

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Habitat and Thrivent celebrate affordable housing efforts in 2011

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans[®] grants the gift of a home to another deserving family

GAITHERSBURG, MD (December 6, 2010) Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County, MD, Inc. (HFH-MC) is proud to announce that we have been selected to participate in Thrivent Builds 2011. This coming year will mark the third year of the partnership between HFH-MC and Thrivent Builds. By the end of 2011 Thrivent Builds will have helped HFH-MC increase the number of families served in our community by four.

The family that will become owners of this year's house was selected from a pool of well-qualified applicants. The family will take on a 30 year, 0% interest mortgage, as well as completing at least 200 sweat-equity labor hours. One of the homeowners who previously benefited from Thrivent Builds 2010 explained what becoming a homeowner did for his family: "Everything is better with having a house. Having our own place, having a backyard... we are enjoying life."

HFH-MC aims to build not only homes, but communities. This is why they have focused their efforts on the rehabilitation of vacant, often foreclosed homes. By rehabilitating these aging houses HFH-MC improves the safety and property values of the surrounding neighborhood.

While Thrivent Financial provides 55% of the funding for each Thrivent Builds home, local volunteers—many of them Thrivent Financial members and members of area Lutheran congregations—assist with construction and help raise additional funds. We are grateful for Thrivent Builds and the Lutheran community's support of our efforts to provide simple, decent, and affordable homes in partnership with families in need.

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 more than 57 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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About Thrivent Builds

Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity is a multi-year, multi-million dollar partnership between Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and Habitat for Humanity International. Thrivent Builds is designed to involve Thrivent members and Lutherans in helping provide a “hand up” to people who lack decent shelter, offering them a path to greater economic independence. Excluding government funding, Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity is Habitat's largest single source of funding, constructing nearly 2,500 homes in the U.S. and around the world since 2005. For more information, visit ThriventBuilds.com.

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