

Cville TimeBank Repair Café

Saturday, March 17, Noon to 4pm

The Habitat Store – 1221 Harris Street, Charlottesville

WHAT IS THE CVILLE TIMEBANK REPAIR CAFÉ?

- **Members of the community bring their broken items** to be evaluated and repaired for free by volunteer “fixers” during a community-wide event at The Habitat Store in Charlottesville.
- **Items that may be fixed include** small appliances, clothing, bikes, jewelry, toys, and other household items. Popular items include vacuum cleaners, fans, lamps, wool sweaters, costume jewelry, broken dishes, and small pieces of furniture. Visitors are asked not to bring televisions, microwave ovens, or gasoline-powered equipment.
- **Volunteers bring their own tools** and set up temporary work stations. Visitors are invited to watch the repairs, ask questions, and try making repairs themselves with help from volunteers.
- **Special features for spring 2018:** free tool sharpening, computer advice & tune-ups, DIY Lamp Repair area, Take-Apart Table
- **Visitors to date: 692. Items evaluated and repaired: 1,230. Most unusual items:** Olympic torch, camel saddle.
- **Partners and sponsors include** [Charlottesville Community Bikes](#) – [The Habitat Store](#) – [Alakazam Toys](#) – [Batteries + Bulbs](#) – [Breadworks](#) – [Piedmont Housing Alliance](#) – [Top Notch Computers](#) – [Way Cool Tools](#) – [Wegmans Charlottesville](#) – [Ting](#)
- **Past events:** The first Cville TimeBank Repair Café was held in November 2015 at Portico Church. More than 80 people brought 100+ items that were fixed and put back into use. March 2016 at IX Art Park: 200 visitors with 340+ items. October 2016 at IX: 150 visitors with 250+ items. March 2017 at IX: 135 visitors with 270 items. Visitors came from Christiansburg, VA, and Cary, NC, planning to start local Repair Cafés. June 2017 at Timberlake Place: neighborhood event with a dozen neighbors, 30 items. September 2017 at The Habitat Store: 115 visitors with 240 items.

More information: CvilleTimeBank.com

Contact: Ann Marie Hohenberger, Event Coordinator – annmarie.hohenberger@gmail.com, (434) 981-2004.



BACKGROUND

- **The Repair Café is presented by the [Cville TimeBank](#)**, a reciprocal service exchange organization whose members earn and exchange “timedollars” by helping one another, with no money involved.
- **The Cville TimeBank organizes this event in order to** keep useful items out of the landfill, preserve repair skills that have fallen into disuse, and bring the community together for a fun, family-friendly event.
- **The Cville TimeBank Repair Café won a nationwide competition** for grant funding through the Center for a New American Dream [Get2gether Neighborhood Challenge](#) in 2015. In 2016, the Repair Café was awarded grant funding from the Bama Works fund of Dave Matthews Band through the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation.

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY BEHIND REPAIR CAFÉS

- **The [Repair Café concept](#) arose in Amsterdam in 2009** and has spread to more than 1,000 locations worldwide.
- **Estimates are that each American contributes about 1600 pounds of trash** to landfills every year. Items that can be repaired are used longer and kept out of the waste stream.
- **With each item repaired, we conserve** material resources, reduce the consumption of energy by manufacturing, cut CO2 emissions, divert waste from landfills, and save money that would have been spent on new products.
- **Repair Cafés teach people to see their possessions in a new light.** Fixing things helps change people’s mindset. This is essential to kindle people’s enthusiasm for a sustainable society.
- **Repair Cafés pass on valuable skills and knowledge** from person to person. Communities are strengthened when people engage one on one and help each other.

CONTACT

Ann Marie Hohenberger, Event Coordinator – annmarie.hohenberger@gmail.com, (434) 981-2004.

Donations/Sponsorship: Charlotte Drummond, Cville TimeBank Treasurer – charlottedrummond@gmail.com, (434) 962-4799.