

# POLAND



**Habitat for Humanity Poland** was founded in 1992 marking the beginning of Habitat in Europe. Their main goal is to improve the housing situation of people living in difficult conditions.

**Why we build:** Overcrowded and damp housing without proper sanitation is still the reality for far too many of Poland's low-income families, seniors, and people facing challenging diagnoses. Often forgotten behind the walls of aging Soviet-style apartment buildings, research indicates that nearly one in four apartments in Poland should be condemned. With a severe affordable housing shortage, there is often no choice but to live in substandard housing that threatens health and safety.

**Wolomin Project:** There is a need for affordable housing and a need to take care of the elderly as Poland has an aging society.

**Wisniowa Project:** It is estimated that the demand for palliative hospice care will increase by 52% by 2050 (compared to 2020). The demand for this type of care will continue to grow in Poland due to, among other things, an aging population.

**Highlights:** Poland is a developed country and provides an international experience. Volunteers will have some of the comforts of home while helping to address poverty housing.

**Volunteer Tasks:** finishing work like sanding and painting walls and ceilings



## Wolomin

**What to expect:** Volunteers arrive in Warsaw to Warsaw Chopin Airport (WAW) on Sunday. Monday you will have an orientation on site along with a Social Learning Exchange Activity. Tuesday-Friday teams will work on site with a farewell dinner on Friday.

**Project description:** Habitat Poland and local authorities of Wołomin (city belonging to Warsaw agglomeration) together are doing a pilot project of senior cohousing. An empty building will be turned into a senior cohousing community. Thoughtfully redesigned with accessibility, comfort, and social connection in mind, the spaces will feature private living units, shared kitchens, communal space —fostering independence while encouraging a strong sense of community among residents



## Wisniowa

**What to expect:** Volunteers arrive in Krakow to Krakow Airport (KRK) on Sunday. Monday you will have an orientation on site along with a Social Learning Exchange Activity. Tuesday-Friday teams will work on site with a farewell dinner on Friday.

**Project description:** Teams will build in cooperation with Beskidzka Hospice Foundation who provides multidisciplinary medical, psychological, mental and social care, for patients with incurable conditions. The space will be intended for people in the terminal stage of cancer who, for various reasons, can no longer remain in their homes. The hope is to accommodate 70 patients in all wards, including 30 hospice places. In addition, there will be a rehabilitation ward, a respite care ward and an inpatient care facility, where patients in the advanced stages of Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, post-stroke patients unable to function independently at home and patients requiring specialized assistance will be cared for.