



Hours for tiling the backsplash?

3 messages

[Redacted]
To: Family <Family@habitatvictoria.com>

Thu, Jan 27, 2022 at 10:24 AM

Good morning Tiffany,

Last year I inquired if it was possible to use the hours I (and a friend) spent tiling the backsplash in my home and I am wondering if we are able to revisit this?

The reason I was given was the project was not required by Habitat; however, when I received the home there was no protective backing for the walls (still is not in the bathrooms) and was instructed that since there was no backsplash that I needed to be careful so that water did not damage the countertops. I would argue that the backsplash was a necessity to protect the integrity of the countertops. Is this not similar to tasks such as staining fence panels (to protect the integrity of the wood) that I know families at Bakerview have been offered to do for their hours?

[Redacted] and his family were offered many hours to do upgrades, paint, and repairs to their home prior to moving in, which could also be argued as not "necessary". I also proposed the idea of having an irrigation project (to install an irrigation system) and to have families volunteer. This seems to have been well received.

I am asking as this project truly has upgraded the home. I am not asking for compensation for the materials that I used (over \$1000.) However it did take me 2+ full days to complete (20 hours for myself and 20 hours for my friend) and given that similar volunteering tasks have resulted in hours for other families I am wondering if this can be reconsidered, or who I can discuss this with to be escalated (if necessary.)

Thank you,
-Erin
[Quoted text hidden]

Family <Family@habitatvictoria.com>

Thu, Jan 27, 2022 at 10:45 AM



Hi Erin,

Sorry Erin, the answer is still no. These hours do not fit into our Volunteer Service Policy. I've checked in with other affiliates and they too do not provide hours for home upgrades.

As I mentioned previously, I understand where you are coming from, but this was not a required project on behalf of Habitat.

If you are in need of volunteer hours, I am looking for a 2-3 page educational document on Money for kids/Financial first steps. First bank account, tips on how parents can teach the importance of saving.

Krista mentioned there might be some CPA resources. This document would need to be able to go on our website. I would be happy to offer 20 hours of volunteer service for this.

Let me know your thoughts on the Money for kids document.

Thanks,

Tiffany

[Quoted text hidden]

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[Redacted]

Thu, Jan 27, 2022 at 11:25 AM

To: Family <Family@habitatvictoria.com>

Hi Tiffany,

I am wondering if you can pass that document along for me.

I don't see the back splash as an upgrade - it was essential. There was no back splash installed and you had even cautioned me to watch for water dripping down the back.

I am concerned that over my time volunteering that I've seen preference and subjectivity granted to other families where I haven't seen the same treatment with myself.

The majority of [Redacted] hours were spent upgrading (paint is not essential), so this is something that I am deeply concerned about.

I am also questioning why an irrigation projection would be approved, but again, something as essential as a back splash wouldn't be,

I am available to talk about this more, but I am also wondering if there is a board member that you can put me in touch with about this.

Thank you,

-Erin

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