

# President's Column Central Hill Country Board of REALTORS®





by Sarah Wanek, 2024 President

# 4 Ways To Improve Your Neighborhood

The key to a great neighborhood is: You! Everyone wants to live in a great neighborhood. The good news is that no matter your location or type of property you call home, you can improve the area where you live. And it doesn't have to take a lot of work.

#### Go First

Your instinct might be to wait for the neighbors to introduce themselves, especially if you just moved in. But your neighbors may be taking the same approach. Whether you're new or an established resident, a simple hello can be the opening you need to start a conversation and, ultimately, a friendship. And when you see a neighbor who needs a hand, offer to help. Chances are that person will return the favor in the future.

#### **Get Out There**

The more interactions you have with neighbors, the greater your chances of forming neighborhood bonds. Work in your yard, walk the neighborhood, hang out at the neighborhood pool, or spend time in the community fitness center. And when you're there, remember to make that small effort to break the ice.

## Look For Ways to Get Involved

Many neighborhoods stage events that require volunteers. You may be able to co-host a block party, help set up the Fourth of July parade, pitch in at a park clean-up, or participate in other group activities.

## Want To Do More?

There are many other opportunities to improve your neighborhood if you have the inclination and time. Serve on the board of your neighborhood association or homeowners association. Be the person to start a new event, such as a movie night at the park or in the common area. Organize help for older neighbors who need assistance with things like groceries, medical appointments, pets, and trash. Support local schools and teachers. You can also observe what nearby communities are doing and see if those might fit in your neighborhood.

Your local REALTOR® may also know ways you can get more involved in your neighborhood.

~courtesy Texas REALTORS®~

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