



**Habitat for Humanity of Greater Orlando  
Hosts Community Celebration Event**  
*Celebrating Community and World Habitat Day*

**Orlando, Fla (September 21, 2016)** – [Habitat for Humanity of Greater Orlando](#) will be hosting a Community Celebration on October 5, 2016 at 10:00am at our Butler’s Preserve community, which will feature 59 homes upon completion in mid-2017. This celebration is part of World Habitat Day, a day set aside by the United Nations to advocate for affordable homeownership. The event will celebrate homeowners who have purchased and moved into their homes in the past year as well as, the sponsors and volunteers who worked alongside the homeowners to help them build strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter.

“The need for affordable housing in Orlando is significant, and thanks to our community partners, we are able to build homes, provide zero interest mortgages, and empower our homeowners so they have the self-reliance to build a better life for themselves and their families. We’re so privileged that we are able to celebrate this milestone,” said Catherine Steck McManus, President and CEO of Habitat Greater Orlando.

At the event, Habitat Greater Orlando will recognize the 15 new homeowners, partners, volunteers and supporters. Pauline McKenzie will speak on behalf of the new homeowners. Pauline is looking forward to moving into her new home with her son, who is autistic and has down syndrome.

“This hasn’t been an easy road, but we did it. My son and I are so excited to move into our new home! Habitat is the greatest thing that has ever happened to us, it changed our lives and my son and I can’t wait to celebrate with everyone,” said Pauline.

Rosen Hotels & Resorts is a longtime supporter of Habitat Greater Orlando and as a home sponsor they will be presenting the homeowners with gifts and welcoming them to their new homes. Over the years, the organization has contributed thousands of volunteer hours, as well as more than \$2.5 million in donations.

“Our Community Celebration event is an innovative way to celebrate our homeowners while looking forward to the future,” added McManus.

***About Habitat for Humanity of Greater Orlando***

*Habitat Greater Orlando partners with people in the community to build or improve homes. Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers, and pay an affordable mortgage. The program assists Habitat homeowners to achieve the strength, stability and independence they need to build a better life for themselves and for their families.*

*Habitat Greater Orlando is one of approximately 2,100 local affiliates of Habitat for Humanity International. Support from sponsors, donors and volunteers directly benefit the Central Florida community. To learn more about Habitat Greater Orlando or to make a donation, call 407-648-4567 or visit [www.habitat-orlando.org](http://www.habitat-orlando.org). Like Habitat Greater Orlando on Facebook [www.facebook.com/habitatorlando](https://www.facebook.com/habitatorlando) and follow on Twitter [@HabitatOrlando](https://twitter.com/HabitatOrlando).*