

Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity

1006 Eighth Avenue South ♦ Nashville, TN 37203

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NASHVILLE AREA HABITAT SEEKS VOLUNTEERS AND HOMEOWNER APPLICANTS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. [Jan. 11, 2010] – Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity is seeking volunteers for its first build of 2010, and the organization continues to seek applicants for future homes.

The greatest need for volunteers is on the following Saturdays and Sundays, 6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.:

February 27 - 28

March 6 - 7

March 13 - 14

March 20 - 21

Volunteer opportunities are also available 6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on March 27 – 28, April 10 – 11 and April 17 – 18.

To volunteer

Visit <http://www.habitatnashville.org/volunteer/volunteer-form.php> or contact Mike Allen at mallen@habitatnashville.org or at 615.254.4663, ext. 224.

Homeownership program

Eligibility requirements for Habitat homeownership include:

- A demonstrated need for housing
- Residence in Davidson County for the last six months
- First-time homebuyer
- Willingness to complete “sweat equity” hours (at classes and on the build site)
- Willingness to accept the home location and design
- Household gross income of less than 60 percent of area median income as adjusted by household size (for example, \$35,040 for a family of three)
- Ability to afford approximately \$470 - \$550 for a monthly mortgage payment
- Steady income (must have steady income for the past two years and any current income or employment has to have been received within six to nine months)
- Ability to contribute \$2,500 towards closing costs
- Debt-to-income ratio under 40 percent
- Ability to pay off any collections, judgments, or charge-offs listed on the credit report

To apply: The first step is to fill out the eligibility questionnaire available at www.habitatnashville.org/homeowner or contact Nashville Area Habitat family services director at 615.254.4663, ext. 215.

Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity (NAHFH) is an ecumenical Christian ministry that provides the life-changing opportunity for people to purchase and own quality, affordable homes. In its 26-year history, Nashville Area Habitat has built more than 600 homes, including 182 overseas. To date, the agency has served more than 1,450 family members, including more than 930 children.

The agency consistently ranks in the top one percent of all Habitat affiliates and has earned honors including:

- The ENERGY STAR® Partner of the Year award in 2008 and 2009 from EPA and HUD
- The 2009 HOPE Leadership Award for making a significant difference in minority homeownership
- The Habitat International Clarence Jordan Award for Creativity and Innovation, for strategies that resulted in record low mortgage delinquency rates

In 2010, Nashville Area Habitat will construct homes in three neighborhoods: Timberwood and Park Preserve in Nashville and Maple Valley in Dickson.

Prior to becoming homeowners, Habitat partner families must complete up to 470 hours of "sweat equity" at the build site and in the classroom before purchasing their homes. To request an application or to receive more information about NAHFH, call 615-254-HOME (4663) or visit www.habitatnashville.org. For information on Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity go to www.hud.gov/offices/fheo or contact the local HUD office.

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