

Habitat for Humanity to Dedicate Fourth Thrivent Builds Home

Mason City (March 19, 2010): Habitat for Humanity of North Central Iowa will dedicate their newest home in Mason City - built through a partnership with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans - on Monday, March 22nd. Located at 1636 North Pennsylvania, this will be the new home for the Roppe family. The public is invited to attend an Open House from 4:30-5:30pm, followed by a brief dedication ceremony beginning at 5:30pm. During this ceremony, the home will be blessed, gifts will be presented, and the house keys will be turned over from Habitat to the family.

The national Thrivent Builds Homes program awarded the local Habitat chapter \$56,550, constituting 65% of the total home cost. Additional funds to complete the construction of the house were raised from the local Thrivent Chapter, as well as area businesses and individuals. Low mortgage payments, received from the current Habitat homeowners, also contribute towards the purchase of materials for home builds such as this one.

“Thrivent Financial has truly been a key partner with our Habitat affiliate during the past four years, and they have given us the opportunity to build simple, decent, and affordable housing for several area families in need,” said Habitat’s executive director, Melissa H. Schoneberg. “This year’s Thrivent home is another wonderful example of a national company working with local volunteers to help address the critical issue of poverty housing.”

This is the second home Habitat has been able to construct in the neighborhood near Gooch Park. The lot was donated to Habitat by the late Alan Dodge and his wife, Margaret, in 2007. “The generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Dodge and others like them are fundamental to our mission,” said Bill Burdick, HFHNCI Board President. “We truly value the thoughtfulness of our donors and volunteers throughout the community.”

Local volunteers led by Thrivent Chapter Specialist, Steve Meyer, and Habitat construction supervisor, Chuck Myhre, have been working on this home since last summer. The NIACC Building Trades class, volunteers from area churches, and work teams from local businesses including Wal-Mart, Principal, Target, Best Buy, and the NIACC Girls Volleyball Team were instrumental in the construction of this home. This home even served as a volunteer get-together for a large family reunion.

To date, Habitat for Humanity NCI has provided 36 families with homeownership opportunities throughout its six county service area. Homes are planned for Mason City and Belmond for this summer’s construction. Applications are presently being accepted for Partner Families. For more information about making a tax-deductible contribution to Habitat, becoming a volunteer, or applying for a home with Habitat for Humanity NCI, contact the office at 641-424-8978 or visit www.habitatnci.org.

About Habitat for Humanity of North Central Iowa: *Habitat for Humanity is a not-for-profit ecumenical, Christian housing ministry that utilizes volunteer labor and donations to build simple, decent, affordable houses for families who would otherwise be unable to afford home ownership. The homes are sold to qualified families with 0 % interest loans and 1% down. Habitat also runs a **ReStore** home improvement discount outlet selling new and used building materials donated by area individuals, contractors, and businesses. **1411 South Taft Ave., Mason City, Iowa 50401, 641-424-8978, www.habitatnci.org now serving: Cerro Gordo, Franklin, Hancock, Winnebago, Worth and Wright counties.***