

# Volunteer Profile

## Ellen Skomsky

Ellen encourages others to volunteer with Habitat as Family Advocates.

“It is such a relationship building volunteer position. At the end of the day, it is worth every single ounce of hard work that you put into it.”

Ellen Skomsky, a retired teacher, has been a passionate Family Advocate for Habitat for Humanity of Metro Louisville for almost twenty years. As a Family Advocate, Ellen describes her role as being a liaison between a family and Habitat from the time the family is approved until their house is completed. “I’m a Habitat friend to the families. I help guide and encourage them through the process,” Ellen said.



Though she’s worked with several families over the years, Ellen felt one of the most rewarding experiences she had was with a mother/daughter pair early on in her Habitat career. Throughout the process, Ellen became very close with the mother, Paula and the daughter, Laquita. When Laquita won a trip to New York from a radio station, the pair asked Ellen to accompany them. Ellen got to experience Paula and Laquita’s first plane ride and vacation right alongside them. “We had a ball on that trip,” Ellen said. Though Paula passed away earlier this year, Ellen still remains close with Laquita and her children.

Ellen says that one of the best parts of being a family advocate is being with the families on their house dedication day. “To see the joy in their faces and know that they might not have had the opportunity to be homeowners without Habitat is so rewarding,” Ellen said.

In addition to being a Family Advocate, Ellen also recruits volunteers at Epiphany Catholic Church for the Catholic Quartet Habitat home and brings her work team out once a year for a day of service.

Thank you, Ellen for your commitment to Habitat’s mission for the past twenty years. With your help, you have played a significant role in Habitat bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope.

To learn more information about becoming a Family Advocate, contact Carin Veech at [cveech@louisvillehabitat.org](mailto:cveech@louisvillehabitat.org) or 502.805.1402.