

Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity

1006 Eighth Avenue South ♦ Nashville, TN 37203

Building Homes in Partnership with God's People in Need

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NAHFH CELEBRATES ITS LARGEST 2006 BUILD SO FAR

Seven families will get keys to their new homes, surrounded by sponsors and volunteers

[Nashville, Tenn. – June XX, 2006] – On Friday and Sunday, June 23 and 25, Habitat volunteers and homeowners will celebrate the completion of the agency's largest 2006 build so far (seven houses) – good practice for the 10-house Building Blocks build planned for November.

Neighbors will welcome seven new families to Providence Park, Nashville Habitat's first contiguous all-Habitat neighborhood, which is one of the largest in the U.S.

The families will each have dedication ceremonies, at which they receive house keys and a copy of their mortgage agreement. They also do ribbon cuttings at the thresholds of their new homes before inviting volunteers, families and friends for tours of the houses.

The following will have dedication ceremonies Friday, June 23, at 2:00 p.m.

- **The HCA Build** for Markele Ben – Ben fled from violence in Ethiopia more than 10 years ago with her husband and oldest daughter. They lived in Nairobi for five years before the Catholic Church brought them to the United States where she had two more children – two sons, now ages 10 and 6 years old. Ben is thankful to be in the U.S. now, safe with her family, although she has been a widow for two years. Her current living situation is not a healthy one for her young and energetic family. They are not able to play outside, and their two-bedroom apartment is too small for them to play indoors.

About HCA – This is the ninth Habitat house HCA has built in Nashville. HCA has been an invaluable sponsor and supporter of NAHFH, making possible the land donation from Centex Corporation to build Providence Park, the agency's first all-Habitat community in Nashville. In January 2003, HCA participated in the groundbreaking of Providence Park, and in May 2003, HCA chairman and CEO Jack Bovender issued a challenge to Nashville business leaders, asking them to fully fund and provide the manpower to build 10 new homes there. The challenge was met, and The HCA Foundation funded a five-acre park complete with nature trails, park benches, a playground, picnic area with a pavilion, and gardens within the new development. For HCA employees, Habitat for Humanity has provided an opportunity to address a critical community need and fulfill the HCA mission to improve the quality of human life. "Build A Hospital, Build A Home," HCA's national signature partnership program, established in 2001 with Habitat for Humanity International, provides affordable homes in communities where there is a significant capital improvement project underway at an HCA facility and a demonstrated need for affordable housing in that community. The HCA Foundation underwrites the sponsorship cost of the house and the facility provides the volunteer manpower to construct the home. Since 2000, more than 9,500 HCA employees have taken a one-day break, contributing more than 75,000 volunteer hours, to help hard-working families achieve the dream of homeownership. By the close of 2006, HCA will have invested more than \$2 million in Habitat for Humanity, building 46 homes for families in need across the country.

- **Deloitte Build** for Belinda Boggs -- Boggs grew up in poverty, but she had the love of a large family and her mother's solid family values and strong work ethic. "I look back and realize what a great mother I had," says Boggs. "My mother has really been my inspiration." She has worked hard to instill these same values in her daughters, ages 18 and 12, and hopes the influence will also pass down to her older daughter's son. Belinda has spent most of her career working in the field of nursing and currently works as a Certified Nurse Tech at Richland Place Retirement Community. The Boggs family lives in a small two-bedroom

apartment in Antioch. While they like the location, Boggs has had ongoing problems with plumbing, and the neighborhood has become increasingly more dangerous. There have been a number of cars broken into and someone tried to illegally enter Boggs' home while she was home with her children. She is concerned for the safety of her family and is looking forward to providing a more secure living environment with her new Habitat home.

About Deloitte – Deloitte is building its fourth Habitat house in Nashville. Deloitte refers to one or more of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, a Swiss Verein, its member firms, and their respective subsidiaries and affiliates. Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu is an organization of member firms around the world devoted to excellence in providing professional services and advice, focused on client service through a global strategy executed locally in nearly 150 countries. With access to the deep intellectual capital of 120,000 people worldwide, Deloitte delivers services in four professional areas — audit, tax, consulting, and financial advisory services — and serves more than one-half of the world's largest companies, as well as large national enterprises, public institutions, locally important clients, and successful, fast-growing global growth companies. Besides working with Habitat, Deloitte is involved with the following non-profits as well throughout the country: Junior Achievement, United Way, the Points of Light Foundation and the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

The following will have dedication ceremonies Sunday, June 25, at 2:00 p.m.

- **The Greater Nashville Association of REALTORS® Build** for Paula Allen – Allen is a Nashville native whose mother taught her to “be independent, to stay in school and stay in church, to keep my head on.” She is teaching her 9-year-old daughter the same lessons. Allen and her daughter live in a bad environment right now where they have witnessed fights and drug deals, sometimes in their front yard. She has been employed for three years as a cash processor at the United Methodist Publishing House. Allen holds Philippians 4:13 as a basis for turning her life around – *I can do everything through [Christ] who gives me strength*. With tears in her eyes, she says she pursued a Habitat home for her daughter because “she deserves it.”

Greater Nashville Association of REALTORS® (GNAR), a long-time partner of NAHFH, has reached the milestone of building its 10th Habitat house in Nashville. Each year, GNAR hosts a Benefit Golf Tournament to raise funds for a Habitat home, and several GNAR members have served on the NAHFH board of directors, including Don Klein, Sue Chilton, and Sharon Reynolds. GNAR currently has more than 3,800 members and has been providing services to real estate professionals for more than 100 years. Membership benefits and services range from excellent professional development and education to exceptional networking opportunities; from legislative and community involvement to commitment to the REALTOR® Code of Ethics and its proper enforcement.

- **Nashville Area Christian Churches Build** for a family affected by the 2005 hurricanes, funded by Week of Compassion, the relief, refugee and development ministry fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); and by Woodmont Christian Church – (families have applied, recipient is TBD)

Nashville Area Christian Churches (NACC) is a long-time supporter of Habitat for Humanity. This is NACC's 13th Nashville Habitat build. The NACC Build is comprised of area churches including:

Woodmont Christian (back for its 11th Nashville Habitat build)
Bellevue Christian Church
Vine Street Christian Church
Eastwood Christian Church
New Covenant Christian Church
Donelson Christian Church

Also participating on the NACC Build are First Franklin Financial Corporation, AmSurg, and Glendale Baptist Church.

Woodmont Christian Church is Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity's longest standing church sponsor. Woodmont Christian began during the war years (WWII) as a mission church of Vine Street Christian Church. Dr. Frank Drowota, Woodmont's founding minister, pastored for the first 30 years, establishing Woodmont's reputation for ministry, strong preaching, and excellence in meeting spiritual needs for all ages and stages of life. Approaching its 63rd anniversary, Woodmont continues to re-invent itself for ministry with

each generation. Woodmont's members have a tradition of reaching out to the community through their involvement with Habitat for Humanity, Room in the Inn, and the church's special gift to the community, Walk thru Bethlehem. The church is an open, loving, caring congregation that welcomes people from all walks of life and bridges diverse religious backgrounds to unite believers in Christ.

First Franklin Financial Corporation, a division of National City Bank of Indiana (NYSE: NCC), is a full-service wholesale mortgage lender. First Franklin originates non-conforming residential first and second lien mortgage loans and home equity lines of credit, with special emphasis on helping first-time, self-employed and credit-challenged homebuyers. The Nashville Branch has 45 employees. This will be First Franklin's second consecutive year of support to Habitat for Humanity. First Franklin Financial Corporation committed to sponsoring at least eight home-building worksites in 2004 and 2005 in partnership with Habitat for Humanity International. The Nashville Branch opened in August 2005, and this its first opportunity to participate in a build.

AmSurg is building its fourth Nashville Habitat house. AmSurg is America's single specialty surgery center leader, developing, acquiring, owning and operating single specialty ambulatory surgery centers in partnership with physician practice groups across the country. AmSurg ambulatory surgery centers are located all over the United States. AmSurg employees take a day off work to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity.

- **“Home of Your Own” Build** for Paul Davis, sponsored by **Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati, Pinnacle Financial Partners, the Down Syndrome Association of Middle Tennessee and The Arc of Davidson County** – Davis grew up in Mt. Juliet, Tenn. and comes from a close-knit family of five. Having been diagnosed with autism and mental retardation, Paul rents a house in Old Hickory, Tenn. with a live-in companion who cares for Paul and helps him become more and more independent in daily living. George and Olga, Davis' mother and father, are seeking homeownership on his behalf because they want him to have the security of a stable home and a mortgage payment that he can afford on a fixed income. Paul is a busy young man with an active social life. His favorite activities include playing first base on a local baseball team, going to Dairy Queen for strawberry sundaes, going to church on Sundays, and walking around shopping malls. But Paul's favorite activity of all is socializing. He loves to visit friends and have his friends visit him for a “chit chat.” He's very charming with a warm, pure heart - he never meets a stranger. Paul and his family have known about Habitat for a long time. Through the partnership of the “Home of Your Own” program and Habitat, the dream of owning a home is coming true. As his parents say, “It's his house. Everyone else he knows has a house.” In fact, at the end of Paul's first meeting with Habitat staff, he unequivocally stated, “I'm ready for my house!” One of the first things they want to do when he moves in is build a fence in the backyard. He looks forward to being a part of a community.

The Home of Your Own Program is a partnership of The Down Syndrome Association of Middle Tennessee and The Arc of Davidson County. The program is dedicated to improving the lives of persons with disabilities by creating opportunities for affordable home ownership. Home Of Your Own has previously built two homes for person with disabilities. This will be its first Habitat home. Home of Your Own will be teaming up with many different community organizations to provide volunteers to build this home.

Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati, in partnership with **Pinnacle Financial Partners**, is sponsoring the “Home of Your Own” build through the bank's American Dream Homeownership Challenge, a grants program that funds innovative approaches to increase homeownership for minorities and for persons with special needs.

Pinnacle Financial Partners, the largest financial services firm headquartered in Nashville, provides a full range of banking, investment and insurance products and services designed for small- to mid-sized businesses and their owners/operators. Pinnacle provides financial planning services by a certified financial planner (CFP®), and a number of Pinnacle's senior financial advisors provide comprehensive wealth management services to help clients increase, protect and distribute their assets. Pinnacle opened its first office in October 2000. Since then the firm has added seven other offices on a de novo basis and acquired Cavalry Bancorp (with nine offices), bringing the total number of offices to 17 in the Nashville-Davidson-Murfreesboro MSA.

- **Bridgestone Build** for Jalal Baban and Kwestan Ali – Jalal and Kwestan are originally from Kurdistan (Northern Iraq) and have been married for 13 years. In 1996, Jalal & Kwestan, along with 5000 other Kurdish people, were brought out of the country by the United States due to political unrest in the area. Eventually, Jalal and Kwestan made the decision to move to Nashville to be near a larger Kurdish

population. Jalal has been employed at Vanderbilt for more than three years now while Kwestan works in the home. They have a daughter, age 11, and a son, age 3, with another baby on the way. Their current neighborhood has a lot of crime; Jalal has had his car broken into twice and recently found his tires slit. Their apartment has major insect and plumbing problems and their family doctor has even advised that they move their daughter out of the apartment due to her severe allergies. With a smile in his voice and his eyes, Jalal says that a Habitat home is “good and I thank God for everything.”

In 2005, **Bridgestone Americas** was the recipient of the Association of Fundraising Professionals Corporate Philanthropist of the Year award for Nashville. Bridgestone Americas Holding, Inc. is back in 2006 to partner with Nashville Habitat again for a third time. Bridgestone Americas is a dynamic corporation with a passion for quality, innovation and technical excellence. Based in Nashville, Bridgestone Americas is a subsidiary of the Bridgestone Corporation of Japan, the world’s largest tire and rubber company. With more than 50,000 associates and 39 production facilities throughout the Western hemisphere, Bridgestone Americas is also a world leader in the manufacture of commercial roofing materials, air springs, industrial textiles and polymers. Bridgestone Americas participates in an array of volunteer projects. Through the Bridgestone Firestone Trust Fund, the company makes charitable gifts to local, regional and national initiatives which improve the lives of children, invest in schools, protect and preserve environment, and foster culture and the arts.

- **The Summer Community Build** for Jamelle Jemison, sponsored by **West End United Methodist Church, KPMG, Bolt, Cummings, Connors & Berry, and The Pruett Financial Group of Northwestern Mutual** (In addition, **Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati**, in partnership with **The Bank of Nashville**, is supporting this build through the American Dream Homeownership program for persons with special needs.) – Jemison is a native of Nashville and single mother of five children, ages 1 to 12. She had an extremely rough childhood, enduring tremendous abuse as a child and becoming a ward of the State at the age of 12. After living in a number of different foster homes, Jemison was temporarily placed with her grandmother who passed away six months later. Ever the fighter, she petitioned for, and was awarded, emancipation at the age of 15. At the age of 16, she earned her GED and tried to pursue a college degree. It was during this time that Jemison was diagnosed with bi-polar disorder. While her anxiety prevented her from receiving her four-year degree, she was able to earn a nursing certificate. For the next nine years she worked as a private nurse and then as a phlebotomist for Vanderbilt and Quest Diagnostics. Two years ago Jemison was forced to take disability because of her anxiety. Jemison’s family currently lives in a crowded three-bedroom apartment in Goodlettsville where she has had concerns about the safety of their neighborhood and does not allow the children outside to play. She says “The first thing I’m going to do after we move in is let my children play outside in our yard.”

West End United Methodist Church -- This is the fourth Habitat house West End UMC has helped sponsor. The church became involved when one member, while serving on the Habitat Family Selection Committee, became aware of an opportunity to help sponsor a Sounds Faith House. Last year, in 2005, West End UMC helped build the InterFaith House along with the The Temple Congregation Ohabai Sholom (Jewish), Sri Ganesha Temple (Hindu) and Hermitage UMC, along with the Sounds Faith House. Church leadership is glad to help sponsor a home because the project gets broad participation from members. It introduces some to outreach for the first time. Habitat for Humanity is a respected nonprofit, and the volunteers can see the results of their contribution and help change lives in Nashville. “Habitat serves as an entry point to outreach for so many,” said John Feldhacker of WUMC. “they receive the spiritual nourishment through God’s grace gained from reaching out in love to others. Commonly, those who begin with Habitat move enthusiastically into other community and global outreach initiatives.” West End UMC has approximately 2200 members and is located at 2200 West End Avenue.

KPMG – This is the second Habitat house KPMG has helped sponsor. Nashville office opened its doors in 1958. With more than 90 professionals, the Nashville office serves both public and non-public companies throughout both Middle and Eastern Tennessee and Southern Kentucky. KPMG’s clients range from small business entrepreneurs to Fortune 500 companies. KPMG not only offers audit and tax services, but also advisory services in the areas of mergers and acquisitions and risk management.

Bolt, Cummings, Connors and Berry, PLC is among the largest law firms in Nashville and provides legal services to privately held and publicly traded companies across the United States. The firm encourages a culture of service, both to clients and to the community. This is Bolt Cummings’ first time to sponsor a Habitat home. “Having the opportunity to work on this Habitat for Humanity build allows our people to come together to make a difference in the lives of others,” said Bob Wood, managing director of

the firm. "We are committed to being good business partners and good neighbors in our community, and we are proud to be a part of this important project."

The Pruett Financial Group of Northwestern Mutual Financial Network [Northwestern Mutual] -- Through its financial representatives, The Pruett Financial Group of Northwestern Mutual Financial Network offers a range of financial solutions to businesses and individuals in Middle and East Tennessee, Southwestern Virginia, and Northern Georgia. The Pruett Financial Group is based in Nashville with four other offices in Middle and East Tennessee. This is the Pruett Financial Group's first time sponsoring and building a Habitat home. In addition to corporate support from The Pruett Financial Group and individual donations from financial representatives and staff, the company also held two fundraisers - a pancake breakfast and luncheon.

The Bank of Nashville – This is The Bank of Nashville's first time to be involved in building a Habitat house. Since their formation in 1989, The Bank of Nashville has sought to distinguish itself by providing personalized banking and financial services to their customers. They are committed to provide the highest quality of service to clients. The Bank of Nashville is grateful for the support they have received from the Nashville community. Accordingly, the bank gives back to the community, corporately and individually, through support of local charitable and cultural organizations.

Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry that provides families with the life-changing opportunity to purchase a decent, affordable home. The agency has quadrupled in size since 2002 and is on track to build a record 35 homes in the 2006 calendar year in Davidson county. Qualifying families for the Habitat program purchase their homes at cost (usually \$75,000-85,000) and repay the mortgage with no interest over a 20-30 year period. Additionally, families are required to accumulate "sweat equity" hours, earned through HomeWORKS classes, build site time, and community work or volunteering in some other aspect of Habitat operations, such as the Habitat HomeStores. The NAHFH HomeWORKS program provides more than 700 hours of classes for partner families on budgeting, credit management, mortgage finance, and home maintenance. These classes build each individual's leadership, citizenship and life skills. To request an application or to receive more information about Habitat, call 615-254-HOME or visit www.habitatnashville.org. Major funding for Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity is provided by the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati, The Memorial Foundation, The HCA Foundation, The David and Sarah Ingram Advised Fund, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the LP Foundation.

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