



Habitat for Humanity of Island County Senior Repair Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Habitat for Humanity of Island County is pleased to offer a Critical Home Repair Program for Island County Seniors. The majority of funding for this program was awarded by Island County, with American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 funding, directed to affordable housing. HFHIC believes the most affordable home is the one you already own, and it is our intention to assist income-qualified seniors to remain in their homes as long as they can

What type of repairs can I get help with?

Critical Home Repairs, such as: roof repair/replacement, window/door replacement, porch/step/ramp repair or replacement, electrical repairs, plumbing repairs, floor/ceiling repairs, bathroom/kitchen repairs, etc.

Aging in Place accommodations such as: bathroom grab rails, walk in shower modifications, toilet risers, cabinet accommodations, light switch/doorknob/threshold upgrades, etc.

Property revitalization such as refuse disposal, drainage, lawn/landscape overgrowth to restore access, etc.

Who is eligible to receive help?

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Applicant must own a home in Island County.
2. Applicant must be 65 years or older as of 9/1/2022.
3. Applicant must have a household income less than 80% of the Area Median Income adjusted for household size.
 - a. 1-4 person household = <\$71,350
 - b. 5-8 person household = <\$94,200

How do I apply?

Please complete the HFHIC Application for Repairs and submit no later than 4:00 pm Sep 9, 2022.

What if I need help with my application?

Please contact Lori at: (360) 679-9444 or email: office@islandcountyhabitat.com

Where can I pick-up/drop-off an application?

Applications can be picked-up or dropped-off at the following locations:

- Habitat for Humanity Store in Oak Harbor | 290 SE Pioneer Way, Oak Harbor
- Habitat for Humanity Store in Freeland | 1592 Main Street, Freeland
- The Center in Oak Harbor | 51 SE Jerome Street, Oak Harbor
- Housing Authority of Island County | 7 NW 6th Street, Coupeville
- Island Senior Resources | 14594 SR 525, Langley



- Camano Center | 606 Arrowhead Road, Camano Island

Are applications available online?

- Yes, you may download a copy of the application on our website: www.islandcountyhabitat.org. Then return it to any of our pick-up/drop-off locations.
- At this time, we do not have a secure, encrypted portal to allow you to complete and submit the application online and only paper copies will be accepted.

When will applications be available?

Applications will be available Aug 22, 2022 - September 9, 2022

When are applications due?

Applications are due by 4:00 pm September 9, 2022

Where can I turn in my application?

- Applications can be delivered to any of the preceding application pick up locations.
- You may email a copy to: office@islandcountyhabitat.com
- You may mail your application to: HFHIC Family Services, PO Box 2279, Oak Harbor, WA 98277 (mailed applications must be postmarked by September 9, 2022.)
- You may contact HFHIC for special arrangements by calling Lori at: (360) 679-9444 x1103

How will applicants be selected?

Applications will be screened by a volunteer committee and prioritized based on applicant need, program requirements and organizational capacity.

How many applicants will be selected?

HFHIC will accept all applications meeting our criteria into the program, then prioritized by the committee based on need and organizational/funding capacity. Accepted applications will be placed on a waiting list in order of prioritization to be scheduled with our construction team.

When will I be notified if we have been accepted into the program or not?

HFHIC intends to notify all applicants in writing prior to Dec 31, 2022 whether their applications have been accepted into the program, placed on a waiting list, denied or disqualified.

What happens after I am accepted into the repair program?

HFHIC will contact you to schedule a home visit and begin creating an estimate of repairs and scope of work to be performed.

If I am accepted into the repair program, when can we expect repairs to begin?

HFHIC will be completing repairs to accepted applicants' homes through 2025, beginning as soon as we can. Repairs will be scheduled individually with selected applicants beginning late fall of 2022.



Is there a cost for these repairs?

Yes, however HFHIC has kept the partial repayment terms as low as possible. Cost to applicants is capped at no more than \$1500 for repairs, payable over 3 years with no interest, and a pre-payment incentive of up to 40% off.

- Applicants earning below 30% of the Area Median Income based on household size, may qualify for additional discounts.
- Applicants who are determined to meet the criteria for USDA Rural Development grants and loans may be assisted in applying for those funds

Do I have to do anything else?

Yes, one of Habitat for Humanity's core values is to provide a hand-up, not a hand-out. We require program participants to provide 8 hours of "sweat-equity" according to their skills and abilities. Many common ways participants can be involved include assisting on the repairs to their home, assisting in one of our retail stores (cleaning, paperwork, greeting customers, repairing items, etc.), assisting our administrative team, fundraising, etc. There is something for everyone to do, and many find it a great way to socialize and meet new people, while benefitting our community.

Will there be future opportunities to apply for repairs if I am not accepted?

- At this time, HFHIC intends to offer a future round of applications once we have completed the repairs to those accepted in this round if there are remaining funds. This will be determined by the number of applications received in this round, the scope of critical repairs needed and associated costs of the needed repairs.
- HFHIC, at its sole discretion will select projects that create a higher quality of life to our applicants, while balancing the huge need of our community to be able to serve as many residents as possible.
- HFHIC is always seeking additional funding sources to provide future repair programs and will make future repair opportunities available as funding and staffing allows.

What if I am not selected?

Unfortunately, HFHIC will not be able to serve everyone who is in need at this time. Everyone who applies to our program will be placed into our database of inquiries. You will automatically be contacted when another opportunity becomes available.