Bolomba: The Way Forward

From 1973 to 1976, Millard and Linda Fuller launched the world’s affordable housing movement in the Congo, partnering with families in an area of Mbandaka called Bokotola.

Despite the tremendous hurdles they faced in the jungle area, they helped build 114 homes and proved their concept of partnership housing would work if people who were willing to work for a better life were given the right tools to lift themselves up.

The Fullers would go on to found Habitat for Humanity and The Fuller Center for Housing, helping millions around the world build decent homes.

The Fuller Center still works in the Democratic Republic of Congo — notably in the remote village of Bolomba, which today feels much like the Bokotola area of 1973-76. These are hard-working people who simply want decent places to live. With your help, we can give them the right tools to do just that.

Working with our partners the Congo-North America Friendship Association CONAFA, The Fuller Center for Housing needs your help to raise $25,000 for a portable sawmill and block-making machine that will allow the people of Bolomba to build high-quality homes at a rapid pace.

The funds also will be used to build the first model house of the effort, purchase materials and train the men and women of Bolomba to continue the project for years to come. Houses will cost about $2,500 each, and families will repay the costs of homes with no interest charged into a fund to help others get the same hand-up.

The people of Bolomba have proven that they can build better lives for themselves with the right tools. Already, they have build a school, hospital and a radio station. Now, they need decent homes in which to raise their children.