



Contact: Brooke Herron
brookeherron@costadevault.com
(407) 657-4818
May 14, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**420 LOCAL WOMEN BUILD TOWNHOMES DURING
NATIONAL WOMEN BUILD WEEK
*Habitat for Humanity Orlando Event Raises More Than \$75,000***

ORLANDO, Fla. – Habitat for Humanity Orlando recently celebrated National Women Build Week – an event designed to empower women to take action against poverty housing conditions. Locally, 420 women volunteered to build seven townhomes at Stag Horn Villas, Habitat Orlando's first multi-family community. During the week-long effort, the nonprofit also received more than \$75,000 in donations.

The annual event was made possible through a national partnership with Lowe's; lead sponsors were Delta Air Lines and Universal Orlando.

Volunteers sported pink hard hats and tool belts while donating their time. Among them were well-known personalities like Miss Florida 2009, Rachael Todd and Vienna Girardi, winner of last season's "The Bachelor" TV show.

"We are so grateful to all the women who participated," said Dee Danmeyer, executive director for Habitat for Humanity Orlando. "Their hard work helped create future homes for seven Central Florida families."

In support of the build, Lowe's provided Habitat Orlando with a \$5,000 store gift card, as well as in-store volunteer training. As part of Lowe's five-year, \$20 million pledge to Habitat, the company also committed more than \$1 million to National Women Build Week this year, providing grants and support materials to 200 participating affiliates nationwide.

-more-

Habitat for Humanity Orlando – Add One

“We have been the proud sponsor of Habitat’s Women Build program since 2004. This innovative program encourages women from all walks of life to pick up a hammer and build homes alongside Habitat partner families,” said Larry D. Stone, Lowe’s president and COO, and chairman of the Lowe’s Charitable and Educational Foundation. “This year marks the third anniversary of the event. We salute the women who have volunteered on Habitat jobsites across the U.S.”

To date, more than 7,000 women volunteers have built 1,400 Habitat homes nationwide. For additional information on, visit www.habitat-orlando.org/Women-Build.

About Habitat for Humanity Orlando

Habitat for Humanity Orlando is a not-for-profit, ecumenical, Christian organization dedicated to transforming the lives of low-income, hard-working families through the American dream of home ownership. Rated a four-star charity by Charity Navigator, Habitat Orlando works together with local sponsors, donors and volunteers to build communities and build families throughout Central Florida. To learn more about Habitat Orlando or to make a donation, call (407) 648-4567 or visit www.habitat-orlando.org.

About Lowe’s

Lowe’s is a proud supporter of Habitat for Humanity International, American Red Cross, United Way of America, and the Home Safety Council, in addition to numerous non-profit organizations and programs that help communities across the country. In 2008, Lowe’s and the Lowe’s Charitable and Educational Foundation together contributed more than \$25 million to support community and education projects in the United States and Canada. Lowe’s also encourages volunteerism through the Lowe’s Heroes program, a company-wide employee volunteer initiative. Lowe’s is a FORTUNE® 50 company with fiscal year 2008 sales of \$48.2 billion and has more than 1,675 stores in the United States and Canada. For more information, visit www.Lowes.com/community.

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 300,000 houses worldwide, providing simple, decent and affordable shelter for more than 1.5 million people. For more information, visit www.habitat.org.

###