



## Services Provided:

- ❖ **Home Safety.** Volunteers make repairs and modifications that dramatically improve the quality of life of homeowners with disabilities. Home safety improvements can include grab bars in bathrooms, raised toilet seats, and wheelchair ramps. Home safety also includes ensuring that homeowners have adequate smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, and carbon monoxide detectors.
- ❖ **Roof repairs.** We provide roof repairs for low-income homeowners both within and outside of our target neighborhoods. We have increased the number of “cool roofs” that we are providing in an effort to reduce home cooling costs for the homeowners we serve.
- ❖ **Energy Efficiency.** We conduct Energy Audits on select homes of low-income homeowners. After the Energy Audit is complete, we pass the recommendations to the volunteers working on the home so that they can implement the energy efficiency improvements on their project day. We also provide energy efficiency education in our target communities through community-based workshops.
- ❖ **General Home Repairs.** We provide general home repairs for low-income homeowners. We focus on repairs that keep homeowners warmer, safer, and drier in their homes. Most repairs are performed by volunteers.
- ❖ **Community Beautification.** In each of our target communities, we work with community residents to identify beautification needs in or around public spaces. Volunteers from the community work with volunteers from corporations, churches, professional associations and schools to implement the projects on Rebuilding Day. Community beautification projects can include restoring empty lots, creating community gardens, landscaping at community centers, and “sprucing up” local nonprofit centers.
- ❖ **Referral and information services.** We receive calls on a daily basis from people across the Baltimore region that are in need of home repairs, many of whom we are unable to help. We assist these homeowners by identifying, and providing contact information for, one to three appropriate service providers. Our new Fix-It Program is making it possible for us to serve a portion of homeowners who, in the past, would have been referred to other programs.

## How we do it:

- **Annual Rebuilding Day.** Hundreds of volunteers come together in two target neighborhoods on the last Saturday in April to repair forty to fifty owner-occupied homes and work on community beautification projects. The repairs make homes warmer, safer, and drier for low-income homeowners.
- **Fix-It Program.** Repairs are provided for homeowners who live outside of our target neighborhoods. Repair needs can range from roof repair to a leaky faucet or broken stair rail. This program operates on a year-round basis and is focused on low-income homeowners who live outside of our target neighborhoods and for whom services are limited.
- **Corporate volunteer projects.** Volunteers from corporations with a local presence work on group projects year-round to provide home repairs for low-income homeowners. Projects provide visibility for corporations and team-building and morale-boosting opportunities for their employees.



## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: What is Rebuilding Together Baltimore?**

A: Rebuilding Together Baltimore is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1989. We provide home repairs to low-income homeowners who are seniors, people with disabilities, and families with children in Baltimore City and Baltimore County. All repairs are provided at no charge to the homeowners. We have assisted over 1,000 homeowners since we were founded.

**Q: How do you provide the repairs for free?**

A: We receive generous financial support from the corporate community as well as the government and local foundations. We use this money to purchase the materials needed for the repairs that we do. Then, volunteers do most of the repairs, saving us thousands of dollars in labor costs.

**Q: When are the repairs done?**

A: Some homeowners will receive repairs on our big project day, called Rebuilding Day. Rebuilding Day is always the last Saturday in April and is focused in two target neighborhoods. Other repairs are addressed on a year-round basis as part of our Fix-It Program. When the repairs are done depends on the location of the home and the repairs that are needed.

**Q: That sounds a lot like “Christmas in April”. What ever happened to that program?**

A: Rebuilding Together is the same as Christmas in April. We changed our name in 2000.

**Q: What kind of repairs do you do?**

A: We focus on repairs that will keep homeowners warmer, safer, and drier. These can include roof repair, weatherization, repair of safety hazards, and home safety improvements for people with disabilities. We can do many different types of repairs. What we do depends on the condition of the home and the skills of our volunteers.

**Q: Is this like the TV show, “Extreme Makeover”?**

A: No. We can't rehabilitate or build an entire house like they do on TV. We target repairs that will make the home warmer, safer, and drier and help to revitalize the community. The home will be more comfortable and safer to live in, and will probably look nicer, but it won't be a complete makeover.

**Q: Is everyone who applies guaranteed to get help?**

A: Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee that everyone who applies will be accepted into the program. We have limited resources and have to prioritize homes based on need as well as the skills and abilities of our volunteers.

**Q: What do you expect from homeowners if their home is selected?**

A: If a home is selected for work, we ask that the homeowner works in partnership with the volunteer team assigned to the home to prioritize and plan the repairs. We also ask that any able-bodied residents of the home, or relatives who live in the area, be present to help volunteers with the repairs.

**Q: How do you select the homeowners you serve?**

A: We select homeowners based on income, age, disability, and on the repairs that are needed in the home. We will only work on owner-occupied homes. We are not always able to serve everyone who applies.

**Q: If I have home repair skills and want to volunteer, what should I do?**

A: Please call us at 410-889-2710 or email Amanda at [amanda@RTBaltimore.org](mailto:amanda@RTBaltimore.org)  
We always need skilled volunteers!