



Building homes in partnership with God's people in need

(Revised 3/15)

Policy Statement for Sweat Equity

Kearney Area Habitat for Humanity (KAHFH) considers the sweat equity hours to be part of the required down payment on the Habitat house. Therefore, closing will not occur nor will the purchasing family be allowed to occupy the house until the sweat equity hours have been satisfactorily completed and properly documented. **Only the KAHFH board of directors may waive any part of this requirement.**

- I. Sweat equity hours may be earned by:
 - A. Working on own house.
 - B. Working on another Habitat house
 - C. Doing other work for Habitat:
 1. Clerical: typing, mailings, phone, etc.
 2. Fund raising for KAHFH
 - D. Participation at any educational sessions sponsored by KAHFH

- II. To earn initial twenty hours during the non-building season, applicants may do volunteer work, **subject to the approval of the KAHFH Board of Directors.**

- III. Hours of sweat equity required:
 - A. The homeowner and the immediate family (parents and children) are responsible for **250 hours of sweat equity**. A single person may designate one other person to work on their behalf, unless they have children over 14. With reference to the 250 hours, the homeowner must have more sweat equity hours (at least 1 hour) than the designated person.
 - B. Friends and extended family solicited by the homeowner (siblings, aunts/uncles: church, work, personal or Habitat Friends) are responsible for 150 hours.
 - C. Total sweat equity requirement is 400 hours.

****KAHFH board members and committee members are not eligible to contribute sweat equity hours.**

- IV. **The first twenty hours of sweat equity must be completed as part of the application process. These 20 hours MUST be completed by the applicants or build partner of single applicants.** All sweat equity earned during the application process may be applied to the 250 hours needed by the homeowner.
- V. The homeowner is asked to be at the job site on every scheduled workday during the construction of their house, if at all possible.
- VI. The homeowner will be responsible for staining and varnishing the trim and doors of their house.
- VII. Sweat Equity Policy for Children:



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- A. Under 16 years old – not allowed on site
- A. 16-17 year olds need to have a waiver signed by a parent or guardian and notarized. If Kearney Habitat doesn't have a Notary Public present the notarize the waiver, the 16-17 year old cannot work. If a 16-17 year old comes without a parent or waiver, he/she must leave.
- B. 18 year olds, and older, do not need to have the waiver notarized.

***The KAHFH Board has agreed that applicants may baby sit for one or more children of another applicant on a building day for full sweat equity credit. These hours should be recorded in the same manner as sweat equity at the building site. This policy also is extended to relatives of the homeowner who baby sit during building hours for the homeowner.

- VIII. The homeowner will record all sweat equity hours on the form provided by Habitat. Hours will be approved by an appropriate supervisor and forwarded to the construction manager, who will verify the total sweat equity worked.

This policy statement supersedes any previous statements. Any "special situations" or deviations from this policy must be approved by the Kearney Area Habitat For Humanity, Board of Directors.