

Rebuilding Together Shines in December Issue of Orange Magazine



Community of Caring

Volunteer opportunities abound in the City of Orange and our neighboring cities

Rebuilding Together Orange County

“To build partnerships within the community to rebuild owner-occupied homes, shelters and non-profit facilities for low-income residents, particularly the elderly or those with disabilities, so they may live independently with dignity, in warmth and safety.”

This is the mission of the nation’s largest volunteer home revitalization organization. Rebuilding Together addresses preservation of existing affordable housing stock and provides “aging in place” solutions in the community. Rebuilding Together Orange County volunteer teams dedicate time, effort and passion toward sustaining older adult health and safety in the home.



Throughout each year, as many as 2,000 Rebuilding Together Orange County volunteers ease the lives of over 200 low-income, elderly and disabled homeowners. Home improvement projects have lasting impact on City of Orange residents - where volunteer activities increase mobility, and a feeling of security, comfort, independence and dignity. Since 1991, fair market value of work done by 21,000 Rebuilding Together Orange County volunteers on 1,100 homes and non-profits has exceeded \$8 million.

Low-income elderly often are unable to maintain their property. Escalating basic care costs and maintenance such as electrical repairs, painting, plumbing and roof repair are simply not possible on fixed incomes. As a homeowner ages, need for critical safety features increases for stair handrails, improved lighting and security, grab bars in baths and showers, wheelchair lifts, ramps and other accessibility modification for basic daily living.



Advancing age or death of a spouse makes it nearly impossible for seniors to continue doing their own repairs. Progressive deterioration of the home sets in. Sources of help are limited and often too expensive. Homeowners are reluctant to borrow against equity. The Rebuilding Together “neighbor helping neighbor” volunteers, enabled by material donations and skilled labor, can put a stop to this negative spiral by providing free services to its recipients.

To learn more about how you can help Rebuilding Together Orange County in your community, please visit www.rebuildingtogetheroc.org or call (714) 667-8174.