



For Immediate Release:
October 27, 2010

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**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY EAST BAY AND THE CITY OF HAYWARD
PARTNER WITH
CALIFORNIA'S DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
AND THE U.S. HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT'S
NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PROGRAM**

**REHABILITATING FORECLOSED PROPERTIES OFFERS HOMEOWNERSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES IN HAYWARD**

**DEDICATION OF FIRST OF 23 REHABILITATED HABITAT HOUSES
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 4 PM**

(Oakland, CA) – Habitat for Humanity East Bay (HEB) and the City of Hayward, in a partnership funded by California's Department of Housing and Community Development and the U.S. Housing and Urban Development's Neighborhood Stabilization Program, are working together to help rebuild lives and neighborhoods that have been severely affected by the sub-prime mortgage crisis and ever-increasing area property foreclosures. They are joined in this effort by community volunteers, local businesses and corporations who are working together to help rebuild homes and provide opportunities for homeownership for income-qualified working families in the Hayward community.

The public is invited as HEB and the City of Hayward celebrate their partnership with the dedication of the first home completed as part of the NSP program on Thursday, November 4, 2010 at 4 PM at 27689 Pompano Avenue in Hayward. This is the first of 23 homes which will be rehabilitated in the program. At the November 4 event, the 4-member Bamberger family will receive the keys to their home and the applause of civic officials, friends, neighbors, volunteers and others who provided the hands-on work for the renovation of their home.

Slated to attend the event are Hayward Mayor Sweeney, several members of the Hayward City Council, staff from Hayward's Redevelopment Agency who have been administering the program, and Aaron Carmack, Regional Vice President of The Home Depot, along with David Barron, Chair of the HEB's Board of Directors, and Janice Jensen, HEB's President and CEO.

The City of Hayward has been the beneficiary of nearly \$3 million in grant funding to support this program. These funds will be used in partnership with Habitat East Bay to purchase and rehabilitate vacant and foreclosed homes in an effort to prevent blight and decay and help stabilize neighborhoods. In addition to government support, local business and corporations have stepped

forward to help. Home Depot has provided cash sponsorship, in-kind donations of materials and volunteers to help rehabilitate this home.

In addition to its work rehabilitating homes in Hayward, HEB is also rehabilitating homes in Bay Point, Antioch, Newark and Emeryville, and developing homes from the ground up in Oakland and Bay Point. “This year, we are doubling our capacity from 25 families served per year, to 50!” said Janice Jensen, President and CEO of HEB. “A big part of our growth has been through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. Habitat East Bay has been successful in purchasing vacant, bank owned homes and then rehabilitating and selling them to income qualified families. Expanding our services in this economy is not easy, but this is also the time when affordable housing solutions are needed the most.”

In addition to being the largest Habitat affiliate in Northern California, HEB is also one of the Bay Area’s leading green affordable home builders. The newly remodeled Hayward home contains a number of energy saving features, including a new roof with rigid insulation, dual pane windows, wall insulation, low VOC paint, new lighting, new plumbing, low flow toilets, new flooring, drought tolerant landscaping, water-efficient irrigation, a 95% efficient furnace, and solar hot water system.

Those wishing to apply for these below market rate, affordable homes in Hayward are invited to attend this dedication or attend an open house at another rehab property at 27790 Miami Avenue on Saturday, November 6th from 2-5 PM or contact HEB’s facilitator in home sales, Bay Area HomeBuyer Agency, at (888) 572-1222 x125 or visit www.myhomegateway.com

Volunteers are also needed in Hayward and throughout Alameda and Contra Costa County. To learn more about Habitat East Bay’s work, or to volunteer or donate to the home building efforts visit HabitatEB.org or call (510) 251-6304.

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About Habitat for Humanity East Bay

Founded in 1988, and now the largest Habitat affiliate in Northern California, Habitat for Humanity East Bay’s mission is to create successful homeownership opportunities for families with limited incomes by building sustainable housing and revitalizing neighborhoods. Habitat East Bay builds green through a wholesystems approach, designing and constructing homes that conserve energy, water, and material resources and are more healthy, safe, and comfortable. In its first 20 years, Habitat East Bay served 200 families in Alameda and Contra Costa County. With such a dire need for affordable housing, Habitat East Bay launched a campaign to serve the next 200 families in just five years. Habitat East Bay envisions simple, decent, affordable homes in safe neighborhoods for all families. For more information, visit HabitatEB.org.

