

March 25, 2023

Sometimes it's hard to figure out how best to help heal our broken world. Sometimes the many pulls and tugs on our time and energy on behalf of many good causes seem daunting.

Sometimes it seems like any efforts to address the inequities that lead to poverty, despair and generational trauma are doomed to failure.

And... Sometimes an opportunity to engage in work that really matters comes along...

Work that is local, relational, with boots on the ground...

Work that doesn't look for quick and easy answers, but understands the importance of building trust, of meeting people where they are without judgment, and of recognizing every person's dignity and beauty as a human being no matter how life's traumas may have wounded them...

Work that recognizes the importance of helping children and young people (especially) to experience and to know the support and care of family and community as an antidote to the trauma that poverty and despair can wage upon human beings...

There is just such an opportunity to engage in work that really matters in Sedgwick as community members soon begin working together to help Ashley and Nick Pesek add two bedrooms and a bathroom onto their home for foster children. Over the past 9 years Ashley and Nick have made a home for 21 foster children, and in order for Ashley and Nick to welcome and meet the needs for an ever-expanding number of children requiring foster care into their loving family, they need to expand their home.

On Sunday afternoon, March 5, 27 local people met to see how we might move this dream forward. Here's what we already have in place: 1) A financial partnership with Hancock County Habitat for Humanity that makes it possible for donors to write tax deductible checks to Habitat for Humanity for the Pesek project. 2) Michael Hewes, long time Blue Hill contractor and previous Habitat foreman, heading up the construction with the help of many willing volunteers. 3) Folks from Sedgwick and neighboring towns ready and waiting to participate in the project by doing many supportive tasks from feeding the volunteers, to running for supplies, to making quilts for beds in the new bedrooms.

We are inviting your participation in this project because there probably is no better way to grow a healthy community than to ensure a safe, loving, and

supportive home for children who are often traumatized and at risk. **Helping Ashley and Nick Pesek expand their home for foster children does just that.**

We would love your support in raising \$85,000.00 to make the dream of expanding Ashley and Nick's foster home come true. Donations can be made to Hancock County Habitat for Humanity (with Pesek project on the memo line), either by mail (P.O. Box 343 Ellsworth, Maine 04605) or by scanning this QR code, which will allow you to donate on-line and leave a note designating the Pesek Project.



And, if you are interested, we'd love to have you show up during a work day with a hammer, a batch of cookies, a truck for hauling materials, and a desire to grow your roots in this beautiful community. If you'd like to help in this way, please let us know.

Please call or email me if you have any questions.

In gratitude,

Elaine and Michael Hewes

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