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## Rock the Block set to revitalize Kaukauna neighborhood

Neighborhood to get a facelift during booming housing market, increasing home values while making them safer for the families who live there

**KAUKAUNA, Wis. (May 10, 2022)** – The <u>Greater Fox Cities Area Habitat for Humanity</u>, a leader in affordable housing solutions, is kicking off its first 2022 <u>Rock the Block</u> event in Kaukauna. The kickoff event will take place at Riverside Park in Kaukauna, located at 1001 Riverside Drive (<u>map</u>) at 2 p.m. Rock the Block will run from Thursday, May 12 – Saturday, May 14, 2022.

Riverside Park is one of the areas that will be getting revitalized as part of the Rock the Block three-day initiative. Rock the Block programs improve the lives of families in low-income housing by repairing deteriorating homes and community spaces.

"This is the eighth year that Rock the Block has been in the Fox Cities," explained Greater Fox Cities Area Habitat for Humanity CEO, John Weyenberg. "We've impacted dozens of communities with our Rock the Block efforts. It's exciting to hear how not only individual homes are being improved, but entire home values and neighborhoods are being impacted."

According to data from past Rock the Block work that took place in Menasha, there were measurable decreases in police calls related to drugs, code violations and even theft. These improvements to neighborhoods help increase home values within an individual neighborhood while also providing safer homes for the families who live in these typically older neighborhoods.

"I'm so grateful to the Greater Fox Cities Area Habitat for Humanity, the community who supports them and the Rock the Block program," explained Holly Koehler, a recipient of the Kaukauna Rock the Block program. "I learned after moving in that my home had lead-based paint in it. I have a young child now, and that lead paint is unsafe. I couldn't afford to correct the problem on my own, but with the help of the volunteers at Habitat for Humanity, my home is not only going to be safe for my child, but it will also increase in value because of this work." Rock the Block is a program that works on both residential and community-based projects providing affordable repairs, including roofing, siding, window and door replacement, porch repairs, exterior repairs and improvements, painting and landscaping. All work through this program is made possible through volunteers and community donations.

To learn more about Rock the Block, including how you can make a donation or sign up to volunteer, visit <u>foxcitieshabitat.org</u>.

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## About Rock the Block

Rock the Block is focused on bringing people together to revitalize neighborhoods. The purpose is to get neighbors and the greater community together to improve their city. Research shows that when investments are made into neighborhoods the quality of life improves. To learn more about Rock the Block or to volunteer with Greater Fox Cities Area Habitat for Humanity, visit <u>foxcitieshabitat.org</u>.

## About Greater Fox Cities Area Habitat for Humanity

The Greater Fox Cities Area Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit Christian housing organization that believes in a vision of the world where everyone has a decent place to live. This vision is brought to reality through affordable housing solutions which help families become homeowners, help low-income homeowners with critical home repairs, help families improve their financial situations to qualify for homeownership and help current Habitat homeowners through financial emergencies.