

Bylaws of Middlebury College Chapter of Habitat for Humanity

Preamble

Habitat for Humanity International Inc. (“Habitat for Humanity” or “Habitat”), a Georgia nonprofit corporation, is an ecumenical Christian housing organization that works in partnership with people in need to improve the conditions in which they are forced to live.

For purposes deemed worthy, a service organization, affiliated with Habitat for Humanity, is hereby established to assist Habitat for Humanity by working with any local affiliated or sponsored projects or the international headquarters and by submitting itself to be governed by and dedicated to upholding these bylaws and any codes of social responsibility as outlined by the campus student government association.

ARTICLE I: The name of the organization shall be: The Middlebury College Chapter of Habitat for Humanity.

ARTICLE II:

SECTION ONE: The foundation of the Campus Chapters programs is based on I John 3:18: “Our love should not be just works and talk, it must be true love which shows itself in action,” and on the phrase, “Building in Partnership” (“Aedificare in Societate”).

SECTION TWO: Habitat for Humanity is unashamedly a Christian movement, but is not a church or a doctrinal organization. It is dedicated to the principals of ecumenical and interfaith participation. All people are welcome to join Habitat for Humanity’s work.

SECTION THREE: The campus chapter can be established in conjunction with the student government, a club, or other campus group, and it may operate as a project of nay one club. But, the campus chapter, as an autonomous organization or as a single project of the club, must be open to all students, faculty, staff and others involved with campus life.

ARTICLE III: It shall be the primary purpose of the campus chapter to provide opportunities for its members to participate in all aspects of the work and ministry of Habitat for Humanity. In furtherance of this primary goal, the chapter shall endeavor:

Section One: To assist and work with the local affiliated or sponsored project or to help community members to form a Habitat project if one does not exist.

Section Two: To organize and provide work camp groups and short or long term volunteers to work at Americus headquarters and/or North American or international projects.

Section Three: To raise money for the overall work of Habitat for Humanity and the local affiliated or sponsored project.

Section Four: To spread the word while on campus about the Habitat organization and raise the level of awareness regarding the need to provide decent shelter for everyone, and to encourage chapter members to continue their support of Habitat’s ministry after graduation or retirement.

Section Five: To embrace and promote the overall purpose of Habitat for Humanity as embodied in the Covenant.

ARTICLE IV:

SECTION ONE: The active membership of the campus chapter shall be composed of student, faculty, administrators, staff and others who are involved in campus life and activities.

SECTION TWO: Membership in the campus chapter shall not be denied to any member of the campus community.

SECTION THREE: The campus chapter shall hold a meeting at least once a month during the school term to receive and communicate information and to transact other business.

SECTION FOUR: Committees shall be formed by the board as necessary for development and support of all aspects of the organization (i.e. Membership, fundraising, projects, social activities, community outreach).

ARTICLE V:

SECTION ONE: The campus chapter shall be run by a chair, or co-chairs, as deemed necessary by the members. The officers of the chapter shall be a secretary, and treasurer, all with terms of one year, which members may elect:

CHAIR/CO-CHAIRS: The chair or co-chairs, who must be a Middlebury College student, shall preside at all meetings of the organization and shall serve as the chief operating officer of the organization.

SECRETARY: The secretary, who must be a Middlebury College student, shall keep the minutes of the board and organization meetings. The secretary shall send all notices of board and organization meetings and is responsible for preparing a newsletter that keeps the membership informed. The secretary will keep a permanent roster of membership address and phone numbers and a current history of the organization. The secretary will submit reports on the chapter's activities to the Campus Chapters Department in Americus.

TREASURER: The treasurer, who must be a Middlebury College student, shall be responsible for all funds of the organization and shall give a report at each meeting of the board and at one meeting of the organization each semester. The treasurer will compile the annual financial report and act as liaison to the Finance Committee.

SECTION TWO: The board shall also include one Middlebury College faculty member, administrator, or staff member who is asked to serve as an advisor for a term to be no less than one year. The faculty advisor shall serve as a resource and liaison between the Habitat campus chapter and the administration and faculty.

SECTION THREE: The board may name an affiliate or sponsored project representative to serve as a board member to act as a resource and liaison between the local Habitat project and the chapter. The college chapter may name a student representative to serve as a member of the Addison County Habitat for Humanity affiliate to act as a liaison between the local Habitat project and the chapter.

ARTICLE VI: Elections for the succeeding year shall be held during the regular business meeting of the chapter proceeding the final meeting and no later than March 15th. Elections shall be guided by the principals of the Covenant in an attempt to secure broad campus representation. Quorum for election meetings shall be three-fifths of the membership. Directors and offices shall be voted into office by a simple majority of the votes cast.

ARTICLE VII:

SECTION ONE: The campus chapter shall hold and manage property and funds received by it in accordance with the general purpose of Habitat for Humanity and with the designated or announced purpose of such property and funds. The campus chapter shall not use or disburse the funds received by it in any way that inures to the benefit of a private person or that is contrary to the purpose of Habitat for Humanity. At all time, the campus chapter shall use the property or funds in furtherance of the charitable purpose of Habitat for Humanity. In the event of the dissolution of the campus chapter, all funds or property of the chapter shall be transferred or assigned to Habitat for Humanity or a local affiliated or sponsored project.

SECTION TWO: All monies, funds, or property collected or raised for a designated or announced purpose by the campus chapter shall be used by the chapter for such purpose. If the funds or property have been designated for the use or benefit of an affiliated Habitat project, then the funds or property shall be remitted or transferred to such project. If the funds or property have been designated for the use or benefit of an international sponsored project or for the general work and ministry of Habitat for Humanity, then the funds or property shall be remitted or transferred to Habitat for Humanity, in Americus, Georgia, for disbursement.

SECTION THREE: The campus chapter shall not accumulate funds, monies, or property in excess of dues collected for purposes other than announced or designated purpose which are consistent and in accordance with the purpose of Habitat for Humanity. The campus chapter shall not establish or accept an endowment of any kind or form. Any specific fundraising project of the campus chapter shall have an announced or designated purpose. The funds or monies raised by such project shall be used solely for such announced or designated purpose.

SECTION FOUR: The primary purpose of the campus chapter is to promote and carry on the work and ministry of Habitat for Humanity through affiliated or sponsored projects or directly through Habitat for Humanity in Americus, Georgia. Any building, construction, renovation, rehabilitation, or repair work shall be performed in conjunction with and under the direction of Habitat for Humanity in Americus, Georgia, or affiliated or sponsored projects or after consultation with the director of Campus Charters.

ARTICLE VIII: Ratification

- A. The constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the membership.
- B. The constitution must be approved by the Student Government Association Constitution Committee.

ARTICLE IX: Amendments

- A. Amendments to the constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the membership.
- B. Amendments to the constitution must be approved by the Student Government Association Constitution Committee.

Approved as to form: January 25, 1991

Edited and Approved: Spring 1999

Edited and Approved: December 16, 2007