

# HOUSES FOR ROMANIA

Building homes for families in need



This program enables Hilti employees to help families in precarious housing situations with no possibility of improving their living conditions. It also offers the opportunity to strengthen soft skills and expand the area of expertise.

The project «Houses for Romania» includes a five-day on-site work assignment in which volunteers help an international NGO build houses for families in need. Not only do participants get to know each other outside the workplace and bring their newly

acquired skills back home, but they also change a family's life forever.

The work is carried out under the direction of the NGO «Habitat for Humanity» and includes simple manual tasks such as cutting boards, insulating walls or laying floors. Because all tasks are performed under the guidance of professional workers, neither prior knowledge nor special training are required. There are no costs for team members. The volunteer work is compensated as working time.



## Reason for engagement

25 years after the end of communism in Romania, life on the ground is still characterized by poverty. The economic situation in the EU country is poor, and there is currently no prospect of improvement. As a result, about a quarter of the population lives below the poverty line. The children of the affected families have a particularly hard time: together with their parents, they are trapped in a life which often neither guarantees basic medical care nor access to education. A vicious circle begins. This is precisely where the «Houses for Romania» initiative comes in, creating a sustainable livelihood for families in need. Because a secure home represents the foundation of a self-determined future.

## Collaboration partner

The project takes place in collaboration with the NGO «Habitat for Humanity». The international organization has been active in Romania for years and knows the peculiarities of the southeastern European country like the back of its hand. While

«Habitat for Humanity» selects the beneficiary families, organizes the construction materials and provides professional workers as well as volunteers from abroad, Hilti is helping on site with technical and labor resources.

## Perception of the beneficiaries

The beneficiary families are not charity recipients, but are actively involved, bear a small share of the costs and, if possible, work on the construction site. By actively involving them in planning, financing and construction, all parties involved enter into a partnership of equals. The repayment modalities are adapted to the individual financial possibilities of the beneficiaries. In the case of houses in which Hilti employees are involved, the Hilti Foundation bears the house costs.

## Expectations

## General conditions



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## Tips and tricks around the choice of clothes and luggage

To be prepared for all eventualities, clothes for different weather conditions should be brought along. Keep in mind that on construction sites, sometimes irremovable stains cannot be avoided. In addition to long and short pants, warm sweaters, a weatherproof jacket, warm socks and sturdy shoes are mandatory.

Participants will be provided with T-shirts prior to the start of construction activities, as well as protective clothing such as helmets and gloves. For the evening activities, one or the other comfortable

piece of clothing should not be missing either, as well as a pair of casual shoes. Romania uses power sockets according to the EU standard. Therefore, participants from non-EU countries may need adapters.

Do you have any questions? You can reach us by e-mail: [foundation-ebb.hiltiteam@hilti.com](mailto:foundation-ebb.hiltiteam@hilti.com)

