

Habitat for Humanity MetroWest/Greater Worcester, Inc. Board of Directors'  
Statement on Racism

The killings of Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, Rayshard Brooks, Elijah McClain and more, and countless other injuries to Black Americans, at every level, is unacceptable. The systemic discrimination, disadvantage, oppression, and unequal treatment of Black Americans that has allowed this to happen is unacceptable.

Institutionalized discrimination in U.S. housing policy has played a large role in setting the stage for the racial inequities that persist today. Organizations like Habitat for Humanity that work to address housing inequities must understand that history. We must hold a mirror to ourselves—regardless of our own discomfort—and see how we have been complicit in an unjust and unequal system, and how we can work to remedy it.

Habitat for Humanity is committed nationally to be part of the solution. Locally, our Habitat Affiliate stands with the Worcester Together Coalition to actively work to end racism and unconscious bias. Starting now, the Board of Habitat for Humanity MetroWest/Greater Worcester, Inc. will actively engage with and listen to the experiences of our Black Homeowners, community leaders, staff, volunteers and friends. We will reach out to include more People of Color on our Board because we are stronger when all points of view, all experiences, and all communities join in our mission. We will look for opportunities to support Black-owned businesses. We will repeat these actions until we are making a difference. We will hold Habitat for Humanity, our Board and ourselves accountable for where we go from here. We will do better, because Black Americans deserve that.

  
Jessica Murphy, Esq.  
Board President  
Habitat for Humanity MetroWest/Greater Worcester, Inc.

Habitat's mission is to build homes, communities, and hope. We build affordable and safe homes for families and veterans of all colors, races, genders, sexual orientations, ethnicities and religions. Our vision is a world where everyone—everyone—has a decent place to live.

These are based on a belief that no matter who we are or where we come from, we all deserve a decent life. We cannot achieve our mission without including Black Americans. We all deserve to feel strength and stability day after day. We all deserve to know we have the power to take care of ourselves and build our own futures. Through shelter, we empower. Because you, me, us—we are all humans. Every one of us deserves a fair chance and we commit to working to provide those human rights to everyone.