



PHOTOGRAPH: STEVE MCBRIDE

Christine Boone is among hundreds of volunteers learning building skills at Lowe's clinics.

Learning the Basics

LOWE'S CLINICS TRAIN HABITAT FOR HUMANITY VOLUNTEERS.

Volunteers in the Habitat for Humanity Women Build program not only help their community by building homes for families in need, but they also help themselves by learning construction skills. In fact, many of the volunteers take advantage of Women Build clinics conducted at selected Lowe's stores to learn skills such as how to handle tools or even hang drywall.

When Christine Boone of Davidson, North Carolina, first became a Women Build volunteer a few years ago, she had never used a power tool, and she attended only two clinics prior to working on a Women Build house.

"It is so empowering," Christine says of the clinics and the on-site construction. "You do the work and feel like you're


using parts of your brain that you hadn't used before." Along with many other skills, Christine now has experience installing insulation and framing walls.

For Lowe's associates who teach the clinics, the feeling of goodwill is mutual. "I look forward to doing these classes," says Lowe's Millwork Sales Specialist Bill Munz of Huntersville, North Carolina. "They are scheduled to last one hour, but they always run longer. These women are so eager to learn." In addition to dry-wall and power tool safety, typical clinics cover wood framing, exterior siding, roofing, insulation, and painting.

Lowe's is the national underwriter for Habitat's Women Build again this year. The program uses all-women crews to build houses alongside deserving homeowners. More than 100 homes in the U.S. were constructed in 2004. For additional information about the program, visit Lowe.com/CIHabitat.



GET INVOLVED!

Habitat for Humanity and Women Build projects could use your help.  Log on to Lowe.com/CIHabitat for more information. Listed below are the cities where Women Build houses are being constructed.

- Columbus, Ohio
- Detroit, Michigan
- Fort Bend, Texas
- Indianapolis, Indiana
- Kokomo, Indiana
- Mooresville, North Carolina
- Portland, Oregon
- Toledo, Ohio