



Lauren Ruffin <lauren@rebuildingtogetherpeninsula.org>

Test Message - HTML Format:Repaired Homes. Restored Community. Rebuilt Lives.

1 message

Rebuilding Together Peninsula <Rebuilding_Together_Peninsula@mail.vresp.com>
To: lauren@rebuildingtogetherpeninsula.org

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Rebuilding Together Peninsula

April 2018 Newsletter

Hi, friend of RTP!

Click [here](#) to visit our website.

29th Annual National Rebuilding Day



I first met Sharron in November of 2017 while previewing her home as a potential project for National Rebuilding Day. As she guided us through her home, pointing out the areas that could use repair, she described everything as if this was the way it had always been and might always be. The sagging ceiling panels in her living room weren't a sad comparison to the earlier days of her home when the room was in prime condition and host to all sorts of family gatherings; they weren't a repair she seemed to have imagined would ever be fixed either. They were just the sagging ceiling panels that defined



Donate!

The support of generous donors empowers us to innovate new and more impactful ways to meet the health and safety housing needs of our most vulnerable neighbors. Help us make a difference!

Learn more about ways to donate [here](#)



Submit your repair applications!

Are you, someone you know, or community facility you care about in need of our services? Submit an application today!

Click [here](#) for an application

the questionably safe corners of the room and that, in Sharron's words, "it'd be nice to have fixed but anything you can do for my home would be great".

Home after home I visited during preview season last Fall was a similar story; 'this is my home, this is how I live, I can manage with it but if you can offer any support at all, well that, that would just be great'.

There were so many neighbors I met last Fall through previews and this Winter during site selection that had a need for help in their home or community facility. Neighbors expertly managing limited fixed incomes to compete with a rising cost of living all while figuring out how to persevere in rooms without heat, in hallways with no lighting, or in homes with unwelcomed infestations of pests. Neighbors stretching their community organization's budgets to provide the best services possible to the neighborhood while inventing 'band-aid' solutions to the growing need for costly facility maintenance. Neighbors who genuinely didn't know what options they had left to repair their homes and community spaces that were rapidly becoming a detriment to their health and safety.

But then National Rebuilding Day rolled along. And 45 sponsors, from local governments and businesses to corporations and foundations to service clubs, church groups and high school clubs rallied volunteer support and made donations to help these neighbors they had never met before. And nearly 1,500 volunteers assembled to landscape yards, demo rotting sheds and broken fences, paint entire homes, replace flooring and windows, build ramps and decks, install new appliances, remodel bathrooms, mend roofs, provide plumbing and electrical repairs, remove debris, and install grab bars and fire safety equipment.

Our community came together for a day and gave our neighbors a reason to not just hope but believe that the disrepair in their homes and community facilities was not how these spaces had always been nor how they would always be.

When I saw Sharron again, 5 months had passed and I was visiting her moments before National Rebuilding Day kicked off at her house. She was smiling, standing on her porch watching volunteers trickle into her yard pulling on navy blue RTP t-shirts. When I walked up to say hello, she immediately opened her arms and pulled me in for a hug, thanking our team for everything that was happening at our home. We'd come full circle and the list of repairs she had jotted down on a piece of binder paper when we first met were now real, tangible improvements in her home. She started gushing about how wonderful everyone had been to her. The dozens of volunteers the prior weekend that had fixed the sagging ceiling panels, replaced the front window and its termite-damaged sill and replaced the flooring and toilet in her 42-year-old bathroom. She marveled at the energetic group of Woodside Priory High School volunteers preparing to landscape her yard to make the space accessible and low-maintenance and wielding cleaning supplies and paintbrushes to improve her home's interior. For the first time since I met Sharron, I heard her talk about what her home could be. A yard she wouldn't struggle to maintain in her older age. A clean, maintained and safe interior she could potentially rent to supplement her small fixed income and finally have the financial means to turn on her furnace again.



Volunteer!

Volunteers make all the work we do possible. Whether you're a skilled carpenter or have never picked up a power tool, there is an invaluable way for you to contribute to a build project and have an impact in the lives of the homeowners we serve.

Click [here](#) to get involved!



I think this is the moment I truly understood that National Rebuilding Day is about more than just repairing homes and community facilities. It's about bringing like-minded community together to remind our neighbors they always have a place in our community and the support of its members. It's about rebuilding lives, creating new beginnings for our neighbors in need of help. It's about restoring homes, lives, and community.

Sharron's story is one of 36 from this year's National Rebuilding Day. Thank you to everyone who made our 29th Annual National Rebuilding Day the transformative day that it was for so many of our neighbors. We couldn't ask for a better community to work alongside!

A Peek at National Rebuilding Day in Action





Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to see more photos, videos, and updates about the impact of this year's National Rebuilding Day!

Help Us Improve National Rebuilding Day - Complete our Volunteer Survey!

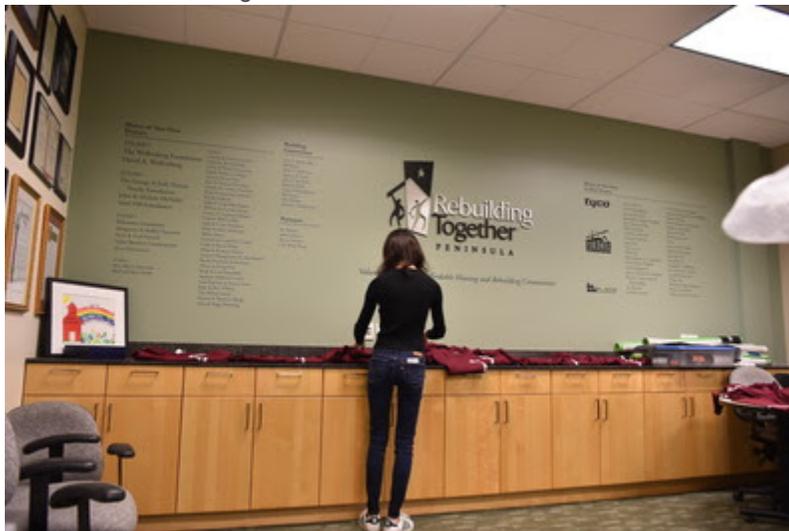
Did you volunteer on National Rebuilding Day? We'd love to hear about your experience! Take [this 5-minute survey](#) and help us make our 30th anniversary in 2019 the best National Rebuilding Day yet!

Maykke Volunteers Help Prep for NRD!



On April 11th, Maykke volunteers joined us in our office to help prepare our community for National Rebuilding Day. They spent the morning organizing thousands of t-shirts for our different volunteer groups. When it comes to NRD, every little detail counts and there are so many tasks to complete to pull off the day. We couldn't have done National Rebuilding Day without you, Maykke!

Haven't heard about Maykke's partnership with the Rebuilding Together Peninsula office? [Check out our website](#) to learn more about Maykke's commitment to creating safe homes and communities with us.





Thank you for everything, Savannah!



Where has the time gone!? It feels like just yesterday we welcomed Savannah to our team as our first SummerCorps of 2018. In two months, Savannah impressed our staff and clients with her attention to detail, focused work ethic, and genuine investment in making the world around her a better place. Whether she was out on site, pulling the roots of weeds out of gutters, in our warehouse pulling orders of supplies for NRD projects, or driving the Lyngso truck all over the Peninsula to deliver landscaping materials to project sites, Savannah was already to lend a hand where needed. We're so thankful to have had the chance to work alongside Savannah and are wishing her well on her next chapter! After visiting home for a couple of weeks, Savannah will embark on a new adventure, starting a year of AmeriCorps service in Colorado researching affordable housing issues. Thank you for everything, Savannah!

Congrats, Frank & Greg!

Help us congratulate two incredible members of our team for their service to Rebuilding Together Peninsula and our community.

Frank Tijerina was recently promoted to Senior Repair Technician, acknowledging his critical role in not only overseeing the completion of majority of repairs for our Safe at Home Program but also in educating and training our AmeriCorps, JobTrain, and general volunteers.

Greg Bernard was promoted to the role of Construction Program Director to acknowledge his vast array of contributions to RTP in the short 10 months he has been a part of our team. In addition to managing the 100+ home repair projects completed through Safe at Home each year, Greg had also taken on the responsibility of managing our warehouse. He's also gone above and beyond his call of duty, using his experience and knowledge to provide construction oversight to many areas of our work.

Congratulations, Frank & Greg! Appreciate everything you do for our neighbors in need!

Repairing Homes. Restoring Communities. Rebuilding Lives.

Contact Us! | **Address:** [841 Kaynyne St., Redwood City, CA 94063](#) | **Phone:** 650-366-6597 | **Email:** Info@RTPeninsula.org | **Website:** RTPeninsula.org

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[841 Kaynyne Street](#)
Redwood City, CA 94063
USA

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