

Advocacy in Albany

March 10 to March 16, 2012

Participant Information Sheet



What is Advocacy in Albany?

Advocacy in Albany is Habitat for Humanity of New York State's advocacy program providing participants with the tools they need to fight for changes in housing policy. We educate you on the issues, teach you how to organize, and arrange in-person meetings with state legislators. It's an amazing opportunity to be an advocate for affordable housing and gain invaluable skills and knowledge that will last a lifetime.

Click [here](#) to watch a video about our 2008 Advocacy in Albany event.

Agenda

The schedule includes interactive programs illustrating the lack of affordable housing in New York and provides participants with information on advocating and organizing for changes in public policy. The week will include legislative visits, where participants will be able to meet with lawmakers and discuss the policy changes we need to assure that people have access to decent, safe, affordable housing. Participants will be taught how to communicate with legislators and make the most of these visits, which will be arranged in advance. Participants may also stay an extra two days to participate in a Habitat build in the Albany area. A detailed agenda will be available on our website in mid-February.

"We went to Senator DiFrancisco's office and talked with him. No one had ever brought these issues to him before. I know I had an impact."

-Tom Rittenhouse, Syracuse University
2008 AIA participant

Registration and Program Information

Registration Instructions

Please fill out the reservation form and **return it, along with a check for all fee(s)** to: Habitat for Humanity of New York State, 911 E. Main St., Endicott, NY 13760. Forms can also be returned via email to info@habitatnys.org with Advocacy in Albany Registration as the subject line.

Space is still available, please contact Habitat NYS at (607) 748-4138 before submitting your registration forms.

Age Restrictions

Habitat for Humanity of New York State requires that each participant must be 18 years of age by the first day of the trip to register for the program. There are no exceptions to this requirement.

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Insurance Coverage

Part of your program fee is applied to supplemental accidental medical insurance. This policy will pay the deductible of an individual's own insurance, as well as any costs exceeding her or his insurance limit, up to \$250,000. If a participant does not have personal health insurance, he or she will be covered up to \$250,000. This insurance covers all participants who have an accident while participating in group activities, including building on site and group-sponsored evening activities. Coverage begins when a group checks in and ends when they leave. **Please note: Participants are not covered if they are under the influence of alcohol or drugs.**

Cancellation Policy

Planning for this event is based on the number of participants expected. In the event that you should cancel the trip after confirmation, be aware that **you will not be reimbursed your program fee(s).**

Transportation

Participants are responsible for all transportation arrangements and costs, both to and during the event. Even if you are flying to the site, rented vehicles will be needed to transport the group throughout the week. Supplemental insurance will not cover participants as they travel.

Meals

Four lunches will be provided. Participants staying at the church will have access to a kitchen and space to store food. A list of nearby restaurants will be provided as well.

Accommodations

Participants are responsible for arranging and paying for their own transportation both to and during the event.