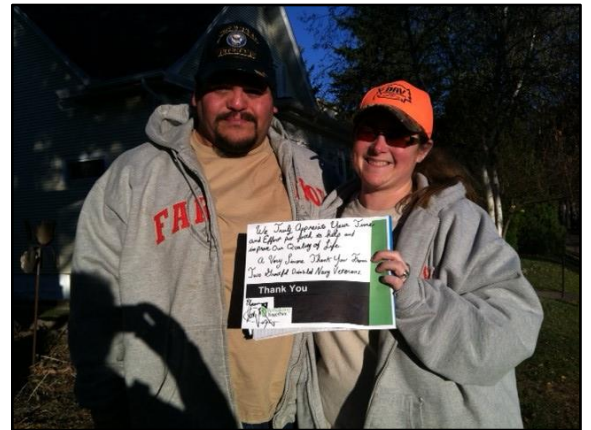


Rebuilding Together Twin Cities 2014 Highlights and Accomplishments

With the support of our many partners and the hard work of volunteers, Rebuilding Together Twin Cities preserves affordable homeownership for low-income families, older adults, individuals living with disabilities, and active and retired members of the armed services in our community. **Together, we are able to provide the repairs and accessibility modifications needed for these homeowners to remain in the homes and neighborhoods they love.**

*Eileen and Jon met when they were both stationed in Virginia attending training for operating nuclear powered Navy vessels. They are both living with disabilities that resulted from their time in the Navy. Their Saint Paul home needed substantial repairs to make it safe and functional for their family. Our volunteers installed, taped and mudded drywall, reinstalled stairway handrails, laid a new walkway outside, helped them clean out their garage, and installed grab bars in the bathroom; and our skilled trades partners make plumbing and carpentry repairs. The repairs we were able to provide made a **huge difference** for Jon and Eileen. In their thank you note, they wrote, "We truly appreciate your time and effort put forth to help and improve our quality of life. A very sincere **thank you** from two grateful disabled Navy veterans."*



We partnered with 535 volunteers who dedicated nearly 6,000 hours of time during our last fiscal year. Together, we served 247 homeowners and nearly 5,000 nonprofit visitors through our programs:

- **Home Repair Program** – We completed 89 Home Repair projects for homeowners in need. These volunteer-delivered repairs included weatherizing, cleaning, installing flooring, patching and painting, siding, landscaping and almost anything that restores the homeowners' independence, safety and security.
- **Safe at Home Program** – We completed 72 Safe at Home projects for low-income homeowners who are older adults or are individuals living with a disability. Projects focused on preventing falls and enabling the homeowner to live independently and safely in their home and included tasks such as installing grab bars, raised toilet seat adapters, handrails, shower seats, improved lighting, and more.
- **Ramp Program** – We installed six ramps for homeowners in need who are older adults or are individuals living with a disability.
- **Nonprofit Facility/Community Beautification Program** – We renovated and beautified six community spaces, creating safe and welcoming spaces for communities to gather.



We launched two new programs:

- **Critical Repair Program** is designed to help low-income homeowners repair or replace vital systems associated with their home, such as HVAC, electrical, plumbing, outer envelope, and/or roof systems. These contractor-based services enable homeowners in need to be better prepared to deal with future home maintenance issues.
- **Accessibility Modifications Program** provides larger contractor-delivered home modifications to promote aging-in-place and single-level-living. These modifications include widening doorways and renovating bathrooms and/or kitchens for accessibility.

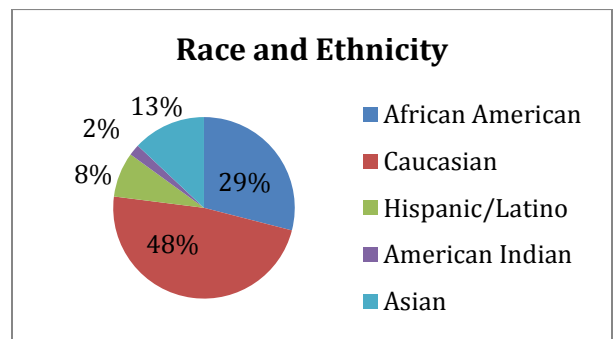


We also launched a fee-for-service component of our Safe at Home program in partnership with AARP and Rebuilding Together National. Through this expanded program, seniors whose income is over 50% of the area median income pay a sliding-scale fee for home safety and accessibility modification services. This program expansion allows us to help those seniors who may be above our current program income limits, but still cannot afford the full cost of the safety and accessibility modifications they need to continue to live independently and safely in their homes. Any proceeds will go back into the program funding, enabling us to serve more very low-income homeowners (50% AMI and below) at no charge. We successfully completed our first fee-for-service Safe at Home project in our most recent fiscal year.

Betty asked us for help because she was having trouble safely navigating her Mendota Heights home. Our Safe at Home volunteers made safety and accessibility modifications, which included installing grab bars, a shower seat, a handheld shower unit, no-slip bath treads, exterior railings, an outdoor motion light, smoke detectors, a fire extinguisher and a carbon monoxide detector. In her thank you note, Betty wrote, “I want to thank you for all you've done for me. You were all so easy to talk to and so helpful...The volunteers did a great job and were very personable. Words just can't tell you how much you have made my everyday life so much easier for me. I never thought I'd get the help I got. I feel so much safer now. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you.”

Homeowner Demographics:

- 100% of the people receiving our cost-free services were very low-income, with a household income at or below 50% of area median income.
- 62% of the homeowners we served were individuals living with a disability.
- 59% of the households served were headed by a female.
- On average, the homeowners we served have lived in their home for 22 years.





This year, we were thrilled to strengthen our relationship with our existing sponsors, as well as welcome new supporters, including Boston Scientific, UnitedHealthcare Military & Veterans, and the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines.

We continued to work with our nonprofit and community partners. For example, we expanded our partnership with the East Side Development Corporation. They have been instrumental in helping us expand our outreach into the Hmong community. We have also been working to collaborate on projects whenever possible, enabling us to provide more comprehensive services to homeowners on the East Side of Saint Paul. We are exploring ways to grow this partnership and also to replicate it with other nonprofit organizations focused on community development and revitalization.

*Zack grew up in South St. Paul and was nearly killed after being run over and dragged by a hit-and-run driver while trying to cross an intersection in Anchorage, Alaska in 2012. He was in a coma for a month and suffered a **traumatic brain injury**, fractured vertebrae, an amputated leg and broken bones. Zack is in a wheelchair and is still undergoing outpatient physical and occupational therapy at the Courage Center. The Builders Association of the Twin Cities Foundation worked with Zack and his mother, Cheryl, to help build an accessible home for Zack on land Cheryl purchased in South St. Paul. We were thrilled to be a part of this **collaborative project**, which resulted in a fully accessible home where Zack will be able to live safely and independently.*



We are extremely grateful for the support of our partners and volunteers, which has made it possible for us to help homeowners like Jon and Eileen, Betty and Zack. Thank you for supporting our efforts to help low-income homeowners in the Twin Cities live independently in safe and healthy homes.