



Fauquier Habitat for Humanity Awarded National Sustainable Building Program Grants for Second Year

Habitat For Humanity International, in partnership with The Home Depot Foundation, have awarded grants to affiliates that build sustainable homes in more than 120 U.S. communities

Warrenton, Va., August 22, 2011 – Fauquier Habitat for Humanity has been selected once again to participate in a national green-building initiative of The Home Depot Foundation and Habitat for Humanity International, called *Partners in Sustainable Building* (PSB).

Fauquier Habitat for Humanity is one of 125 Habitat affiliates across 38 states and the District of Columbia that was selected to participate in this year's program. Habitat affiliates will be granted \$3,000 for each home built to standards that address energy efficiency and water conservation and up to \$5,000 for each home built to a program that also incorporates indoor air quality standards, durability and bulk moisture management.

Fauquier Habitat builds homes to the Earth Craft Standard, which qualifies each certified home for a \$5,000 grant. Fauquier Habitat plans to have two homes qualify for grants, meaning the organization will receive \$10,000 in funding.

"The generosity of The Home Depot Foundation will help Habitat for Humanity expand its green-building practices," said Brenda Drenenberger, Executive Director of Fauquier Habitat for Humanity. "We are excited and grateful for the opportunity to continue participating in the *Partners in Sustainable Building* program. Since 2009, we have built seven homes that have been certified to the Earth Craft Standard. The last four homes qualified for the *Partners in Sustainable Building* program."

Since its creation in 2008, the *Partners in Sustainable Building* program has demonstrated that the initial costs of building to a green standard are modest and can be recovered by the homebuyers through savings on utility, repair and replacement costs over the course of a home's mortgage.

"The Home Depot Foundation has long believed that *green* building is *smart* building," said Kelly Caffarelli, president of The Home Depot Foundation. "In today's economic climate, energy efficient building practices, including sealing windows and doors, insulating walls and ceilings, and installing ENERGY STAR appliances and systems, are more important than ever, because they can actually put money back into homeowners' wallets. Our partnership with Habitat for Humanity International demonstrates that smart building ensures the long term financial and physical health of families.

PSB is the first partnership between The Home Depot Foundation and Habitat for Humanity at the national level in the United States.

“The *Partners in Sustainable Building* program has created excitement about the benefits of building to a recognized green standard within Habitat for Humanity,” said Jonathan Reckford, CEO of Habitat for Humanity International. “With the support of The Home Depot Foundation, we have a great opportunity to bring the economic benefits of sustainable building to our homeowners.”

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About The Home Depot Foundation: Since its formation in 2002, The Home Depot Foundation has granted more than \$270 million to nonprofit organizations improving homes and lives in local communities. To learn more and see our associates in action, visit www.homedepotfoundation.org, follow us on Twitter @homedepotfdn, and like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/homedepotfoundation.

About Habitat for Humanity International: Habitat for Humanity International is an ecumenical Christian ministry that welcomes to its work all people dedicated to the cause of eliminating poverty housing. Since its founding in 1976, Habitat has built more than 400,000 houses worldwide, providing simple, decent and affordable shelter for more than 2 million people. For more information, visit habitat.org.

About Fauquier Habitat for Humanity: Celebrating its 20th year, Fauquier Habitat for Humanity (www.fauquierhabitat.org) works in partnership with the Fauquier and Rappahannock County communities to eliminate the blight of poverty housing. Since 1991, it has built 44 homes and rehabilitated several others for qualified, low-income families that need a hand up. Like all Habitat for Humanity recipients, Fauquier Habitat for Humanity families pass a detailed qualification process, participate in a continuing education program, and invest hundreds of hours of their own labor into building their Habitat houses. Once they move in, they make regular mortgage payments and remain engaged in Habitat for Humanity’s ongoing education program as well as their community. Fauquier Habitat for Humanity is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International.

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