Building the Builders

Leadership Eastern CT community service supports Habitat for Humanity

There’s an old saying about the cobbler’s children not having shoes. When your institution’s mission is building homes for others, as in the case with Habitat for Humanity, all your energy goes into that mission, and there is not time or resources to devote to your own projects.

Since the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT is often in the background helping nonprofits so they can help others, Leadership Eastern CT stepped up to help Habitat make some needed improvements to their New London offices.

Leadership Eastern CT is two-year program for area professionals to explore Eastern Connecticut, learn about its leaders and challenges, and discover how they can participate in its success. A community service project is part of the program each year.

This fall the Leadership Class of 2021 raised over $11,000 and volunteered their time to improve the accessibility and appearance of Habitat’s Victorian-era building at 337 Street Board. The Leadership team worked over several weekends on maintenance projects, including removing stumps and overgrown shrubs, replanting the landscaping, and sanding and painting railings as well as the Habitat sign.

A major component of the project was rebuilding the accessibility ramp. Dean Rowe, an operations manager at Dominion Energy and Leadership Class Participant, led the construction project, dedicating hours and know-how to the essential improvement.

In addition to the completed work, the Class of 2021 donated $8,000 toward future beautification projects as part of their community service project. They are pictured on the rebuilt access ramp.

Members of the Chamber’s Leadership Class of 2021 present $5,000 donation to Habitat for Humanity toward future beautification projects as part of their community service project. They are pictured on the rebuilt access ramp.

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