



Wausau
**Habitat
for Humanity®**

Helping Families Help Themselves
Build A Better Tomorrow

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April 12, 2010

Dr. Kristine Gilmore, Superintendent
DC Everest School District
6300 Alderson Street
Weston, WI 54476-3908

Dear Kris,

Since 2003 Habitat for Humanity of Wausau has been in partnership with our area's high schools in building houses for needy families. During that time Mosinee, DC Everest and Wausau East High Schools have helped Habitat for Humanity to construct 19 homes while providing important home construction experiences for students. This partnership between businesses, schools and our organization has been beneficial to all.

Habitat for Humanity, like so many others in our area, state, and nation, has been impacted by the current downturn in the economy. And, like others, we find we no longer have the financial resources to continue to underwrite the cost of homes constructed by our high schools. Therefore, it is with great regret that the Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors must inform you of its decision to suspend the high school home building partnership program for the 2010-2011 school year.

Our Board had hoped our fund raising efforts would have provided us with the resources to sustain the program during these difficult times. In December and early January we were still hopeful, but the current reality is that we continue to receive less in donations and grants than we expend on our construction efforts. Thus, we now find ourselves in a financial position that must be addressed immediately.

We understand the impact this may have on your school's program and staffing. We apologize for the lateness of this notification. However, if we do not face our financial crisis now, it surely will arise in September when we will be lacking funds to purchase materials to begin the construction program.

Our Board has chosen to consider this a suspension of our partnership with the clear hope that in a future school year we may be able to again continue this relationship with one or more school districts. Until that time we will be refocusing on our own strategic and financial planning in an effort to re-build community support for Habitat for Humanity.

We thank you for your cooperation and support over the past years and sincerely hope that in the future we can again become partners serving both our community's students and needy families.

Sincerely,

Ark Rhowmine, President
Habitat for Humanity - Wausau

C: Dr. Tom Johanson, Principal
Mr. Chad Pernsteiner, Instructor