



Press Release

Contact: Syd Janney
Atlanta Habitat for Humanity
(404) 223-5180, ext. 165
(404) 702-3992 (cell)
syd.janney@atlantahabitat.org

Atlanta Habitat for Humanity Celebrates World Habitat Day 2009 Framing Walls with Housing Partners

(Atlanta, GA—October 1, 2009) — In a local celebration of World Habitat Day, Atlanta Habitat for Humanity staff members will join forces on Oct. 8 with volunteers from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the City of Atlanta's Bureau of Housing. The group will work together in Atlanta Habitat's warehouse on Memorial Drive to frame walls for homes for working families.

"We applaud our governmental housing partners from HUD and the City, who will see first-hand how the grant programs they administer provide essential support for qualified homebuyer families," says Larrie Del Martin, executive director of Atlanta Habitat for Humanity. "Our construction process begins in the warehouse, where certain components of a home are assembled, and these volunteers are diving into the heart of the process."

Atlanta Habitat families are first-time homebuyers who meet financial qualifications, help build their own home, contribute sweat-equity hours to the organization, and complete at least 12 required education classes in courses ranging from budgeting and planning to home maintenance.

Programs administered by HUD and the City include providing down-payment assistance to homebuyers and helping fund land acquisition.

"We have worked effectively with HUD and the City in a business relationship for 26 years," says Martin. "It will be so exciting to build together. All of us are focused on Atlanta-area

families. On Oct. 8, we will see tangible results of our ongoing relationship. We will support working families by framing walls – an essential and symbolic element of any home.”

About Atlanta Habitat for Humanity

Atlanta Habitat for Humanity, one of more than 1,700 U.S. affiliates of Habitat for Humanity International, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing affordable housing to Atlanta’s working families. Since 1983, volunteers from corporations and from faith-based and civic organizations have worked in partnership with qualified homebuyers to construct affordable, green, quality homes in Atlanta, which are then purchased through no-interest mortgages. To date, Atlanta Habitat has built 1,040 homes in the City of Atlanta and the metropolitan area. For more information, please visit www.atlantahabitat.org or call 404-223-5180.

About World Habitat Day

In 1985, the United Nations General Assembly declared World Habitat Day as the first Monday in October. Celebration of World Habitat Day calls attention to the global need for decent housing and pushes for adequate housing for all on a global scale. This year’s World Habitat Day theme is “Planning Our Urban Future.” The grassroots nature of World Habitat Day inspires action in many forms. In 2008, more than 160 Habitat for Humanity affiliates, supporters, and volunteers celebrated World Habitat Day with events large and small.

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