Habitat for Humanity®
Millstone Basin Affiliate

Building Crew Leader Profile

Crew leaders oversee a group of four to six crew members in completing a specific construction task. These leaders do not need to know how to build a house from foundation to completion, but they must be familiar with construction terms, be comfortable using various tools and be able to understand and follow the directions of the overall site leaders. Crew leaders provide training and leadership for crew members, so they should have at least basic teaching and demonstration skills. Well-trained crew leaders' competence in the construction process provides a stable base to support and direct the work of others.

Core Competencies for Skilled Crew Leaders

Habitat for Humanity Knowledge

- History of Habitat for Humanity.
- Mission and goal of Habitat for Humanity.
- Relationship between their participation and Habitat's goal.

Construction Safety

- Participates according to Habitat site-safety policies.
- Demonstrates and explains Habitat site-safety policies.
- Uses personal protective equipment appropriately.
- Monitors crew members for compliance with safety policies.

Construction Knowledge

- Describes structure and function of building systems, such as foundation, floor, walls and roof, and house elements, such as windows, doors, drywall, siding, trim, paint and cabinets.
- Reads, interprets and explains building plans.
- Understands and explains the meaning and importance of construction concepts, e.g., link square, plumb and level.
- Identifies defects and imperfections in building materials and quality of work.

Construction Skills (at least one)

- Construction of floor, wall and roof assemblies.
- Installation of windows, doors, roofing and siding.
- Installation of insulation and moisture protection.
- Installation and finishing of drywall.
- Installation of residential electrical, HVAC and plumbing systems.
- Installation of trim work and cabinets.
- Installation of floor coverings and tile.

Constructive Attitudes

- Willing to listen to instructions
- Willing to teach, lead and include all volunteers
- Willing to recognize and appreciate good work.
- Willing to thank people for their participation.

Roles for Crew Leaders

- Lot preparation: Responsible for getting the lot cleared and coordinate with excavator and concrete company for foundation.
- Permits: Responsible for filing building permits and applying for certificate of occupancy; meet with inspectors and convey comments and direction from inspectors to construction supervisor.
- Materials: Central contact for trades not supplying their own materials; maintain contact list of all vendors with who the affiliate maintains relationships; work with other lead installers making sure supplies needed are on-site when needed.
- Floor, walls and roof
- Windows and doors
- Plumbing
- Electric
- HVAC, including heating and ventilation
- Siding
- Roofing and gutters
- Insulation and vapor barrier
- Drywall and Spackle
- Paint
- Carpentry: Includes interior and exterior trim, cabinets, moldings, etc.
- Flooring and tile
- Landscape: Includes exterior final grade, grass seed, driveway stone.