

Speaker Spotlight



JENNIFER PARKS

**Executive Director
Habitat for Humanity Chicago**

With over 25 years' experience in Habitat for Humanity, Jennifer (Jen) Parks, Executive Director, joined Habitat for Humanity Chicago in 2011 dramatically overhauling problematic management and putting in place the team that is committed every day to seeing Chicago neighborhoods thrive. Under her leadership, efforts were realigned to focus on improving the housing market, image, physical conditions, and social conditions in key neighborhoods. Existing programs -- Affordable Homeownership, Construction, and Volunteers -- have grown; new programs have been established -- Homebuyer University, Neighborhood Grants Initiative. She also launched the first ReStore in Chicago. ReStore is a home improvement store selling new and use building materials, appliances, and home goods at reduced prices, which in turn helps fund the mission. With a team of 40 and a \$6.6M budget, Jen is committed to growing Habitat Chicago by increasing neighborhood investments and creating long-term positive impact with our Chicago neighbors.