

PRESS RELEASE

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Nebraska State Home Builders Association Announces 2026 "Community Build" Program – Project Reservations Now Open

NSHBA Seeks Applications for Up to Three Community Build and Remodel Projects to Benefit Nebraska Nonprofits and Government Agencies

Lincoln, Nebraska – The Nebraska State Home Builders Association (NSHBA) announced today that it will begin accepting applications for up to three (3) community build or remodel projects through May 1, 2026. These projects will construct small structures for Nebraska nonprofits or government agencies in support of their nonprofit missions or governmental functions.

Priority Focus Areas

Applications from Historical Societies, homeless shelters, and educational programs located near one of the four state chapters will receive priority consideration. Applicants must have project funding secured before submission.

The NSHBA will provide a firm bid for work to be completed on the client's site, using materials and supplies provided by the client. All required permits and project approvals remain the responsibility of applicants.

Project Parameters

Ideal projects can be completed in one to two days by a multi-skilled crew of up to ten laborers. Design and material provision are the client's responsibility. Licensed trades must handle all plumbing and electrical work; the homebuilders association will provide all other labor, machinery, and skilled talent at cost.

Project funding remains the responsibility of the nonprofit applicant.

The “Community Build” Model

Similar to traditional barn raisings, many nonprofits and local agencies seek to add or remodel small rooms, offices, or buildings. Homeless shelters may wish to pilot tiny homes or Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) for their clients. Educational institutions may use projects to train students on actual jobsites.

During peak spring, summer, and fall months, professional homebuilders throughout the state may have crews available for full weeks with only four days of scheduled work. These smaller community build projects efficiently fill work schedule gaps and round out regular project timelines.

Mutual Benefits

On community build projects, NSHBA member homebuilders contribute valuable labor and skills to move projects toward completion. While clients are charged labor at cost, volunteer time and equipment are provided at no charge. The proceeds from "at-cost" labor support NSHBA member charities and community activities.

"It is a win/win for everyone involved," said Greg Geis, NSHBA Association Chairman. "The client gets their project built quickly at a very reduced cost and the homebuilder members work at what they do best to support their charities and activities. There is no down time or wasted effort and everyone, especially the community, benefits."

2025 Success Story

Recent 2025 projects include the construction of a "Summer Kitchen" at Stolley Homestead in Grand Island.

Project Specifications and Locations

Preferred projects involve traditional wood-framed construction and measure less than 1,000 square feet. Preferred locations include areas near NSHBA chapters in:

- Norfolk
- Grand Island
- Columbus
- Kearney

Early reservations are strongly encouraged to allow adequate time for logistical planning before the building season.

How to Apply

Applications are Due by May 1, 2026

Application forms are available at the NSHBA website:

<https://nshba.org/Home/Community-Build>

About the Nebraska State Home Builders Association

The NSHBA represents homebuilders, remodelers, and industry professionals throughout Nebraska committed to housing affordability, quality construction, and community service.

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