



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **WoMen at Work**

*Women help rehab homes in Montgomery County*

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GAITHERSBURG, MD (April 28, 2009) – May 3 -10, 2009 Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County (HfH-MC) will be celebrating its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Women Build week. In January 2008 HfH-MC launched its Women Build program which is designed to engage and empower women in the work of Habitat and further the mission of HfH-MC. HfH-MC held its first annual Women Build Week May 7-10, 2008 which included networking events, build days and a reception.

“We are so excited for Women Build Week 2009- this is a great opportunity for the ladies of Montgomery County to work together on the rehabilitation of a local home which will be an affordable, stable and safe place for a local family to call home. ” said Jessica Reid, Director of Volunteer and Family Services.

Women Build is a Habitat for Humanity International program that encourages women volunteers to further the home-building mission of Habitat for Humanity. Since its official creation in 1998, Women Build volunteers have constructed more than 1,200 homes around the world. And more homes are being built each year. In 2006, approximately 32,000 volunteers helped build an additional 160 Women Build houses. In 2007, more than 200 Women Build homes were completed.

HfH-MC Women Build Week 2009 will kick off Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> with a happy hour open to everyone, in partnership with the Blackfinn restaurant in Bethesda, a \$5 donation to Habitat will get you half price drinks and free appetizers. Throughout the week all women work crews will volunteer at HfH-MC’s rehab sites as a part of HfH-MC’s Neighborhood Revitalization Program. A closing reception will be held on Saturday, May 9th at Pyramid Atlantic’s Community Art Store in downtown Silver Spring. Please check out our website at [www.habitat-mc.org](http://www.habitat-mc.org) for more details about Women Build Week.

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

HfH-MC is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International. In November, 2008, the affiliate launched the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP). In partnership with the Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs (DHCA), Habitat will purchase and rehab vacant foreclosed properties in designated areas of the county. 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.

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