to live, be our volunteer now!
*Our volunteer activities are suspended due to current pandemic situation, while new registration is welcome. We will contact you when volunteer activities resumed.



Yes I want to lend a hand!

Habitat for Humanity Young Leaders Build brings together youth from across the Asia-Pacific region to support people and families in need of decent housing. We will bring young leaders and volunteers together in Hong Kong to learn about double ageing in Hong Kong, inter-generational co-living and raise funds to support vulnerable elderly people living in substandard housing. We aim to raise a minimum of HK\$117,000, to provide a safe and clean home for at least 25 elderly people living in substandard housing. We can only do it with your support!

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