

SHERIDAN COUNTY
APPLICATION FOR ONE CENT OPTIONAL SALES & USE TAX FUNDS

FISCAL YEARS 2020 TO 2023
(July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2023)

GENERAL INFORMATION:

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: Habitat for Humanity of the Eastern Bighorns **PHONE:** (307) 672-3848
CONTACT PERSON: Christine Dieterich **MAILING ADDRESS:** P.O. 6196, Sheridan, WY

EMAIL ADDRESS: christine@sheridanhabitat.org

AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUESTED: \$40,000 **(Total amount of the 4-year period)**

TAX STATUS: 501 (c) 3 **EIN** 83-0309911

DESCRIBE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF YOUR ORGANIZATION OR MISSION STATEMENT:

HFHEB Mission Statement is:

“To eliminate poverty housing from Sheridan County and make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. In a spirit of collaboration and fellowship, Habitat for Humanity of the Eastern Bighorns works with individuals, institutions, businesses, and the Habitat families themselves to build simple, decent, affordable housing for those living in substandard conditions in our community.”

NO OF BOARD MEMBERS: 14

NAMES OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Ami Purri	President
Tara King	Vice President
Nicole Christensen	Treasurer
Molly Kinsey	Secretary
Dave Born	Director
John Standish	Director
Mary Beth Evers	Director
Rick Rossa	Director
Bob Utter	Director
Rick Thompson	Director
Pete Shultz	Director
Jane Chamberlain-Jennings	Director
Mathers Heuck	Director
Dick Birkholz	Director

PROVIDE A BRIEFLY HISTORY OF YOUR ORGANIZATION IN SHERIDAN COUNTY, INCLUDING ANY SERVICES PROVIDED TO AREA RESIDENTS:

Habitat for Humanity of the Eastern Bighorns (HFHEB) has been serving Sheridan County since 1994. HFHEB provides four key programs to Sheridan County residents:

1. **New Construction Affordable Housing:** HFHEB builds new construction homes and provides an affordable loan at 0% interest for families who are selected through an application process and a home visit. Habitat relies on ReStore operations, grants, donations, and volunteers on the job site to help keep the cost of Habitat homes low and affordable to the homeowner
2. **“A Brush With Kindness” – Critical Housing Repairs/Neighborhood Revitalization:** HFHEB provides critical exterior/interior home repairs to families/individuals who own their home but either cannot afford the project or do not have the physical means to complete the project on their own.
3. **Habitat ReStore:** HFHEB operates a retail store open to the public which sells new or lightly used construction supplies and materials, furniture, appliances, lighting/plumbing fixtures, flooring, lawn/garden, tools and other items at 50-70% off retail value to the public. ReStore promotes an environment of recycling and sales directly support the building of Habitat homes.
4. **Educational Classes:** HFHEB requires partner families to complete a Financial Peace course which provides the tools needed to learn how to budget, eliminate debt, and be financially responsible. HFHEB offers a Homeowner Orientation class open to the public the first Friday of the month, to go over the eligibility requirements and application process when applying to be a homeowner. HFHEB is in the beginning stages of planning homeowner maintenance and educational classes, which will be available to our partner families and to the public. These would include items such as: weatherization, minor plumbing/electrical tutorials, fire safety, resume building and interview skills, and additional financial education courses etc. The goal of these classes is to equip first time homebuyers with the knowledge and tools they need to be able to maintain their home and to improve their financial stability.

BRIEFLY LIST PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES FOR REQUESTED FUNDS: *(Indicate if the funds are to be used for an operational subsidy or for one-time expenditures such as a project or equipment acquisition or capital improvements; indicate whether other sources are available and been applied for; indicate if you have requested 1% funding from the City of Sheridan and/or the towns of Dayton, Ranchester and Clearmont)*

HFHEB is requesting \$10,000 per year. \$7500 will be directed to the cost of one foundation per year and \$2500 will fund the educational classes we want to provide to the public and to homeowners. This is an increase of 56% from what we have received from previous Sheridan County One Cent Funds.

Construction expenses are the largest expense our affiliate incurs, and costs have seen a steady rise each year. With a limited budget, it is critical that we keep our expenses as low as possible. Funding support helps to offset the expense of each home and the loss we take when we sell the loan for servicing. The average Habitat house costs \$125,000 for direct construction expenses (materials, supplies, land), and \$165,000 with direct/indirect costs. Currently 3-4 foundations are poured a year, and construction takes place year round. HFHEB employs one full time Construction Supervisor and a part time Apprentice.

Habitat has identified a significant need for educational classes to help residents become financially stable enough to be eligible for the program and to maintain their homes so that they last.

Around 65% of Homeownership applicants for do not qualify for the program due to their financial situation. Poor credit scores, judgements, or insufficient income (those living in poverty), disqualify them for a Habitat mortgage loan. Providing financial education and counseling classes will give individuals and families the tools that they need to improve their financial situation, eliminate debt, live within their means, and for many, it will offer them the chance to rise out of poverty.

Homeowner maintenance classes will benefit both Habitat partner families and the public. Participants will gain knowledge and resources they need in order to maintain their home, be self-sufficient, and be a proud neighbor and homeowner. These courses would include weatherization, minor plumbing/electrical tutorials, landscaping and yard maintenance, power tool demonstrations, etc. The majority of Habitat partner families are first time homebuyers who have not had to be responsible for maintaining their home before. HFHEB wants all families to be successful as they transition to owning their first home. Offering these classes to the public as well will provide opportunities for groups of

all ages, backgrounds, and demographics to learn together. Habitat recognizes the value of homeownership in our community for everyone, not just our partner families. The success of all homeowners will add value to our neighborhoods and to our community.

As the only nonprofit affordable housing organization in Sheridan County, partnerships with the county and other entities is critical in order to address these issues. Initial results from a recent Community Needs Report identified affordable housing as the most needed service in the county. Working together, we can continue to address this need and research other areas that HFHEB can help families so that they can continue to live and contribute to this community.

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR ORGANIZATION GOALS AND ESTIMATE THE NUMBER OF PERSON YOU SERVICE IN THE COMMUNITY:

HFHEB’s ultimate goal is to equip families with the tools and resources they need through the programs that we offer so that they can establish roots in this community, improve their financial status, and have the ability to give back and contribute to society. This will be accomplished by:

- Adding financial education/homeowner maintenance classes to partner families and the public
- Partnering with other community organizations to identify ways to meet the growing need for affordable housing
- Expanding our building capacity from 3-4 homes per year to 5-6 homes per year.

	2016-2017	2018-2019 (projected)	2020-2023 (projected)
Affordable Housing*	41 (12 families)	36 (9 families)	56 (14 families)
A Brush With Kindness*	9	16	24
ReStore	15,600	15,600 (7800 per year)	31,200
Homeowner Educational/ Maintenance Classes	30 (Financial Peace)	300 (Financial Peace, all other classes)	1,000 (Financial Peace, all other classes)
TOTAL DIRECT REACH:	15,680	15,952	32,280

**total number in household*

Complete this section if your agency has previously been awarded One Cent Funding for the period of July 2015 through March 2018:

Amount Awarded: \$4,600 per year after an 8% deduction in 2016/2017.

Have all the funds been expended: All County One Cent funds have been expended on our programs.

Did you receive 1% Optional Tax Funds from the City of Sheridan or the towns of Dayton, Ranchester and Clearmont. If so what amount was awarded:

HFHEB has been the recipient of City of Sheridan One Cent funds. Per year HFHEB has received \$8,400 to support the programs offered to Sheridan County residents in our efforts to eliminate poverty housing and promote the building of affordable housing. Our most recent One Cent City funds was increased to \$10,000 per year restricted to funding the Brush With Kindness program.

Briefly describe the impact that the previous award has had on your program, project or organizational operations. Some discussion items to cover in this section may include:

- *Number of persons served, and demographics of persons served (income level, age, race, etc.)*
- *Describe the overall impact of these funds on your program, project or organization*

- *If your agency has not yet to spent all the awarded funds, please briefly describe your plans to expend the funds by the end of the fiscal year*
- *Did your agency use One Cent funding to leverage additional funds, either through grants or other means?*

New construction affordable housing and the Brush With Kindness program serves families and individuals who meet the most recent HUD income guidelines for Sheridan County. HUD focuses on the 30-60% of the median income for Sheridan County. For example, a family of four needs to make a gross income of \$2,050-4,979.

In 2016/2017 twelve (12) families partnered with Habitat for the homeownership program out of thirty-four (34) applicants. Of all of 34 applicants, 68% represented single parent households.

So far in 2018 five (5) applications have been received and one (1) family has been approved. 80% of applicants represent single parent households. The Homeowner Application cycle opens twice per year in October and in April, therefore applications are still being accepted as of the date of this application.

HFHEB actively seeks funding opportunities within the community and partnerships with individuals and other businesses, congregations, and institutions to help us complete these projects. Support from the County will be used to leverage further community support and will directly impact our ability to maintain this program and meet the growing needs of the community.

All of the Habitat programs, ABWK, ReStore, and New Construction Affordable Housing directly provide a benefit to the Sheridan economy and a socio-economic benefit to Habitat partner families.

Affordable housing opportunities allow families to live and to work in the Sheridan area. Habitat families report that after they move into their homes, their health improves, their children’s grades improve, they feel safer, their finances improve, and they are overall living a better quality of life. Habitat homeowners have gone back to school at Sheridan College, they have advanced in their careers, and they have greatly increased their financial situations and are giving back to the community.

Habitat has helped 50 families with safe, affordable housing since 1994. The impact that a Habitat home has on the family and overall in this community is immeasurable, and creates a lasting, positive impact. With over 20 years of service to the Sheridan community, and with the need for affordable housing rising exponentially, Habitat looks forward to partnering with the County to address these issues and to assist families who need a hand up in this community so that they can continue to call this place home.

SIGNED: 

Title: Executive Director

Date: 4/23/2018

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED

1. VISIT <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SC1CentNonProfit> TO UPLOAD INFORMATION AND PHOTOS REGARDING YOUR ORGANIZATION.
2. PROVIDE A SUMMARY COPY OF YOUR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR BUDGET.
3. PROVIDE A SUMMARY COPY OF YOUR CURRENT FINANCIAL STATEMENT.
4. PROVIDE PAGE 1 OF YOUR MOST RECENT 990 (IF APPLICABLE)