

HOME COMING 2024

BRIAN MICKELSEN HOUSING HERO AWARD

TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE YEAR

HAVASUPAI 2024 HOME BUILD

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
CENTRAL ARIZONA

The capital of the Havasupai Indian Reservation, Supai, is considered the most remote community in the contiguous United States due to its location at the bottom of the Grand Canyon. Supai is only accessible by helicopter flight, foot, horseback or mule. When the Havasupai Tribal Council began to search for partners to build additional homes in Supai they were met with contractor bids in excess of \$2 million. The Council's recognition of the unique challenges of building in their remote location led them to Habitat for Humanity.



**FINISHED
CONSTRUCTION
AHEAD OF SCHEDULE**



**SERVED MOST REMOTE
TRIBAL COMMUNITY IN AMERICA**



**SUPPLIES HAD TO BE
FLOW IN BY HELICOPTER**

Habitat was faced with the challenge of getting construction materials for the homes down into the Canyon. Supplies had to be flown in by helicopter, including prefabricated wall panels manufactured at Habitat Tucson's CHUCK Center. Each affiliate worked in the Canyon in two-week deployments, ensuring they flew in the supplies and materials needed for their portion of the build. Nearly 100 helicopter flights were completed during the project. Habitat was able to not only construct the homes for a significantly lower cost than other builders, but also finish the homes ahead of schedule, creating little impact on the Supai Village tourism business. There are more families that have been displaced due to house fires in Supai Village. The completion of this project showed that it is possible to build cost-efficient homes for members in need from this remote community. This project was an unprecedented collaboration between multiple Arizona Habitat for Humanity affiliates and the Havasupai Tribe to undertake a remarkable initiative to create much-needed housing.

This project was conceived to address the housing needs of two families in Supai Village. Housing is not abundant, and the two families were in need of safe housing after previously losing their homes to fires. These families had been displaced for more than two years and temporarily living with friends and family. Four Habitat for Humanity affiliates across Arizona, Habitat Central Arizona (CAZ), Habitat Northern Arizona, Habitat Tucson, and the Williams Area Habitat, with the help of more than 125 Habitat volunteers, partnered with the Havasupai Tribe to build new homes for these two families. The construction to build a 1,408 square foot 3-bedroom home and a 1,920 square foot 5-bedroom home took approximately 14 weeks with a total cost of \$763,000.

