

DAHFH CONSTRUCTION WELCOME/SAFETY TALK

Welcome and thank you [SPONSOR GROUP]– appreciate each of you giving up a day to help a family realize the dream of home ownership!

1. **The three goals for the day: 1) work safely; 2) build a quality home; 3) and have fun**
2. Introduction of the most important person – **[homeowner and family]** This family is buying this home, not receiving it as a gift.

It is thanks to your generosity that this family will receive an affordable mortgage, they will make monthly mortgage payments, pay taxes and insurance. Their down payment is 200-250 hours of sweat equity, which includes over 60 hours of education to be a successful homeowner and coming out each day to be part of building their home.

3. **Introduction** of House Leader(s), Core Volunteers and Construction Staff. **This group will be your leaders to complete today's goals.**

LOGISTICS

1. Location of the rest rooms, tools, supplies and power tools.
2. Work schedule for the day covering the key goals and work will end around 3:00 PM with everyone helping clean and pick-up at the end of the day. Lunch around noon.
3. Ask for patience getting started.
4. Prayer – ask one of the volunteers to say a short prayer to set the tone for the work day (optional depending on sponsor group).

Have a fun and safe day.

Let's get ready to build!

VOLUNTEERS

- **Hydration is critical.** Drink plenty of fluids. Muscle cramps, headaches, dizziness, lightheadedness, and upset stomach are some common signs of Heat Exhaustion. STOP and take a break to drink and cool down. If ignored, could lead to the serious 911 condition of Heat Stroke.
- Take breaks when tired or feeling weak.
- Work within your comfort zone. It is OK to say no.
- Sunscreen and hats recommended **most days.**

Go to SAFETY SPEECH

HARD HATS are mandatory on build site

While on the build site please DO NOT use your cell phones to talk or text.



Site Safety



Hard Hat Area – check with Construction Supervisor or House Leader on days that are



Safety Glasses – required for using any power equipment or ramset



Hand Protection – wear appropriate gloves, do **NOT** wear around power equipment



Foot Wear – wear appropriate shoes, **NO** open toed shoes or cowboy boots (roof)



14 & 15 – can landscape after house built, must have 1 adult over 21 per youth
16 & 17 – can do construction, no power tools or roof, 1 adult over 21 per 5 youth



Please – no cell phone use around active work site



Watch Out – trip hazards, keep site clean and orderly, never leave nails sticking out



Be Aware – people working around you, remember lumber has two ends!



Roof Work



Never – set anything down on the roof unless secured! Wear a tool belt



Dropped Item – yell “headache” to alert below. Do **NOT** chase for the item!



Ladder Safety

- Test ladder stability
- Set at correct angle (see left)
- Always face ladder when using, 3 points of contact

Correct Angle

- Make sure **A-Frame** ladders are fully open on slab or level surface
- Do **NOT** stand on the top 2 steps
- NEVER** leave **anything** on top of the ladder!
- Do not over reach doing a task (belly button inside outer rails)
- Extension ladders – ensure rung lock is set and for roof use, extend 3 feet beyond and secure



Hydration is Critical – drink plenty of cool water (1 cup per 15-20 minutes); should need to use restroom in morning and afternoon if drinking enough
Work with a buddy – remind each other on breaks and drinking water



Lift – with your legs, **NOT** your back; avoid twisting when lifting



First Aid Kits:

- Construction Van
- Site Container

Alert House Leader or Construction staff immediately for anything more serious than a band-aid!



Safety is no accident!



All Accidents are preventable Safety is no accident

- **The most necessary tool: your brain. Think before you start.**
- **Most importantly be patient. Never be in a hurry.**

PERSONNEL

- **Wear appropriate gloves, clothing and shoes (No open-toed shoes or no cowboy boots on roof) Loose clothing and jewelry are a hazard around power equipment.**
- **Hydration is critical. Drink plenty of fluids, about 1 cup every 15 to 20 minutes. You are not drinking enough if you are not visiting restroom once every 4 hours. Muscle cramps, headaches, dizziness, lightheadedness, and upset stomach are some common signs of Heat Exhaustion. STOP and take a break to drink and cool down. If ignored, could lead to the serious 911condition of Heat Stroke.**
- **Take breaks when tired or feeling weak. You make poor safety choices when tired.**
- **Work within your comfort zone. It is OK to say no.**
- **Lift with your legs, not your back. Avoid twisting when lifting.**
- **Know your limits. Team work is encouraged.**
- **Sunscreen and hats recommended most days.**
- **Know the location of the first aid kits. (*Point out location*) Anything more serious than a band-aid, let the house leader or staff member know immediately.**

SITE

- **Watch out for trip hazards.**
- **Keep the site as clean and orderly as possible.**
- **Never leave nails sticking out of wood; remove them.**
- **Remember lumber has two ends.**
- **Careful where you leave un-nailed wood. Gravity works 24/7.**
- **Be aware of people working around you, especially above you.**
- **All outside work stops for lightning.**
- **Make adjustments to tools disconnected from power source.**
- **Make sure tools are in good working order & used for their intended purpose.**
- **Use safety equipment.**
 - 1) **Safety glasses are required if using any power equipment.**
 - 2) **Dust mask if cutting treated wood or sanding siding.**
 - 3) **Earplugs & safety glasses required if using the ramset.**

ROOF

- **Wear nail belt to have a place to secure all hand tools.**
- **Never set anything down on the roof, unless secured.**
- **Alert those below when something is dropped by shouting “headache.”**
- **Do not chase anything dropped.**
- **Be aware of footing at all times (rain or sawdust makes the roof slippery).**

LADDER

- **Do not put anything under the low side; dig out the high-side to level ladder. Use spike foot for loose ground.**
- **Make sure ladder is stable before using (test on bottom rung).**
- **Make sure set at the correct angle. With foot at the bottom of ladder you should just be able to touch the ladder with arm extended.**
- **Make sure A-frame ladders are open all the way if used on the slab.**

- ❑ Extension ladders rung locks are properly set.
- ❑ Going to the roof. ladders extend 3 feet beyond and secured by blocking at the top.
- ❑ Do not over reach to do a task; your belly button should not be outside rails. Move ladder as needed to reach work safely.
- ❑ Go up or down facing the ladder with 3 points of contact.
- ❑ Do not stand on the top two steps; get a longer ladder.
- ❑ Never leave tools or nails on top of ladders.
- ❑ Have someone hold if needed.

If you feel unsafe, you most likely are; be aware and listen to your body & mind. The key to safety is attitude!

1. Prayer – ask one of the volunteers to say a short prayer to set the tone for the work day (optional depending on sponsor group).
2. Location of the rest rooms, tools, supplies and power tools.
3. Work schedule for the day covering the key goals and work will end around 4:00 PM with everyone helping clean and pick-up at the end of the day. Lunch around noon.

Ask for patience getting started. Divide the sponsor group by those wishing to stay on the ground, willing to work on ladders, and so forth. Assign to predetermined task leaders.