

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Jessica Reid
Director of Volunteer & Family Services
301-990-0014 ext. 15
jessica.reid@habitat-mc.org
September 8, 2010

Youth Advocate for Affordable Housing

Habitat's Act! Speak! Build! Week scheduled for September 26th through October 4th

GAITHERSBURG, MD (September 8, 2010) – On September 26th, 2010 Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County (HFH-MC) will kick off Act! Speak! Build! Week with the 4th Annual Building Block Blitz Build event. At the event, HFH-MC and Westfield Montgomery will host teams of Montgomery County youth for a fun day of Lego building, and a reflection on the work of Habitat and the need for affordable housing in our county.

Act! Speak! Build! Week is Habitat's student-initiated advocacy campaign that seeks to empower young people to educate themselves and their communities in order to move people to social action. This year's theme is "YOUth can plant the seeds to change housing!" Along with the Lego Blitz Build, HFH-MC has planned a number of fun and educational advocacy activities for the week.

"We are excited for this year's Build Block Blitz, we hope this event will be a fun-filled day for the entire family and inspire those in our community to engage in conversations about local, national and international housing issues as we approach World Habitat Day 2010" said Jessica Reid, HFH-MC Director of Volunteer and Family Services

This year Act! Speak! Build! Week will be in conjunction with World Habitat Day on October 4th. Events will occur from September 26th to October 4th and included activities such as the Building Block Blitz, Paper House Campaign, Welcome Home Housing Simulation, Poverty Awareness Dinner and Cookie Outreach Project. The "Housing Simulation Activity" and "Poverty Awareness Dinner" are interactive events where youth learn firsthand about the importance of access to affordable housing, shelter, and food. Youth will leave the exercises with a greater understanding of poverty housing issues. The goal of the week is to show that Montgomery County youth care about the need for affordable housing and to inspire them to get involved in Habitat's mission.

Registration for the 4th Annual Building Block Blitz Build is open to youth ages 6-14. Individuals or teams can download the registration form online at www.habitat-mc.org. A schedule of the week's events can be found on the HFH-MC's website at www.habitat-mc.org/events/act_speak_build.html. Questions about any of HFH-MC's Act! Speak! Build! Week events can be directed to Jessica Reid at 301-990-0014 x15 or jessica.reid@habitat-mc.org.

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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 been partnering with the community and low-income families living in substandard conditions, to build simple, decent, affordable housing. To date, HFH-MC has built or rehabilitated 56 homes for local families and has more homes in progress. 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

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