

Habitat Happenings

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF GREATER LOS ANGELES

Building Hope, Lives & Communities • www.habitatla.org

Quarterly Newsletter • Winter 2010

President's Message



Erin Rank,
President & CEO

This year Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles will celebrate its 20th Anniversary. Looking back, I am surprised just how quickly my own 12 years with Habitat have gone. We have grown stronger and more efficient over the years. Our staff are professional and talented, and our Board has expanded its strategic vision and commitment. The one thing that has not changed, however, is our unwavering focus on our singular goal – to help more families in L.A. County and around the world have a safe and warm place to live. How we accomplish that may look differently for each family as we expand our model to include home repairs for seniors and those unable to maintain their homes, as well as acquisition and rehabilitation of foreclosed homes. We continue to weather the economic storm facing many builders, lenders and nonprofits. One main reason is because of the stellar success of our Home Improvement Store which celebrated its Fifth Anniversary last year. With its annual revenue increases, we have decided to open a second location this spring. As we move into this banner year we will have many celebrations honoring those who brought us here – our volunteers, donors and partner families. I invite you to join us as we celebrate our first 20 years and set our sights on **Building a Greater Los Angeles!**

Meet Our 2009-10 Board of Directors



HFH GLA Board of Directors 2009-10

In July, the Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles (HFH GLA) new and continuing members of the Board of Directors met to plan for the affiliate's future. The Board is now lead by a new Board Chairman, **Craig Russell**, Chief Design and Project Delivery Executive for Walt Disney Imagineering. Craig has been a volunteer of HFH GLA for nearly 15 years beginning with the 1995 Jimmy Carter Work Project in Los Angeles. HFH GLA President and CEO, Erin Rank, is extremely excited about the new Board. "We are so fortunate to have Craig as Chairman of our Board, in addition to being one of our most committed volunteers. Every Board member brings innovative ideas, a plethora of experience and unique talents to our affiliate and supports our mission to the fullest." We look forward to an incredible year of building a greater Los Angeles.

In addition to Craig, the Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles Board of Directors includes the following valued members: (*not pictured)

- VICE-CHAIR
Thomas F. Clarke
PricewaterhouseCoopers
- SECRETARY
Ron Frank
Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP
- Gerry Gross**
Hollywood Sierra Kitchens*
- David Calomese**
Royal Bank of Canada
- Randall Farwell**
KPMG, LLP
- Donald Lancaster**
The Lancaster Law Group
- Edward Lin**
Warner Brothers Entertainment
- Jennifer Livingston**
Union Bank*
- Jeffrey Moore**
Pacific Western Bank
- Cheryl Perkey**
Perkey Fine Art
- Matt Petersen**
Global Green USA*
- John Smet**
Capital Group Companies
- Masood Sohaili**
Manatt, Phelps & Phillips
- Jay Stark**
JH Stark Companies
- Kenneth Walker**
Ernst & Young, LLP*



Celebrating 20 Years of Building Hope, Lives & Communities

Upcoming Events

- Cornerstone & Crew Leader Training**
February 2–March 17
- Act! Speak! Build! Week** March 8–13
- ABwK Event** March 20
- D2D 4th Annual Golf Marathon**
March 15, El Caballero Country Club
- 2nd Home Improvement Store Grand Opening** TBA, May 2010
- Nickels for Nails Drive** April 18–May 15
- Art House** TBA, Spring 2010
- 6th Annual PWPT Event** June 12
- 20th Anniversary Family Reunion Picnic**
July 10
- 20th Anniversary Gala**
TBA, Fall 2010

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Our Mission

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles builds and renovates homes in partnership with God and people everywhere with a goal of eliminating substandard housing by making decent, affordable housing a matter of conscience and action in our communities.

Downey Mother of Three Celebrates the Holidays in a New Habitat Home

Betty Monroy and her children had a lot to be thankful for this past Christmas Season. On December 19, 2009, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, The City of Downey Community Development Department and hundreds of volunteers,



Betty Monroy and family at the dedication ceremony for their new home

family and friends hosted a home dedication for the Monroy family. Betty was grateful that she was able to help build her new home alongside her 17 year old special needs son. Betty, a single mother, with two of her three children being high functioning autistic, is ecstatic that they can continue to live in Downey, which has the top ranked special education program in L.A. County. The Monroy's previous home had termite infestation, worn carpets, peeling paint and mold infestation. The family looks forward to celebrating spending many more holidays and making several new memories in their beautiful new four bedroom, two bath Habitat home. Refreshments were donated by **The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf** of Downey.

Thank you to our Valued '09-10 1st Quarter Sponsors

Donations \$5,000+ :

The A List
Bank of America
Mary Ann Canter
Change a Life Foundation
Thomas F. Clarke
Faithful Central Bible Church
Fox Broadcasting Company
Help the Homeless Help Themselves, Inc.
Ruth G. Jervis
PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP
Relativity Media, LLC
Resnick Family Foundation, Inc.
Rolling Hills United Methodist Church
Sermoonjoy Entertainment, Inc.
Mace Siegel
Morene Simon
Masood Sohaili
Roberta (Birdie) L. Turner
and Edward (Ted) A. Adams
Union Bank
The Ruth/Allen Ziegler Foundation
Ziffren, Brittenham LLP

Cast Members and Fans of *General Hospital* Build a Habitat for Humanity Home for the Holidays

On December 12, 2009 one hundred lucky fans built frames for new homes alongside Habitat homeowners and the stars of their favorite daytime drama, **General Hospital**. Twelve *General Hospital* cast members partnered with Hollywood for Habitat for Humanity (HFHFH) to raise funds and walls and build safe, affordable housing for families in need. Participating *General Hospital* cast members included: **Lexi Ainsworth** ("Kristina Davis") **Bradford Anderson** ("Damien Spinelli") **Brandon Barash** ("Johnny Zacchara") **Julie Berman** ("LuLu Spencer") **Leslie Charleson** ("Monica Quartermaine") **Jane Elliot** ("Tracy Quartermaine") **Lisa LoCicero** ("Olivia Falconeri") **Ronnie Marmo** ("Ronnie Dimestico") **Nathan Parsons** ("Ethan Lovett") **Kirsten Storms** ("Maxie Jones") **Jason Thompson** ("Patrick Drake") and **Dominic Zamprogna** ("Dante Falconeri") who all joined us on site to build with their fans and more than a dozen Habitat homeowners. Our newest homeowner, Betty Monroy had received the keys to her home just two days earlier,



General Hospital cast (in blue) & fans

and gave a personal testimonial that no one will ever forget.

Fans came from all over the United States and Canada to participate in this unique build day event, known as *The House That General Hospital Fans Built*. The build went so well that the cast members have decided to make it an annual event! Thank you cast and fans for helping to raise over **\$20,000**, in just two short months. The program is ongoing and will be featured in ABC Soaps *In Depth's* next issue, on news stands late January. To learn more about the program and donate to *The House That General Hospital Fans Built*, please visit www.habitatla.org/gh.

Thank you to **The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf** of Downey and **Newman's Own** for providing breakfast and to the **Garden of Eating** for the delicious lunch.

HFHFH Auction

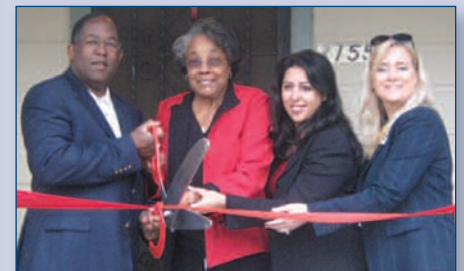
Hollywood for Habitat for Humanity (HFHFH) just closed another incredible on-line auction. With just over 25 items HFHFH raised over **\$80,000!** Thank you to our Hollywood team for all their great work and a special thank you to all the celebrities who donated one-of-a-kind, unique experiences for fans to bid on and to the incredible fan/donors for their special purchases.

Thank you to the following celebrity auction donors:

Hugh Jackman	Brandon Barash & Lisa LoCicero
Ricky Martin	Ray Romano
Green Day	Alejandro Sanz
Sheryl Crow	Emmy Rossum
Britney Spears	How I Met Your Mother
Wisin Y Yandel	The Cleveland Show
Glynn Turman	CSI Miami
Kate Linder	Keith Urban
Cast of "My Boys"	American Idols Live
Cougar Town	The Fray
Amaury Nolasco	MTV Music Awards Latin America
Juanes	
Kate Linder	
Lauren Conrad	

Supervisor Ridley-Thomas Shares A Brush with Kindness in Lynwood

On December 21, Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas (SD 2), Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles, and the Second District Empowerment Congress held a dedication ceremony to celebrate the restoration of the home of Mary Brown in the city of Lynwood. Over 550 volunteer service hours were completed by the Second District volunteers on their sponsored home. Ms. Brown's home received a fresh new coat of paint on the entire home and garage, debris removal, minor siding and window repairs.



Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, Ms. Brown, Lynwood's Mayor Pro-Tem Aide Castro and Erin Rank, President & CEO HFH GLA.

Bank of America Builds Morale and Homes

During the week of October 5th, over 130 Bank of America employees participated in a Habitat Build Day on our newest build site on Imperial Highway in the City of Lynwood. From October 6-9, a daily average of 25 employees put on hard hats and tool belts and helped build what will be 10 new affordable Habitat for Humanity homes for low-income families. The groups, from branches all over Southern California, began their build days at 8am and continued to 4pm. Smiles and sore muscles were shared by all.

During the lunch break the groups were thanked by a Habitat partner family, reminding volunteers of how their day will be appreciated for many years to come. Not only did Bank of America employees dedicate a

week to Habitat for Humanity, but Lynn Fernandez, Bank of America's President of Regional Banking, and her colleagues presented HFH GLA with a check for \$50,000 to help build these homes on the Lynwood site. HFH GLA thanks Bank of America for its commitment to eliminating substandard housing for low-income families in the Greater Los Angeles area and for helping us build hope, lives and communities.

Building morale, building teams, and building hope.

If you would like to arrange a build day for your company and its employees call Tami Phillips, V.P. of Development at 310-323-4663 ext.103.



Bank of America team members Habitat Build Day

Thank You HFH GLA Summer Interns

Last year HFH GLA had a great group of interns spend the summer with our affiliate. The interns came from all over the country and one from Leon, France. Thank you to the following interns for all their hard work, dedication, and commitment to making a difference.

Joanne Kerr
Edward Fillinger
Kelley Malone
Robert Tafaro
Simone Pace
Jessica Guzman
Harvinder Mudahar

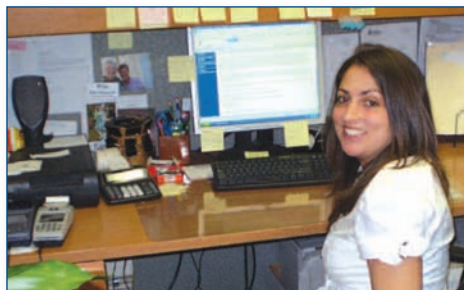
Advocacy
 Hollywood
 Finance/HR
 Construction
 Youth Programs
 Administration
 Communications & Marketing
 Communications & Marketing
 Communications & Marketing

Alix Aubry

Communications & Marketing

David Bui

Communications & Marketing



Alix Aubry, summer 2009 intern from Leon, France

We send a special long distance thank you to Alix Aubry from Leon, France. Alix is a graduate student studying Marketing. She interned with the Marketing & Communications Department. We wish all of our interns tremendous success in all they attempt to do.

Construction News

Construction is well underway at our newest site on Imperial Highway. These homes will be the first LEED (Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design) certified Green homes to be built in the City of Lynwood. The first wall-raising event began with **The Walt Disney Company** on September 29 when over 100 Disney employees, celebrities **Teri Hatcher** and **James Denton** from



Actors Teri Hatcher, James Denton, Miss Piggy & Kermit

Desperate Housewives, **Miss Piggy** and **Kermit**, Habitat staff and partner families raised the walls on the first four of ten new Green homes on Imperial Highway. The ten townhome site is scheduled to be completed by the beginning of 2011. Disney used the build site as the backdrop to announce their 2010 **Give a Day, Get a Disney Day** campaign. For more info please visit www.disneyparks.com.

HFH GLA completed the 10th **A Brush With Kindness** (ABwK) home in the City of Lynwood on the home of Marna McKinney. HFH GLA, Lynwood Mayor Theresa Santillan and other City Officials joined Ms. McKinney for a house dedication and ribbon cutting on September 16. Ms. McKinney's repairs included window replacement, a sliding glass door, a garage entry door, adding two gates, painting her fence and the entire exterior house and trim, and removing unwanted debris/general clean-up. ABwK is a **FREE** service offered by HFH GLA that focuses on safety-related home improvements and exterior home repairs. ABwK serves homeowners impacted by age, disability and family circumstances who struggle to maintain their homes. For more info please visit our website at www.habitatla.org/abwk.asp.



City of Lynwood Mayor Santillan with homeowner Marna McKinney, center; City of Lynwood City Council and staff members and Habitat staff and guests

The 26th Annual Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project Builds in Southeast Asia

During the week of November 15–20, several HFH GLA staff and board members descended upon Southeast Asia. They joined Habitat’s most famous volunteer, former U.S. President and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate **Jimmy Carter**, his wife, **Rosalynn**, thousands of volunteers from around the world and Habitat partner families to support Habitat for Humanity’s 26th Annual Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Work Project (JRCWP).

Nearly 3,000 volunteers constructed and rehabilitated 166 homes along the Mekong River region, which includes Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, China and Laos. The week-long event launched Habitat’s five-year Mekong Build campaign to serve 50,000 families throughout the region.

In Chiang Mai, Thailand, 82 new homes were built. The Habitat partner family was a very humble couple. Surathin Sritanachaiwong and his wife Orawan make bags and other handicraft items for a living. They have a 1-year-old son, Tanakrit. They live in a small rented room, one of many in a row, that fills up with smoke and fumes daily. Surathin said, “I’ve wanted to give a house

to my family so badly. I’ve looked at land, but it’s all too expensive. I started thinking I would never be able to own a house so I want to deeply thank all of the



HFH GLA Vietnam team with the Carters

this project and our house.”

In Hanoi, Vietnam 32 new homes were built for families living on fishing boats. This will be the first home that Dao Van Tuoc (51) has ever owned or lived in off of the water. He, his wife, his mother, his 3 children and 5 grandchildren all live on an 18’ x 3’ fishing boat, covered by a tarp. They live and sleep on the boat in the river with a constant fear that one of the children may fall into the water and drown during the night, which is all too common in their community.

HFH GLA was proud to be a Bronze+ Sponsor of the 2009 JRCWP Mekong build.



HFH GLA Thailand team with the Carters

volunteers and everyone who is sacrificing for

HFH GLA Board Chair, *Craig Russell*, board members *Kenneth Walker, Jay Stark and John Smet*, Global Green’s *Matt Petersen*, HFH GLA President and CEO *Erin Rank*, HFH GLA staff members *Tami Phillips, Mark and Laurie Van Lue, Veronica Garcia, Jo-An Turman, Laura Wulf, Isabel Lee, Nichole Cordero* and several board and staff family members made up the dynamic HFH GLA team that worked in the various regions throughout Southeast Asia during JRCWP.

Several celebrities from all over the world participated in the build, including China’s martial arts champion and international actor, **Jet Li**, Bollywood actor and Habitat IndiaBUILDS supporter **John Abraham**, USA’s **Emily Bergl (Southland)**, and South Korean actor, **Seo-Jin Lee**.

AmeriCorps are Awesome!

Year after year, HFH GLA has been fortunate to work with the most incredible AmeriCorps and VISTA members in the country. This year is no exception. Our AmeriCorps team will spend one year with our affiliate building, training, leading, working and teaching. This year’s team features:

AMERICORPS NATIONAL DIRECT:

- Brandon Long** *Pennsylvania*
- Melissa Killian** *California*
- Mai Nowlin** *California*
- Amy Rabb** *Texas*
- Renne Sanchez** *California*
- Kira Schwartz** *Colorado*
- Adam Stanley** *Pennsylvania*

AMERICORPS VISTAS:

- Jessica Killeen** *New Hampshire*
Gift In Kind Coordinator (not pictured)
- Chris Untiet** *Iowa*
Faith & Community Relations Coordinator
- Regina Wyatt** *Michigan*
Home Improvement Store
Volunteer Coordinator



2009-10 AmeriCorps & AmeriCorps VISTAs

Building on Faith

Thank you to Mosaic Church and its leadership from Pastor Erwin McManus and wife Kim for making a commitment to building a greater Los Angeles with Habitat. The two made a personal financial commitment toward funding the building of a new Habitat home, then they went to all of their social networking sites and made a call to action plea. With divine faith they were able to obtain over **\$100,000** in pledge commitments in just one day from the faith community with more donations coming in. The McManus' vow to raise **\$150,000** from their friends and sponsor their first Habitat home. Please visit www.mosaic.org for more information.

Come Out and Play!

Join the **4th Annual D2D** (Dawn to Dusk) Golf Marathon event benefitting Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles on March 15, 2010 at El Caballero Country Club. Habitat for Humanity golfers will tee-off at dawn and play as many holes as possible before it gets dark.



For more information please visit our website at www.habitatla.org or contact Tani Issacs, Event Director at tji222@gmail.com

Look Who's Building with HFH GLA!



Brittany Snow



Dmitry & Mya (Dancing With the Stars)



Bailey, the L.A. Kings Mascot

Exciting News for ALL Habitat Volunteers!

HFH GLA is calling on all our volunteers to help reach the goal to have the first volunteer-sponsored Habitat house! If every volunteer donates just **\$20** we can reach our goal of raising **\$150,000** to fully sponsor one new Habitat home in 2010. Please join our efforts. Contact Tami Phillips to make your donation at tphillips@habitatla.org or at (310) 323-4663 ext.103.



The Hope Builders Society

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles would like to invite you to be a part of the Hope Builders Society. The Hope Builders Society celebrates individuals, who are philanthropic leaders helping eliminate substandard housing in Greater Los Angeles. Our members understand that decent, affordable

housing is essential and have committed to making a difference for families throughout our community by contributing **\$10,000** or more on an annual basis.

For more information, please contact Tami Phillips at tphillips@habitatla.org or by phone at (310) 323-4663 ext.103.

Praise & Raise Party

Faithful Central Bible Church (FCBC) raised funds and praise at their New Year's Eve Praise Party



at the FAITHFUL CENTRAL BIBLE CHURCH Forum.

FCBC has pledged and raised **\$100,000** to sponsor 10 **A Brush with Kindness** homes in the Los Angeles area. The evening included performances by award winning artists **Donivan David** and **Kelly Price**. Other featured entertainment was provided by **Donald Lawrence** and the FCBC choirs. The evening's message was given by **Bishop Kenneth Ulmer**. **Nissan Corp.** was the event's **Title Sponsor** and **My Block Inc.** was also a sponsor.

Donate! Shop! Recycle!



Congratulations to our Home Improvement Store which turned FIVE last fall. Help us celebrate the 5th Anniversary by shopping or donating to our Home Improvement Store. Find great bargains and unique one-of-a-kind items. Help the environment while helping to fund the building of more Habitat homes. 100% of all proceeds from purchases go to building our homes.



The Home Improvement Store located at 17700 S. Figueroa St., Gardena, CA 90248

If you are remodeling please

consider donating any usable items to the store. We can also help you with your deconstruction projects. Call the store today, at (310) 323-5665 or visit our website at www.shophabitat.org or www.habitatla.org.

Be on the lookout for the **Grand Opening** of our second Home Improvement Store opening this spring in the City of Norwalk. Congrats HFH GLA Home Improvement Store!

Congrats to our Cornerstone Training Graduates!

Join the next Cornerstone class and Crew Leader training February 2-March 17 and find out what all the buzz is about. Learn valuable hands-on construction and Crew Leader Training you can use in your daily lives and on a Habitat build site. Classes fill up fast so don't wait to register. Call Deborah Lewis today at 310-323-4663 ext. 119 for more information or to register.

Help Us Build a Greater Los Angeles

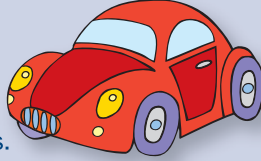
Be part of the solution!

Every family deserves at least a simple decent place to live!

Ways you can help!

DONATE

- SEND a gift using the envelope provided.
- DONATE online via our web site at: www.habitatla.org
- Donate land, vehicles, materials or services.
- SET UP automatic monthly donations. Contact our office at (310) 323-4663 for more info.
- BEQUEST - Remember HFH GLA in your will.



VOLUNTEER

- Donate your time by volunteering! Check our website www.habitatla.org for volunteer opportunities.

Together, we can eliminate poverty housing - house by house, neighborhood by neighborhood through acts of conscience and action.

visit: www.carsforhomes.org call: 877.277.4344

Keep in Touch!

Website:
www.habitatla.org

HFHGLA Blog:
<http://buildingagreaterla.blogspot.com>

LinkedIn:
groups/Habitat for Humanity Los Angeles

Facebook:
<http://companies.to/hfhgla>

MySpace:
<http://www.myspace.com/habitatla>

Twitter:
www.twitter.com/HabitatLA

You Tube:
<http://www.youtube.com/user/HabitatGLA>

Donate to the HFH GLA Haiti Relief Fund!
Please go to:
www.habitatla.org/disaster_relief.asp.



Homeownership Opportunity!

Our Family Services Department is always looking for new families to partner with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles. We have homeownership and **A Brush with Kindness** opportunities. For more information call Magna Viteri-Bahm at (310) 323.4663 ext 114. Don't let these opportunities pass you by.

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles wishes all of our volunteers, sponsors, partner families, and friends a safe, healthy, and prosperous 2010.



17700 South Figueroa Street, Gardena, CA 90248-4207