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## MHA Asked Help Build On Navajo Reservation

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## Masonry Heater Association Asked To Build Heater On The Navajo Reservation in Utah

**Can You Help? Another PR opportunity that needs volunteers**

The University of Utah's architecture program approached MHA and asked for help building a masonry heater on the Navajo Reservation in Bluff, Utah. The project called Design Build Bluff (DBB) is a master's degree architecture program where first year graduate level architecture students design a home their first semester, then build it the second semester for a reservation resident. They build the home on a very tiny budget, and rely heavily on volunteer and donated materials. The masonry heater will be built in approximately a 700-800 square foot home. The resident this year is Juanita Joe who is recently handicapped and is the mother of four children.



The build will be held **March 31- April 4, 2014** and is being organized by Matthew Helicke of Lefthand Masonry, LLC in Colorado. The heater being built is a small double bell which Tony DaSilva provided the design, based on Alex Chernov style double bell heaters. It is a great design, fairly simple to build, very durable and a perfect heater for a small home. There will be room for us to stay and shower at their "dormitory" but it will be fairly tight quarters. They also provide dinner each night. There are hotels in Bluff if volunteers would prefer less primitive accommodations.

Last year, MHA members Tony DaSilva, Matthew Helicke and Barrett Funka built a heater for the program. The heater we are building is basically the same as the one from last year. It was a great experience and brought happiness in a family's life.

This is an opportunity to help a person who is truly in need of help. There is never a good time, excess funds or free time to volunteer for this type of project. All we can ask is that MHA members (YOU) give it some thought and see if you can help. Then follow through by contacting Matt.

More information about the program, the house being built this year and even last year's project can be found at [www.designbuildbluff.org](http://www.designbuildbluff.org) most of the information is found in their blog.

For more information on the heater or to volunteer please contact Matthew Helicke.  
[matthelicke@lefthandmasonry.com](mailto:matthelicke@lefthandmasonry.com)  
or 970.631.7386



2013 Bluff Group

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