

Everyone deserves a safe and healthy home. That's our fundamental belief.

We provide critical home repairs to ensure the safety and health of community residents in need including seniors, people with disabilities and families with children. In these times of crisis, our work is more important than ever.

Our volunteers make modifications so seniors can safely age in place and retrofit homes to make them accessible for people with disabilities. We make repairs and modifications to prevent falls, control moisture and improve fire safety in homes. We make other basic repairs to help homeowners who are struggling to keep up with home maintenance.

It's always rewarding to see firsthand how dramatically our volunteers' repairs benefit homeowners in need and to witness the deep satisfaction our volunteers draw from solving problems and helping their neighbors.

Rebuilding Together – AFF brings a small slice of kindness, hope and compassion to our communities.



Repairing Homes, Revitalizing Communities, Rebuilding Lives.

In a time which no one could have anticipated, Rebuilding Together Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church continued to provide safety and hope to our neighbors in need thanks to the generous outpouring of support from our donors, partners and volunteers.

As the pandemic unfolded, we had to figure out how to serve the people who needed us the most, so our Program Committee and staff developed COVID-19 safety protocols and training for all volunteers. Our six RT Express Team Leaders and a small group of regular volunteers conducted a pilot project with Operation Renewed Hope Foundation to prepare a vacant home for a veteran family. The pilot project helped us refine our safety protocols and mobilize small teams of volunteers and contractors who focused on addressing critical health and safety hazards for homeowners severely impacted by the pandemic because of their age, disability, and limited income.

Our dedicated and skilled volunteers, in addition to pro bono contractors and partners, made health and safety repairs and modifications for 89 homeowners and nonprofits in FY 2021, a remarkable accomplishment in the face of the pandemic.



This October we were delighted that after missing two National Rebuilding Days, our annual signature event, 10 of our longtime faith and corporate partners and a group of individual volunteers joined us for group projects for our first Fall Rebuilding Days. More than 100 community members tackled a variety of repairs and modifications including installing grab bars and railings, making plumbing and electrical repairs, replacing broken appliances, installing new toilets, vanities, faucets, and exhaust fans, patching and painting walls, doors, and ceilings, diverting water away from homes, tackling overgrown yards and so much more. Each project was led by volunteers who spent countless hours planning repairs, coaching their teams and sweating the details to make their projects a success and to bring hope to the families they served. We're looking forward to National Rebuilding Day on April 30, 2022!

Our Long Term Impact

Since 1988,
Rebuilding Together-AFF
has

Gathered
69,792
volunteers



who

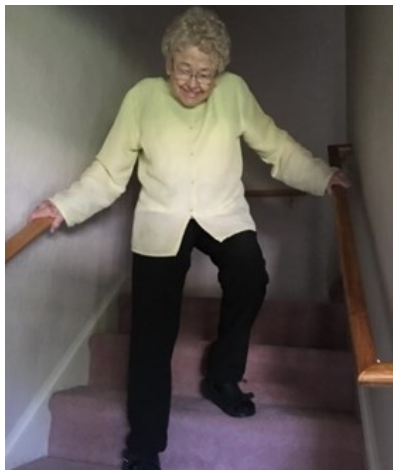


Donated
575,802
hours

Performed
repairs &
modifications on
2,434
homes and
nonprofits



Provided
\$15.1
million
of donated
labor



"I've been going up and down these stairs for 57 years and I can't believe the difference two hand rails make."

Mrs. K

Every 11 seconds, an older adult is seen in an emergency department for a fall-related injury, and many of these falls are preventable. A big emphasis of our work during the most isolating part of the pandemic was making modifications and repairs to prevent falls.

Our Rebuilding Together Express Program filled an even bigger gap during the pandemic.

Created in 2015 to fill a gap in our services, Rebuilding Together Express (RT Express) allows us to respond more rapidly to help more low-income homeowners age in place safely and comfortably, complementing our traditional National Rebuilding Day and Year-Round programs. To date we have completed 295 RT Express projects.

RT Express focuses on 36 common repairs with a strong emphasis on fall safety, fire safety, minor plumbing and electrical repairs and energy upgrades selected for their significant health and safety benefits. Small teams of 4 to 5 skilled volunteers complete half-day projects with a budget of up to \$500 for materials. We were thrilled that in 2018 the Commonwealth Council on Aging recognized RT Express with its top statewide Best Practices Award for demonstrating the effectiveness of relatively simple and low-cost repairs to correct health and safety hazards.

Our trusted, hardworking and dedicated RT Express volunteers made it possible for our organization to continue its mission when COVID-19 safety was our utmost concern. After completing COVID-19 safety training, our RT Express teams resumed work with great care, installing grab bars, stair railings and exterior handrails, controlling water and moisture problems to make indoor air safer and so much more. Our volunteers give homeowners in need safety, dignity, independence and hope during these challenging times.



Rebuilding Days with our faith and corporate partners, individual volunteers, and contractors allow us to provide deep repairs, too.

Some homeowners who need modifications to age in place also need more extensive or complex repairs. For example some of our clients need major roof repairs or replacement, extensive plumbing repairs, or a fully accessible bathroom. Some homes need a lot of work because of deferred maintenance, drainage and moisture problems, broken appliances, and structural damage. Meeting the needs of some homeowners requires RT-AFF to “layer” support by engaging larger teams of volunteers, calling in a professional contractor, recruiting a skilled corporate partner or securing funding from a foundation or major donor. Here are some stories from our Rebuilding Days.



“They are not just volunteers. They are lifeguards to us.” Mr. B



A dry home is critical to a family’s health and well-being. This year our corporate partners made it possible for us to provide new roofs to three homeowners. Mrs. T had needed a new roof for some time, but after her husband passed away and she lost her catering job due to the pandemic, paying for a new roof was impossible. Every big rain brought water into her home, forcing her to use buckets to catch the heaviest leaks. As a result, parts of her ceilings had collapsed. Our longtime partner Wells Fargo Housing Foundation provided the funds for Mrs. T’s new roof.

Our volunteers repaired her ceilings, and we hired a plumber to install a dishwasher and fix a host of nagging plumbing repairs. Mrs. T exclaimed *“I want to express my gratitude to Wells Fargo and the angel volunteers who fixed my house and made it safe and dry.”*

Our partners from Sun Design Remodeling renovated a bathroom for Mrs. B, a disabled homeowner in Alexandria. The team also built a platform over Mrs. B’s front stoop in preparation for a donated exterior lift to be professionally installed. You see, because of her disability, Mrs. B had to call the police or fire department to get out of her house to go to doctor’s appointments. The accessible bathroom means Mrs. B can have a shower for the first time in years, and the lift will enable her to leave her home for doctors’ appointments without calling first responders.



Our longtime partners from St. Mary’s Episcopal Church in Arlington were thrilled to be back at work on Fall Rebuilding Day after missing two National Rebuilding Days due to the pandemic. A team of 12 volunteers helped the M family in Falls Church. Mr. M recently suffered a stroke, Mrs. M has knee problems, and their adult son has a traumatic brain injury. Making the house safe for the family was our first priority. The team installed several hand rails inside and outside, and grab bars in the bathrooms. Enthusiastic team members tackled fall yard clean-up, power washed, and weatherized the home so the family is ready for winter. The team corrected seven health and safety priorities and the M family’s home now meets all 25 Rebuilding Together Health and Safety Priorities, our benchmark for measuring our success.

During Fiscal Year 2021
Rebuilding Together-AFF



Received
3,200
hours of
donated
labor

Completed
89 projects
at 86 homes
and 3
nonprofits



Donated
labor was
valued at
\$209,000

Important statistics about the
households we helped this
past year:

80%

Qualify as Very
Low or
Extremely Low
income

Average Age
of the
homeowners
served

73

83%

Households
with someone
over age 65

Households
included
someone with
a disability

69%

Recognition for our Rebuilding Together Express Team Leaders

Our RT Express Team Leaders were awarded the Social Advocacy Group Award by Volunteer Fairfax in 2021 for their work in developing and testing COVID-19 safety protocols so we could get back to work delivering critical health and safety repairs for low-income seniors, especially those most at risk for falls. Volunteer and Board Member Bill Marshall also received the Arlington Cares Volunteer Service Award for his work on our COVID-19 protocols and in recognition of his hands-on efforts as an RT Express Team Leader. We offer our sincere thanks and congratulations to Bob Austin, Mark Heslep, Bard Jackson, Bill Marshall, Don McCubbin and Ken Mittelholtz (pictured l-r)



Donors and Partners

Rebuilding Together Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church is grateful for the generosity and commitment of our donors and partners in FY 2021. These gifts were received between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. A complete list of our donors can be found on our website. Your support is deeply appreciated.

\$25,000+

Arlington County

Community Development Block Grant

Fairfax County

Consolidated Community Funding Pool

Wells Fargo

\$10,000—\$24,999

The Community Foundation for

Northern Virginia

1890 Fund-A National Lutheran Program

E*TRADE Financial

\$5,000—\$9,999

Sandy Spring Bank

West Financial Services, Inc.

\$1,000—\$4,999

Annandale Christian Community for Action

Arlington Presbyterian

Church of the Covenant

Robert and Diane Austin

Col (Ret.) Marion and Jimmi Barnwell

Blackbaud Giving Fund/Dell

Burke United Methodist Church

James and Mary Callow

Alberto & Lucina Chalmers

\$1,000—\$4,999 (cont)

Davies Reis, LLC

Andrew Dumont

Jean and Douglas Edwards

Fairfax Presbyterian Church

The Falls Church Episcopal

Giant Food

Great Aunt's Fund, a Donor Advised Fund
of the U.S. Charitable Gift Trust

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Kenneth and Camille Mittelholtz

Bradley and Elizabeth Moffett

Mount Zion Baptist Church

Ox Hill Baptist Church

Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter, Omega Psi Phi
Fraternity

RLAH Real Estate and its agents

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Elaine Roeseler

Don Ryan and Marilena Amoni

Michael and Carole Smith

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

The Carolyn and Mitchell Sutterfield
Charitable Fund

\$1,000—\$4,999 (cont)

Walsh Electric

\$500—\$999

Annandale United Methodist Church

Scott Brideau

Christopher Gribbs

Patricia Hupalo

Dominick and Carolyn Issi

Bruce O. and Sharon Jolly

Jackie Madjeski

William Marshall

Tony and Elizabeth Poole

Resurrection EV Lutheran Church

Lola Rogers

Michael Ryan

Thomas Scopelitis

George Seff

Sanjay Srikantiah

Unitarian Universalist Congregation
of Fairfax

Dawn and Whitney Wilson

Kristen Wilson

James Woody Woodburn

Victor Wu



Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church

Support our mission: make a contribution, sponsor a group project, sign up to volunteer.

10723 Main Street, Suite 135 | Fairfax, VA 22030

703.528.1999

rebuildingtogether-aff.org

info@rebuildingtogether-aff.org