

Habitat for Humanity of Illinois' Illinois Lobby Day 2020

It begins with us

April 29, 2020
Springfield, IL



[#HabitatILinSpringfield](https://www.instagram.com/HabitatILinSpringfield)

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Lobby day agenda

7 a.m.	Joliet bus departs for Springfield
9:30-10:30 a.m.	Registration <i>Illinois REALTOR's Association Building, 3rd Floor</i>
10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.	Opening session Welcome Lea Anne Schmidgall, <i>Executive Director,</i> <i>Habitat for Humanity Greater Peoria Area</i> Video Remarks Bob Palmer, <i>Policy Director,</i> <i>Illinois Housing Action</i> Remarks TBA, <i>Illinois Housing Development Authority</i>
12-12:20 p.m.	Break & lunch is served
12:20-12:45 p.m.	Lunch session Preparation on meeting with your legislators and talking points
12:45-1:15 p.m.	Walk to Capitol building for group photo
1:20-4:15 p.m.	Legislative visits/observation of House and Senate session/Capitol building tours There will be guides from Habitat located on the third floor of the Capitol to help direct you when entering the House and Senate galleries and hallways. Our Habitat for Humanity information table will be on the first floor of the Capitol/South Hall to give you additional information or if you need any assistance. Elevators are available in the Capitol building for those who need them.
4:30-5 p.m.	Review of legislative visits <i>Illinois REALTOR's Association Building</i>
5:15 p.m.	Bus departs for Joliet

General lobby day information

Lobby Day Venue

Illinois REALTOR's Association Building
522 South 5th Street
Springfield, IL 62701

Attendance

Attendance at the Habitat for Humanity of Illinois Lobby Day is limited to registered participants, invited speakers, and sponsors. Please wear your lobby day name badge to all events in order to gain entry.

Registration

Please check in at the registration table on the third floor of the Illinois REALTOR's Association building to pick up your name badge, program, and lobby day bag. If you did not pre-register for the conference, we will accept day-of registration, but may not have materials to give you and will be unable to schedule an appointment with your state legislator.

What to wear

Attire for lobby day is business/business casual. Please note that we will be outside for photos in the afternoon. We recommend to be prepared with an umbrella and comfortable walking shoes.

Hotels

A block of hotel rooms has been reserved at Country Inn and Suites by Radisson on 3092 Stevenson Drive in Springfield. You can stay there for \$98 per room per night if you tell them that you are with Habitat for Humanity.

General lobby day information

Tours of the Capitol building

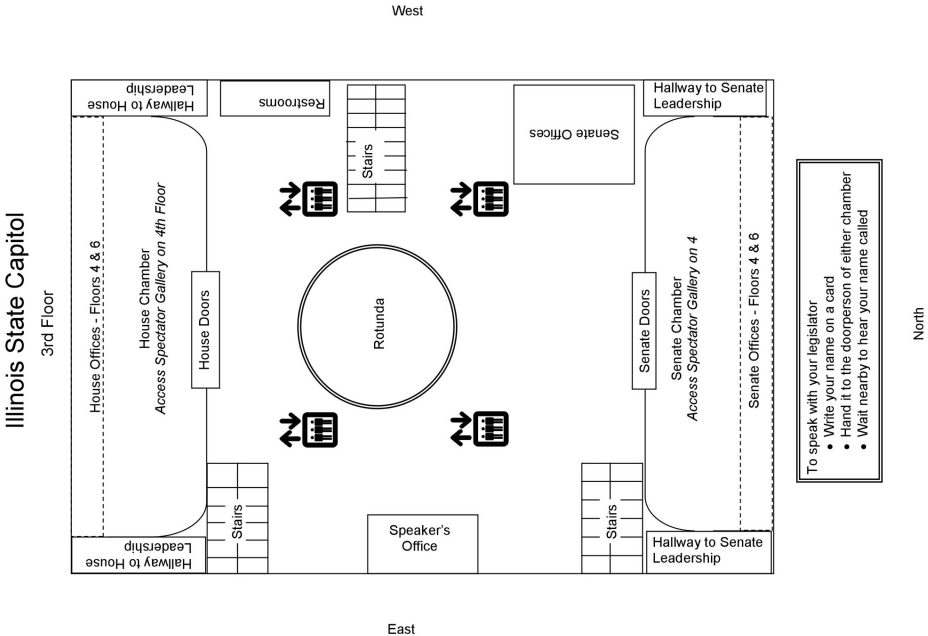
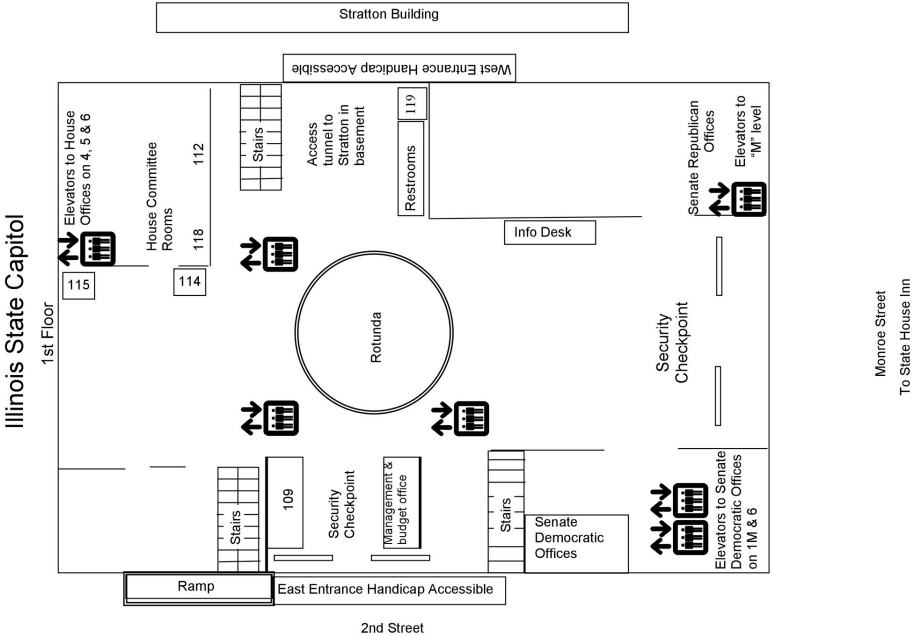
You can request a tour of the Capitol building by visiting the Information Desk on the first floor. Tours begin in the Capitol Rotunda every half hour from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1 p.m.-4p.m.

Social media

We are excited to share the work we're doing and encourage you to share your photos and lobby day highlights using #HabitatILinSpringfield. Make sure you're following us on Twitter @HabitatIllinois, Facebook @HabitatIL, and Instagram @Habitat_Illinois to see what we're posting! And join our Facebook event page (facebook.com/events/553772005179560) for conference fun and updates!

Capitol area maps

Capitol Building



Cost of Home

The issue: housing affordability

Families all across the United States are paying too high a price to cover the cost of their home. Rents and homeownership costs are skyrocketing, while wages are not keeping pace. Far too often, families struggle to make ends meet. Everywhere you look - cities, suburbs, rural areas - the stability that home should bring remains out of reach for too many families. At Habitat for Humanity, we know that a family should never have to spend more than 30 percent of their income on a home. But consider that today over 18 million U.S. households pay half or more of their income on a place to live. That is unacceptable.

That means that 1 in 6 families are denied the personal and economic stability that safe, decent and affordable housing provides. Instead, these families are forced to make impossible choices. Safe homes, nutritious food on the table, health care, access to good schools, reliable transportation - which would you choose? Habitat for Humanity knows the complexities that surround the cost of home. We also know the struggle, stress and pain of far too many families in our communities. And we know that those with the fewest resources are forced to make the hardest choices. We have to take a stand and declare our commitment: No family should have to pay more than half of their paycheck to cover the cost of home. Every-one deserves to build

the foundation for a strong, healthy future for themselves and their families - no matter where they live or how much money they earn. Every family deserves the chance to thrive.

The solution: Cost of Home, a national advocacy campaign

Building on its strong record of advocacy achievements throughout the U.S. and on the unparalleled reputation of Habitat's network of over 1,200 U.S. affiliates, Habitat will engage housing advocates; Habitat homeowners, volunteers and supporters; and federal, state and local policy-makers to advance access to safe, decent and affordable homes through its first U.S. advocacy campaign. Over the next five years, we commit to mobilizing our local Habitat organizations, our partners, our volunteers and community members across the country to find the solutions and help create the policies that will allow 10 million individuals to meet their most basic needs.

Through the Cost of Home campaign, which will launched in June 2019, Habitat for Humanity aims to improve home affordability by promoting policies at all levels of government that will:

- **Expand resources for home production.**
- **Increase inclusive access to credit.**
- **Enable equitable access to land.**
- **Develop communities of opportunity.**

Habitat for Humanity International mission statement and advocacy principles

Habitat's vision: A world where everyone has a decent place to live.

Habitat's mission: Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.

Habitat's global approach to advocacy

Habitat for Humanity strongly believes in influencing policies and systems at all levels to increase access to housing. Although strategies will need to be tailored in each country, Habitat shares a common advocacy approach around the world. The following are guiding principles for Habitat's advocacy approach:

- **Housing-focused:** Targeting issues that improve housing and the broader community.
- **Community-centered and supported:** Empowering those in need of adequate housing to advocate for policies and systems that will improve their communities.
- **Informed:** Grounded in practical program work. Every day, Habitat staff members and volunteers witness the challenges faced by low-income families and are uniquely positioned to influence public opinion regarding the realities of inadequate housing.
- **Evidence-based:** Basing policy positions on facts, research and data.
- **Outcome-oriented:** Targeting viable policy changes or other reforms that benefit individuals, neighborhoods and communities.
- **Volunteer-friendly:** Recognizing that volunteers are Habitat's most important resource. By involving volunteers in advocacy, Habitat maximizes impact and increases ongoing engagement.
- **Cooperative:** Honoring Habitat's long history of bringing communities together to meet critical housing needs. Affiliates can build on this legacy to become leaders in organizing individuals and organizations to advance better housing policies. Through coalition partnering, for example, Habitat has helped to increase critical government funding for key housing opportunities, including Habitat homeownership.
- **Mutually supportive:** Ensuring that its advocacy "lifts all Habitat boats" and does no harm to any Habitat organization.
- **Nonconfrontational:** Valuing Habitat's relationships with policymakers and supporters.
- **Nonpartisan:** Focusing on issues and never promoting individual candidates or political parties.