## IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CINCINNATI



Jason McSwain

## Where a Family Can Stand on Its Own

One of the most gratifying aspects of new home construction over the last 26 years has

been the synergistic partnership between McSwain Carpets and the Cincinnati Habitat For Humanity organization. This partnership utilizes our flooring resources and services for new homes built for with low-income partner families.

Consider that a minimum-wage worker in Ohio can afford a monthly rent of no more than \$421, yet the average fair-market rent, in 2018, for a two-bedroom apartment is \$845. That worker either has to work 74 hours per week or be drawn into the draining cycle of paying housing expenses greater than what the household budget allows. Habitat for Humanity enables a partner family to own their own home through their contribution of a minimum of 500 "sweat-equity" hours toward its construction.

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Cincinnati Habitat for Humanity has relied on one extraordinary individual in the McSwain organization for their flooring requirements: Allan Rahe. In addition to his responsibility as Inventory Manager for McSwain Carpets, Allan also donates hours of energy and expertise to each new Habitat partner family. He assists the family with their flooring selections and estimates the layout of each installation.

"To see the joy and excitement of the children and mothers particularly as they take ownership of their first home as a family, knowing this will make a major positive difference in their life makes it all very fun to be a part of," says Allan.

This past year, McSwain's Retail Coordinator, Mike Wilkerson, assisted 4 families with refinishing their hardwood floors. "Through my career pursuit in acquiring thorough hardwood expertise, it's encouraging to put it to use with Habitat for Humanity. I know the floor, once we have refinished it, will serve an active family for many years to come," says Mike.

McSwain has been involved with the Greater Cincinnati Habitat for Humanity since 1992, by providing carpet, padding. vinyl flooring, hardwood and installation services for 137 homes.

We encourage your involvement in 2019 as Cincinnati Habitat for Humanity continues to be a blessing for families in a very practical way.

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## A HAND UP, NOT A HAND OUT...

Established in 1986, Cincinnati Habitat for Humanity (HFHGC) provides simple, affordable housing "at cost" to low-income partner families ready for the responsibility of home ownership.

Current "at cost" price of HFHGC home IS about \$90,000

Partner families pledge 500 hours of sweat equity labor in addition to payments

HFHGC funding: tax-deductible gifts, no-interest loans from corporations, individuals, churches, community groups, and foundations

Donations of construction materials and services are particularly welcome

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talent and time.