

Early this year non-profits InOurHands and Red Cloud Renewable received funding for our joint housing initiative, The Thiyuha Project, to begin training Lakota men and women to build our hyper-efficient, low-cost Domicile homes on the Pine Ridge Reservation in SD. When Kathy Price of Mission of Love learned of the great news, she promptly reached out to me and asked what we might need, and immediately went to work to procure a vast assortment of goods that would prove extremely useful for the program.

By early June of this year, building supplies arrived on Pine Ridge by the multiple semi-truck load! Thanks to Mission of Love, we've got a stockpile of windows, cabinetry, sinks, faucets, lights, several enormous stacks of lumber, and just about everything else a person could think of to turn a bare structure into a home. These gifts are already going a long way towards stretching our budget, which will allow us to do more good for families receiving these homes.

In April of this year, on my initial deployment to Pine Ridge from my home in central MA, and prior to the most recent delivery, I visited Kathy in Ohio at Mission of Love's warehouse. I was amazed to finally see the breadth of the work she does with my own eyes! I've been present for several deliveries to Pine Ridge in the past, but this experience really put the scale of Mission of Love's work into perspective. There were hundreds and hundreds of pallets piled halfway to the ceiling with humanitarian aid, wrapped and labeled for delivery all over the world.

The amount of effort she puts into her work, and the heart that continues to fuel it, was overwhelmingly humbling from the moment she opened the warehouse door and welcomed me in. As we walked from one end of the enormous warehouse to the other and back again, Kathy told stories of the recipients of each of the thousands of gifts she'd acquired and why it was important these families receive them.

It was clear that this warehouse wasn't just filled with just a bunch of stuff. It was *overflowing* with love. I knew that all the love that surrounded me in that space would soon be shared with others, and that space would quickly be restocked with even more love. As I looked around in awe, I found myself speechless, wondering, despite the size of the huge warehouse, how her heart manages to fill every corner of that space.

Kathy reminds me that it's no one person's responsibility to change the world, but instead to touch the hearts of those within our reach. Despite that humble reminder, her work really does change the world for the families and communities she serves in a tangible, measurable way, and over the decades of dedicated service she's extended her reach globally. Thank you Kathy Price and Mission of Love for all that you do! You truly are an inspiration.

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