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Habitat Joins the Recycling Movement

Habitat ReStore Celebrates America Recycles Day

GAITHERSBURG, MD (November 13, 2008) – On November 15, 2008 Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County (HfH-MC) ReStore will participate in America Recycles Day, by offering each customer 25% off their entire purchase of gently used furniture, appliances and building supplies. Habitat ReStore wants to make a difference in the community and the environment.

“This is our opportunity to educate our community about Habitat ReStore and our efforts to reduce, reuse, and recycle. We hope that providing a discount to our customers will encourage them to join in those efforts, along with being able to support affordable housing in Montgomery County” said Adeela Abbasi, ReStore Marketing and Communications Manager.

HfH-MC has begun to think green in every area. HfH-MC’s Green Initiative began with Habitat ReStore. Each year Habitat ReStore diverts and recycles tons of reusable items from the Montgomery County waste disposal system. In 2008 it is estimated that Habitat ReStore diverted 219.05 tons of waste from our local landfills. HfH-MC then moved this green initiative on to their construction site where they began looking for new ways to improve the way they build. HfH-MC’s last step was to put the green initiative to work throughout their administrative offices. They are currently working on making the Habitat offices as green as possible. With the help of wonderful green office supply companies HfH-MC has been able to begin purchasing recycled office supplies at discounted prices.

“We will continue to improve on our green initiative in our ReStore, our construction site as well as in our offices. Going green is the future, and we are very excited to be joining this movement” said John Paukstis, HfH-MC Executive Director.

Programs such as “Cars for Homes”™ and “Cans for Habitat”™ is another way that Habitat has become involved in the green movement. Cars for Homes takes donated cars, trucks, boats, motorcycles, RVs and other vehicles and sells them through automobile auctions, recyclers or salvage yards to raise funds that help build simple, decent homes. Funds generated from vehicle sales benefit the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate and community where the donations are made. Cans for Habitat is a program where aluminum cans are recycled to raise money for Habitat for Humanity to build decent, affordable housing with low-income families nationwide. Established in 1997, the program now boasts more than 1,000 member affiliates and 3,000 participating recyclers.

About Habitat for Humanity ReStore

ReStore is nonprofit retail outlet specializing in the sale of new and used furniture, appliances and building materials to the general public. All materials are donated by local retail businesses, building contractors, suppliers and individuals, and are made available for sale to the public at 50% to 90% below retail prices. All donations are tax deductible, and proceeds go back to our local Habitat for Humanity Affiliate to build houses for families in our community.

About Habitat for Humanity

HfH-MC is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International; its goal is to reduce substandard housing by providing a **hand up** rather than a **hand out** to help low-income families realize the dream of homeownership.

The completion of the Linganore Woods Community will mark a new beginning for HfH-MC and our role to address the need for simple, decent affordable housing right here in Montgomery County! We hope that this beginning will help us to realize our vision of creating "a community with healthy, safe, and affordable housing for all"

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