



MEET OUR TEAM

**Dedicated to Building Homes,
Communities, and Hope**



The strength of New Horizons Habitat for Humanity lies in the passion, commitment, and expertise of the individuals who serve our organization every day.

Our team works alongside families, volunteers, donors, and community partners to advance our mission of creating safe, affordable housing opportunities throughout Southwest Georgia.

We invite you to meet the dedicated staff members whose leadership, service, and vision help transform lives and strengthen the communities we proudly serve.





DARRELL D. SABBS, JR.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Darrell D. Sabbs, Jr. is a respected nonprofit executive, entrepreneur, educator, funeral service professional, and community advocate whose career has been defined by servant leadership and a steadfast commitment to improving the quality of life for others. A lifelong resident of Americus and Sumter County, Georgia, he has dedicated his personal and professional endeavors to strengthening communities through education, affordable housing, mentorship, economic development, and civic engagement.

Serving as the Executive Director of New Horizons Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sumter County, Mr. Sabbs leads the organization's efforts to provide safe, decent, and affordable housing opportunities for families throughout Southwest Georgia. In this role, he oversees affiliate operations, strategic planning, fundraising, volunteer engagement, community partnerships, family services, and housing development initiatives. His leadership is focused on expanding the organization's impact while ensuring long-term sustainability and mission effectiveness.

A graduate of Morehouse College, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics, Mr. Sabbs later obtained a Master of Education degree in Mathematics Education from Albany State University. He further expanded his professional expertise by earning an Associate of Science degree in Funeral Service Education from Ogeechee Technical College. His diverse educational background has equipped him with a unique blend of analytical, educational, business, and leadership skills.

In addition to his nonprofit leadership, Mr. Sabbs serves as Co-Owner, Funeral Director, and Embalmer of Barnum Funeral Home, Inc., a historic institution that has faithfully served families throughout Southwest Georgia for generations. He is also widely recognized for his leadership in civic and fraternal organizations, including serving as Polemarch of the Americus Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, where he promotes scholarship, mentorship, and community service initiatives for young men.

Throughout his career, Mr. Sabbs has championed collaborative partnerships, youth development programs, community outreach efforts, and strategic initiatives designed to create meaningful and lasting change. His leadership philosophy is grounded in integrity, accountability, innovation, and service, with a firm belief that strong communities are built through collective action and shared purpose.

Known for his ability to unite stakeholders around a common vision, Mr. Sabbs remains committed to empowering individuals and families through opportunity, education, and access to resources. His work continues to reflect a passion for building not only homes, but also hope, stability, and pathways to success for future generations. He is proudly married to Shawn Billings Sabbs and is the devoted father of four children. Through his faith, leadership, and dedication to service, he continues to make a lasting impact throughout Americus, Sumter County, and the broader Southwest Georgia region.



LORI GADSON

HOME & FAMILY SERVICE COORDINATOR

Lori Gadson, a native of Miami, Florida, is an innovative individual whose professional background reflects nearly thirty years of experience in diverse human services, strategic planning, operations management and business administration.

Shortly after graduating from Savannah State University in 1994 with a degree in Sociology and minor in Psychology, Lori worked for several state and private Human Services agencies. During her tenure, she gained a solid understanding of the components of administrative management.

In 1999, she began her first career administrative position as Coordinating Supervisor of Programs for Belafonte Tacolcy Center, Inc., a non-profit community youth organization. Lori became actively involved in the social issues that plagued at-risk youth across urban communities of Miami-Dade County (FL).

While continuing to make a difference in the lives of others, she served with the Department of Labor's, Miami Job Corps Center as Manager of Counseling. She helped equip young adults with the fundamental tools needed in the workforce.

Lori relocated to Southwest Georgia in 2009 to become both the First Female and the First African American Female Chief Executive Officer of the Boys & Girls Club of Americus/Sumter County, Inc. It was there she developed numerous programs for youth ages 6-18. Her belief that exposure for youth in "Small Town America" is paramount to their ability to navigate and adapt in today's rapidly evolving society. As a result, her diligence increased the operating budget by nearly 200%, procuring the highest amount of grant funding in the history of the organization.

Continuing her plight to serve the underprivileged, in 2015, Lori transitioned to the Executive Director of New Horizons Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sumter County, Inc. She worked tirelessly to eradicate poverty housing for those in need for nearly nine years.

Lori holds an MBA, is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., a 2019 South Georgia Leads graduate, a 2015 graduate of Advancing Sumter Leadership Program, a 2014 graduate of Georgia Academy Leadership for Economic Development, a Georgia Department of Community Affairs Certified Housing Counselor, a former team leader for Ignite College & Career Academy (Business & Partnerships division), Rotary Club member, a former board or advisory council member to several organizations in Sumter County, and most recently a graduate of the inaugural South Georgia Women's Leadership Initiative.

As a licensed Georgia Realtor and entrepreneur, Lori combines her many skill sets to serve buyers and sellers in today's market. While navigating as a full-time entrepreneur, Lori consistently ranks as a Presidential Award winning Multi-Million Dollar producer.



EMMETT WASHINGTON

STORE MANAGER

Emmett Washington is a dedicated community servant and experienced nonprofit professional who has played an integral role in advancing the mission of affordable housing in Southwest Georgia for nearly two decades. Originally from New York, he relocated to Americus, Georgia, in 1986 and has since become a respected member of the local community.

After working in a variety of professional roles, Mr. Washington joined New Horizons Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sumter County in 2006 as a Construction Crew Member. Through his strong work ethic, leadership abilities, and commitment to the organization's mission, he quickly became a valuable asset to the Habitat team.

In 2014, Mr. Washington was promoted to ReStore Manager, a position in which he has successfully overseen daily operations, customer service, inventory management, volunteer engagement, and community outreach efforts. Under his leadership, the ReStore has continued to serve as an important resource for supporting Habitat's affordable housing initiatives while providing quality products and exceptional service to the community.

With nearly 20 years of service to New Horizons Habitat for Humanity, Mr. Washington remains committed to improving the lives of families throughout the region. His dedication, leadership, and passion for helping others have made him a trusted colleague, respected manager, and valued advocate for Habitat's mission of building strength, stability, and self-reliance through homeownership.



LARRY C. BARDGE

FLOOR SUPERVISOR

Larry C. Bardge is a dedicated and valued member of the New Horizons Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sumter County team, having faithfully served the organization for approximately 15 years. Throughout his tenure, he has demonstrated exceptional versatility, reliability, and commitment, contributing to virtually every aspect of the organization's operations and mission.

Over the years, Larry has fulfilled numerous roles within the Habitat ReStore and construction programs, including Donation Pickup Driver, Loader and Unloader, Store Organizer, Furniture Repair and Upholstery Specialist, Maintenance Technician, Cashier, Customer Service Representative, Lawn Care Operator, Mechanic, Roofer, Siding and Window Installer, House Painter, Landscaper, Warehouse Organizer, Forklift Operator, Floor Supervisor, Product Stocker, and Volunteer Leader. His willingness to take on any task and his ability to adapt to a variety of responsibilities have made him an invaluable asset to the organization.

Known for his strong work ethic and team-oriented approach, Larry believes in getting the job done with excellence and professionalism. He is particularly passionate about customer service, recognizing that positive customer experiences are essential to the success and longevity of any organization. Through his dedication, craftsmanship, and commitment to serving others, Larry helps ensure that every customer, donor, volunteer, and supporter who visits the ReStore feels welcomed and appreciated.

His years of service reflect a deep commitment to the mission of Habitat for Humanity and a genuine desire to make a positive difference in the community. Larry's loyalty, skills, and servant-hearted leadership continue to strengthen the work of New Horizons Habitat for Humanity and the families it serves.



CHRISTOPHER MCGRADY

WAREHOUSE SUPERVISOR

Christopher McGrady is an experienced operations and warehouse professional with more than a decade of success in warehouse management, customer service, construction, and hospitality industries. Known for his strong work ethic, dependability, and commitment to excellence, he has consistently demonstrated the ability to lead teams, improve operational efficiency, and deliver exceptional service.

A graduate of Americus-Sumter High School, Christopher developed the foundational values of hard work, teamwork, and accountability that continue to guide his professional career. Over the years, he has gained extensive experience in warehouse operations, including inventory management, forklift operation, logistics coordination, warehouse organization, and the implementation of efficient storage and safety procedures.

In addition to his warehouse leadership experience, Christopher possesses a diverse skill set that includes landscaping, facility maintenance, lawn care, painting, and general construction services. His broad professional background has equipped him with the versatility to adapt to changing environments, solve problems effectively, and thrive in fast-paced settings.

Christopher is especially recognized for his commitment to customer service and relationship building. He believes that treating every customer with respect, fairness, and professionalism is essential to organizational success. His ability to foster positive relationships with customers, coworkers, volunteers, and community members has made him a trusted and respected team leader.

Currently serving as a key member of the New Horizons Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sumter County team, Christopher continues to utilize his leadership abilities, operational expertise, and passion for service to support the organization's mission and strengthen the communities it serves. His dedication, integrity, and desire to help others make him a valuable asset both professionally and personally.