

Contact: Wendy Gustama <u>WendyGustama@CostaCG.com</u> (407) 657-4818

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF GREATER ORLANDO AREA PARTNERS WITH UNIVERSAL ORLANDO RESORT ON NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

**ORLANDO, Fla.** (September 17, 2014) – <u>Habitat for Humanity of Greater Orlando Area</u> and Universal Orlando Resort recently announced a partnership on a neighborhood revitalization program in the greater Washington Shores area. To kick off the relationship, volunteers from Universal's Veterans Affinity Group – an employee organization for military veterans – helped paint the exterior of single mom Dorel Patterson's home.

Funded by a \$251,000 grant from Universal, revitalization services will be provided over the next two years to 100 owner-occupied homes that surround Habitat's upcoming community, Butler's Preserve.

"We never tire of seeing the joy and appreciation on the faces of the families we help," said Diane DiFebbo, board chair of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Orlando Area and principal at CliftonLarsonAllen. "What's even more inspiring is to see volunteers experience it for the first time and realize that they are indeed changing someone's life."

Named in honor of Mable Butler, former District 6 Orange County commissioner, Butler's Preserve will feature 59 homes (51 single-family homes and four duplex units). Construction is slated to start January 2015.

"Service plays a major role in Universal's commitment to the community," said Diane O'Dell, vice president of community and diversity relations at Universal Orlando Resort. "Habitat Greater Orlando is on the ground every day making an impact, and we're very glad to be part of this project."

## About Habitat for Humanity of Greater Orlando Area

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Orlando Area is a not-for-profit, ecumenical, Christian organization dedicated to transforming the lives of low-income, hardworking families through the American Dream of homeownership. Habitat Orlando is one of approximately 2,100 local affiliates of Habitat for Humanity International. Support from sponsors, donors and volunteers directly benefits the Central Florida community. To learn more about Habitat for Humanity Orlando or to make a donation, call (407) 648-4567 or visit <a href="www.habitat-orlando.org">www.habitat-orlando.org</a>.

## **About Universal Orlando Resort**

Vacation like you mean it at Universal Orlando Resort – where every heart pounding, jaw-dropping, goose-bumping second counts. It is the only place where you can turn spending time with your family into spending time as a family. Together, you can soar above Hogwarts with Harry Potter, swing above the streets with Spider-Man, become a Minion in the hilarious and heartwarming Despicable Me Minion Mayhem ride, and join Optimus Prime in the fight to save mankind on the new mega-attraction, TRANSFORMERS: The Ride – 3D. And now, you can step into The Wizarding World of Harry Potter – Diagon Alley.

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Universal Orlando Resort is home to two incredible theme parks: Universal Studios Florida and Universal's Islands of Adventure; four magnificently themed on-site hotels: Loews Portofino Bay Hotel, Hard Rock Hotel, Loews Royal Pacific Resort and the newest addition, Universal's Cabana Bay Beach Resort; and Universal CityWalk – enjoy the best in restaurants, live music, shopping, movies and more. And located just minutes from Universal Orlando Resort is Wet n' Wild, Orlando's premier waterpark.

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