

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: City of Marion, Habitat for Humanity and Affordable Housing Corp Partner to Launch the “Neighborhood Glow-Up” Program**

**(Marion, IN) November 17, 2021** - A partnership has formed between the City of Marion, Habitat for Humanity and Affordable Housing Corporation to beautify neighborhoods within the City of Marion. The “Neighborhood Glow-Up” program assists neighbors with small-scale curb appeal projects that help “glow-up” the home and surrounding neighborhood. By providing assistance with small-scale projects that improve safety and curb appeal, the partnership believes this can quickly boost neighborhood morale and contribute to overall safer, more beautiful, and less-blighted neighborhoods.

“Neighborhood Glow-Up” focuses on safety features, exterior security needs, curb appeal, and identifying critical repair needs. Neighborhoods with functioning porch lights, visible house numbers, and clear walking paths have been proven to be safer. Paint on the exterior of homes, secured crawl spaces and weatherized entryways not only beautify neighborhoods but also bring security to the home through preventing the disturbance of vermin and inclement weather.

“Neighborhood Glow-up” begins with a survey that assesses the neighbor’s needs. The survey is available in two forms: 1) for the neighbor and 2) for a family member, friend, or neighbor recommending a neighbor to the program. This survey will collect data on the status of Marion neighborhoods and direct our partnership’s attention to the homes and neighborhoods most in need of assistance. If neighbors identify critical repair needs, the partnership will guide neighbors to resources available through Habitat for Humanity and Affordable Housing Corporation that assist with larger-scale, more costly projects. To participate in “Neighborhood Glow-Up”, begin by following this link to the survey: <https://www.granthabitat.com/ glowup>

The partnership is dedicating the next few months to collecting surveys and program donations, with the goal of carrying out the “Glow-Up” projects in Spring and Summer 2022. “Glow-Up” projects will be carried out in conjunction with the annual City of Marion Neighborhood Cleanups through the City of Marion Maintenance crew and Habitat for Humanity volunteers.

Mayor Jess Alumbaugh, City of Marion expressed support stating: *“The strength of our community begins in our neighborhoods. It is innovative and progressive programs such as this that will continue to lift our community by providing assistance to those who are having difficulties maintaining their homes and properties. I would like to thank Habitat for Humanity and the Affordable Housing Corporation for all they do to help instill hope and pride within the citizens of our community.”*

Donations to “Neighborhood Glow-Up” may be made through 1) purchasing items on our Amazon Wish list, 2) dropping items in our “donation boxes,” and 3) making an online cash donation. “Donation Boxes” will be set up in various downtown business locations, including the Marion Municipal Building (City Hall). Acceptable donation items include: Lightbulbs, Landscaping Tools/Supplies, Light Fixtures, House Numbers, Hardware Store Gift cards, Painting Supplies (Rollers, Brushes, etc.)

**Link to the Amazon Wish-List:** [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2N2DDHKWSTV4H?ref =wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2N2DDHKWSTV4H?ref =wl_share)

**Link to Cash Donations:** <https://www.granthabitat.com/ glowup>

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