

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Youth Advocate for Affordable Housing

*Habitat's Act! Speak! Build! Week scheduled for September 25<sup>th</sup>-October 3<sup>rd</sup>*

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GAITHERSBURG, MD (September 9, 2011) – On September 25, 2011 Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County (HFH-MC) will kick off Act! Speak! Build! Week with the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Building Block Blitz. At the event, HFH-MC and Westfield Montgomery will host teams of Montgomery County youth for a fun day of building, and family friendly activities related to the work of Habitat and the need for affordable housing in our community.

Act! Speak! Build! Week is Habitat International's, student-initiated advocacy campaign that seeks to empower and educate young people and their communities about housing and to move people to social action. Along with the Building Block Blitz, HFH-MC has planned a number of fun and educational activities for the week that will culminate on Monday, October 3, 2011 with World Habitat Day.

"We are thrilled to be hosting the Building Block Blitz and Act! Speak! Build! Week for the 5<sup>th</sup> year! This event kicks off a week of activities that are about engaging and empowering young change agents in our community," said Jessica Reid, HFH-MC Director of Volunteer and Family Services.

Other Act! Speak! Build Week activities include HFH-MC's Housing Simulation, an interactive activity designed to expose young people to the challenges of finding affordable housing and several DIY activities ideal for youth groups interested in hosting their own events.

Registration for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Building Block Blitz is open to youth ages 5+. Individuals or teams can download the registration form online at [www.habitat-mc.org](http://www.habitat-mc.org). Questions about any of HFH-MC's Act! Speak! Build! Week events can be directed to Molly Martin Pelzer at 301-990-0014 x18 or [molly.martin@habitat-mc.org](mailto:molly.martin@habitat-mc.org).

### **About Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County**

HFH-MC is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International. Since 1982, Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County has partnered with the community and low-income families living in substandard conditions, to build simple, decent, affordable housing. To date, HFH-MC has served 93 local families. HFH-MC supports the notion that good, stable housing matters for neighborhoods. Better quality of living leads to stronger citizens and families. Habitat for Humanity is about changing lives, one home at a time. Visit our website at [www.habitat-mc.org](http://www.habitat-mc.org)

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