



STEVE LAZAR

Owner
design+build by South Swell

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FEATURED CHARITY:

Habitat for Humanity
Greater Los Angeles ReStore
424-246-3637 | shophabitat.org

Design+build by South Swell is a signature design and build firm owned by Steve Lazar, a South Bay home-builder for the past three decades. The firm supports the Habitat for Humanity of Greater LA ReStore by donating unused building materials, appliances and other salvageable items from demolition and construction sites. The ReStore, which resells these items at a steep discount to the general public, is a primary funding source for Habitat LA's construction of affordable housing for low-income families in the Los Angeles area.

How did you choose the nonprofit organization that you support?

"It was only natural to want to support home-building for hardworking families in need. It would be unthinkable not to recycle and re-use items from the older homes that we tear down or remodel. Having access to so many needed materials enables us to help in meaningful ways beyond just writing a check."

Do you host events to help the public learn about important topics?

"We held a fundraiser a few months ago to raise money and awareness for Habitat LA. Local businesses graciously donated raffle items, raising more than \$1,900 for the ReStore. It was a huge success!"

FAST FACT

Sales from the ReStore fund six Habitat LA homes a year.

What's one simple way a local business can reach out and make a difference?

"It's important to determine what a charitable organization truly needs to succeed and to meet them where they are. We are proud to be the first local firm to incorporate item donation

into our business model, enabling ReStore to benefit from each and every design+build by South Swell construction project."

Do you involve your customers in supporting the worthy causes that you support?

"Our clients like Connie and Bob Werle were heartbroken to see homes being torn down around Manhattan Beach with so many usable items going to waste. They were on-board immediately when we told them about our relationship with Habitat LA."

Do your customers influence your choice of causes to support?

"Absolutely. We are lucky to live in such a wonderful community that cares about giving back. Donating physical items connects us to the true benefit of Habitat's efforts. Just recently, players from Mira Costa's football team gave their time to separate items on a job site for donation—a great way to involve local youth and connect them to the cause."