



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Recycle to Help Habitat Families Achieve First-Time Homeownership *Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus Announces Three Easy Ways to Support Habitat on "America Recycles Day," November 15*

Columbus, Ohio (Nov. 6, 2008) – Saturday, November 15 is "America Recycles Day," and Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus offers the following three simple ways for Franklin County residents to recycle and help local Habitat families achieve first-time homeownership:

Recycling Idea #1: Remodeling? **Donate reusable building materials** to Habitat's ReStore, a home improvement discount store that supports Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus. Donations of new and used building materials are re-sold to the public at discount prices. Revenues from store sales directly offset the administrative costs of Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus. Individuals, home-improvement contractors, local manufacturers and other hardware and home improvement retailers may donate new and used materials. Habitat's ReStore accepts and resells materials such as doors, insulation, roofing, windows, sinks, cabinets, countertops, siding, tile, lighting, tools, appliances, fixtures and much more. Individuals can support recycling efforts by buying from Habitat's ReStore to keep these durable materials from going to local landfills while helping families achieve first-time homeownership. For more information, call (614) RESTORE or visit www.habitat-columbus.org/restore

Recycling Idea #2: Habitat's **Cars for Homes™** accepts donations of cars, trucks, boats, motorcycles, RVs and other vehicles – running or not – and sells them through automobile auctions, recyclers or salvage yards to raise funds that help build simple, decent homes for local families. Funds generated from the sale of vehicles donated in Franklin County benefit Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus and support homeownership in the community. Vehicle owners can donate their vehicle by calling Habitat for Humanity Cars for Homes™ at 1-877-277-4344 toll free or online at www.carsforhomes.org.

Recycling Idea #3: **Cans for Habitat** collects recycled aluminum cans, turning the cans to cash to build homes for eligible families in Franklin County. Cans may be collected personally or by businesses, schools and other organizations. Accumulated cans may be taken to The Recycling Exchange-North located at 2830 Westerville Road, Columbus, 43224 or SIMS Recycling at 697 North James Road, Columbus, 43219. Please report your delivered can donations to sbensman@habitat-columbus.org or by calling (614) 364-7030. Cans for Habitat promotional posters and specially designed can collection bins are also available. One-time or ongoing collections are welcome.

"Habitat for Humanity is proud of our 'green' efforts and pleased to offer these easy ways for Central Ohioans to recycle and support low-income families in our community. If every Franklin County resident did just one thing on November 15 to recycle and support Habitat, imagine how many families and children's lives we could improve through homeownership," said E.J. Thomas, CEO, Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus.

Each of these recycling programs operates throughout the year and directly provides funds to support Habitat's mission of creating homeownership and eliminating substandard housing in the local community.

About Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity International, and the Greater Columbus Affiliate, is an ecumenical Christian housing ministry. Habitat affiliates work locally in communities around the world to select and support homeowners, organize volunteers and coordinate house building. Since its founding in 1976, Habitat has built 225,000 homes worldwide, providing shelter for more than 1 million people in nearly 90 countries. In the Greater Columbus community, and with the completion of John G. McCoy Circle, Habitat has built 200 homes since 1987.

Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus (HFHGC) is one of the only housing agencies in Franklin County targeting families who earn 30-60% of median income. HFHGC partner families are chosen after a careful review process during which Habitat assesses their need for housing; their ability to repay a zero-interest, no-profit mortgage and their willingness to partner with Habitat through sweat equity. All partner families are first-time homebuyers who earn 30-60% of the median income for Franklin County and currently live in substandard housing. Every partner family must perform a minimum of 200-250 hours of sweat equity, which includes working on their own house and those of other Habitat families, attending homeownership classes and providing Habitat program support. Every family also assumes a no-interest, no-profit mortgage with payments based on family income. Because HFHGC holds and services these mortgages, Habitat has a long-term relationship with the homeowners and the communities in which they live.

About Habitat's ReStore. Also supporting HFHGC is Habitat's ReStore, a re-sale store that accepts and re-sells reusable home improvement materials to the general public. Revenue from sales directly offsets Habitat's administrative costs and assists in both eliminating substandard housing and creating homeownership in Greater Columbus. Habitat's ReStore is located at 3140 Westerville Road, 3 miles southwest of Easton; 2 miles south of Morse Road. The re-sale store is open to the public Monday-Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Donations may be delivered to Habitat's ReStore until one hour before store closing time.

For more information about Habitat for Humanity - Greater Columbus and Habitat's ReStore, call 614-HABITAT or 614-RESTORE, respectively, or visit www.habitat-columbus.org.

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We hope that you enjoy receiving news about Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus and Habitat's ReStore. Should you wish to be removed from the Habitat mailing list, please send an email to beverly.martin@martinmarketingllc.com