

Sharon B. Ellis
President/CEO, Habitat for Humanity of Orange County
Biography

Sharon Ellis joined Habitat for Humanity of Orange County in November 2005. In her role, Sharon is responsible for directing the activities of a dynamic staff of employees, and thousands of volunteers, as they work to help limited-income families build and purchase simple, decent affordable homes in Orange County. Staff and volunteers also assist with a quickly expanding repair program focused on low-income homeowners. She is also responsible for the two Habitat ReStore operations located in Anaheim and Santa Ana.

Sharon's prior experience includes more than 20 years in the field of education as a teacher and administrator. As an educator, she saw firsthand the positive effect that a stable home had on a family—and the negative effect frequent moves and unstable homes had on children.

Sharon's community involvement includes service as a member of the California Forward Housing Action Team; past president of the Southern California (Habitat for Humanity) Affiliates Association (SCAA); and, member of the U.S. Council Advocacy Committee for Habitat for Humanity International. She also serves as a trustee for the 501(C) Agencies Trust and as Chair of Habitat for Humanity California representing 43 affiliates.

Sharon holds a B.S. in Education from Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA; a Master's Degree in Education Administration from United States International University in San Diego; and a Second Tier Administrative Credential from California State University, Fullerton.

Sharon has lived in Orange County for over 40 years, and currently resides in Irvine. She has four daughters, ten grandchildren, and loves to travel. She has traveled to Nepal where she joined over 500 volunteers from 12 countries to help build homes for low-income Nepalese families as part of the Habitat International Everest Build. These were followed by trips to Cambodia, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Vietnam and Macedonia to build Habitat for Humanity homes for low-income families as part of Habitat Global Village trips.