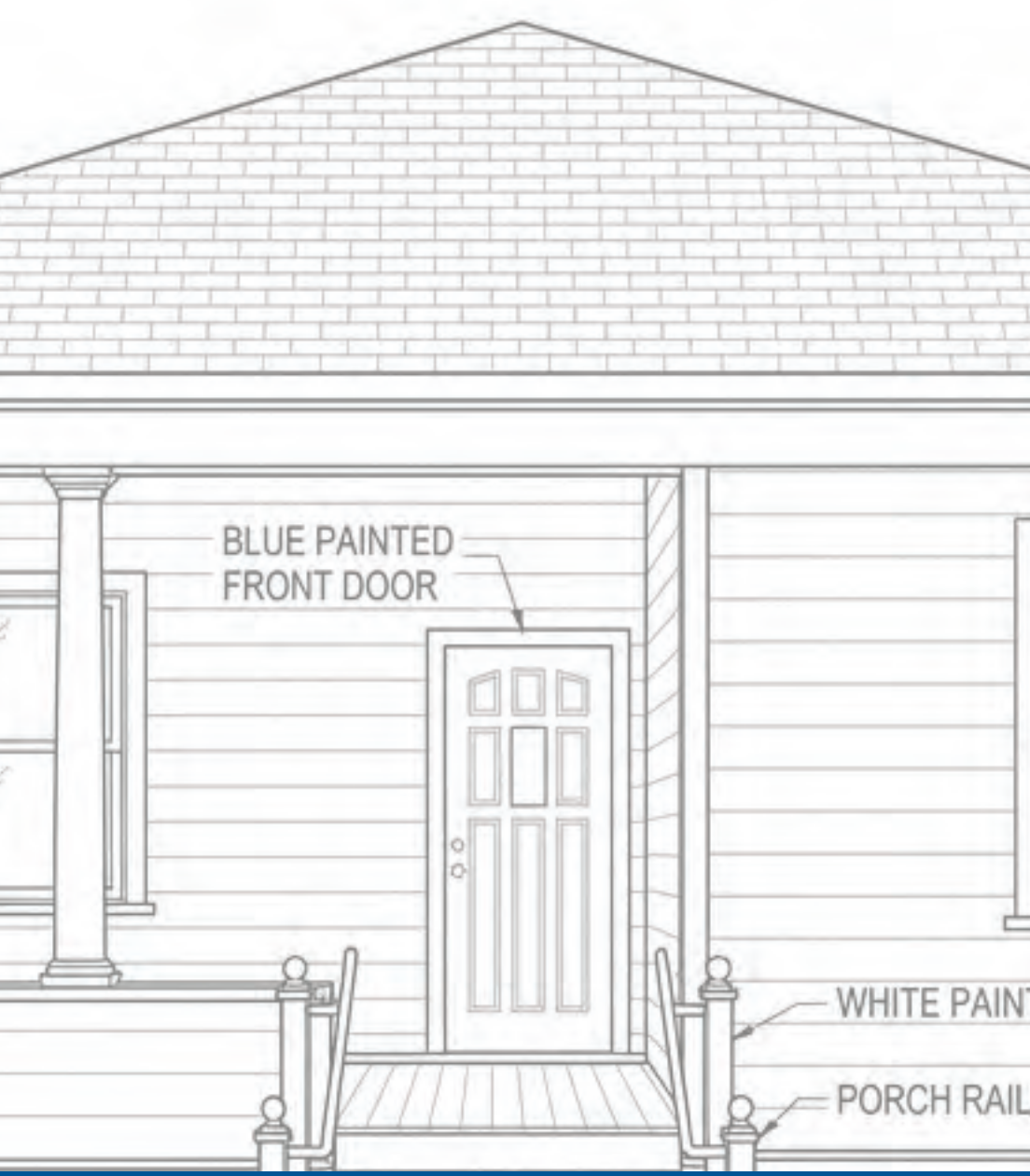


Habitat for Humanity® of Southern Santa Barbara County

Building a blueprint for community, housing innovation, & stability.

STEP: 7" RISE

32'-0" O.A. WIDTH

Blueprint for community

We all know that Santa Barbara can feel like a small town. And for Rosa, this one really hit home.

Rosa was born and raised in Santa Barbara, but 2026 was her first year volunteering with Habitat Santa Barbara. Little did she know that she would be signing up for a construction project located at the very home that her grandmother once owned.

Habitat Santa Barbara is preserving this 100+ year old house, updating it through the help of volunteers, and turning it into ownership housing by selling it to the Torres Family, a three-generation, local low-income family.

This Cota Street Affordable Homes project was made possible by the generous donation of a property that, before the donor acquired it, had belonged to Rosa's family.

Through volunteering, Rosa has found community, joy, and the chance to be a part of this home's past AND its future.



Evelyn, the new homeowner, and Rosa have formed a friendship over their shared love for the property.



The Torres family, a three generation household, will live in a preserved home that is affordable thanks to Habitat's program.

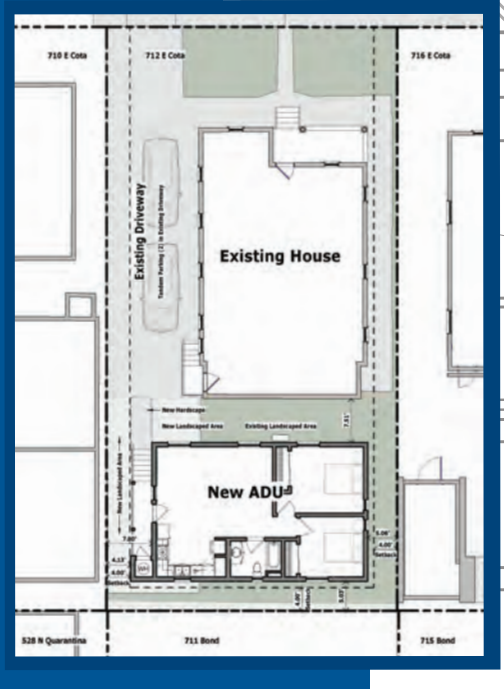
Please join us by making a gift today!

Habitat for Humanity® of Southern Santa Barbara County



Blueprint for innovation

To explore ways to improve our mission delivery, Habitat Santa Barbara utilized a "Preservation Plus" housing model which takes advantage of new policy, environmental, and design project innovations at the Cota Street Affordable Homes.



Policy:
We leveraged a new state law that allows accessory dwelling units (ADUs), traditionally used as rentals, to be sold as affordable homeownership. **We are proud to say that we are the first organization in Santa Barbara to sell an ADU as homeownership.**

Design:
We evaluated the benefits of off-site construction and used the innovation of modular housing. We installed the ADU via crane, saving time and allowing us to pilot this new housing type.

Environment:
We conserved resources and reduced waste by avoiding demolition of the front home through home rehabilitation, while the new ADU reduces construction waste by at least 50%.

Habitat for Humanity®
of Southern Santa Barbara County

How to get involved:



Donate

Volunteer



Learn about the ReStore



Thanks to appfolio *for underwriting a portion of our mailing, helping your generosity go further!*

Platinum Transparency 2026 Candid.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Blueprint for stability

The Lopez family: Wesley makes three

Tony and Sierra Lopez welcomed their baby boy, Wesley, in August. They are enjoying this season of life, the newborn snuggles and appreciating all the little moments as a family of three.

A lot of work has gone into purchasing their Habitat home, so it's a wonderful feeling to know that they are making new memories as a family and watching Wesley grow up in their new Habitat home.

"This has been such a big year for our family, and we're so grateful for all the support and encouragement we've received along the way. Thank you all for everything." – Tony & Sierra





ADU owners Tony + Sierra welcomed baby Wesley this year



Mother / Daughter duo are co-owners of 3-bedroom home





The Torres family: three generations, one roof

The Torres family has had some incredible milestones in 2026.

Generation #1: Evelyn achieved a personal goal by earning her associate degree in business administration and accounting and pursuing her bachelor's degree.

Generation #2: Mariana balanced starting a new job at Sutter Health while chasing her son, Santi. **Noah** started fourth grade and has continued to show his work ethic in the classroom and on the football field, playing for the Santa Barbara Saints.

Generation #3: Santi is 18 months, walking, talking, and enjoying the nearby playground!

"One of the things we are most excited about is being able to host family gatherings and create new traditions together in a place we are proud to call our own." - Evelyn Torres

The days are long and the years are short, but the impact of a Habitat home can be measured not in months or milestones, but in generations.