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Vanessa Echols, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Orlando and Lowe's team up for 10th annual National Women Build Week

Orlando, FL (April 20, 2017) – [Habitat for Humanity of Greater Orlando](#) and future Habitat homeowner, Latrina will work alongside Lowe's volunteers and all-female construction crews for Habitat for Humanity's 10th annual [National Women Build Week](#), on May 13, 2017. Habitat's National Women Build Week invites women to help make a difference and devote at least one day during May 6-14, 2017 to help build affordable housing in their local communities. This year's 2017 Women Build homeowner partner is Latrina, a dedicated mother of five currently living in a two-bedroom apartment with her three youngest daughters.

More than 17,000 women, including Lowe's Heroes volunteers, are expected to volunteer at construction sites across the country as part of Habitat's 2017 National Women Build Week. Vanessa Echols, long-time supporter of Habitat Greater Orlando and a member of the WFTV Channel 9 news team, will kick-off the Celebration of Women Build event at the opening ceremony.

"It's always so exciting to see firsthand what a tremendous impact homeownership has on these local families, who've worked so hard to make their American dream come true," shared Vanessa Echols, WFTV Channel 9 anchor.

In addition to the opening ceremony, the Celebration of Women Build event will have DIY clinics hosted by Lowe's and local vendors from the Orlando community. The Celebration of Women Build will take place on Saturday, May 13, 2017 beginning at 8:30am and registered fundraisers will be building from 9:00am-2:00pm. The event will take place at the Butler's Preserve community located at 4697 College Drive, Orlando FL 32811. The community will feature 59 homes upon completion later this year.

[Lowe's](#) helped launch [National Women Build Week](#) in 2008 to empower women to advocate for affordable housing and spotlight the homeownership challenges faced by many. Each year, Lowe's provides the support of their employee volunteers, Lowe's Heroes, and conducts how-to clinics at stores to teach volunteers construction skills so they can feel equipped to take part in the builds. Lowe's Heroes will be among more than 100 volunteers joining to help build affordable housing in the Orlando area as part of National Women Build Week.

“Through our partnership with Habitat and support of National Women Build Week, Lowe’s empowers women to get involved in their communities, learn construction skills and make a meaningful impact,” said James Frison, Lowe’s director of community relations. “We’re grateful to all the women in Orlando who will volunteer this week to help build decent and affordable housing.”

Lowe’s donated nearly \$2 million to this year’s National Women Build Week, including a \$5,000 store gift card to Habitat Greater Orlando. Since 2003, Lowe’s has committed more than \$63 million to Habitat’s mission and helped more than 6,500 families improve their living conditions nationwide.

Habitat’s first Women Build event was held in 1998. Since then, all-women construction crews have helped build more than 2,500 homes in partnership with families.

For more information on Habitat for Humanity’s Women Build program and to learn about Women Build events in communities across the U.S. year-round, visit [Habitat.org/wb](https://www.habitat.org/wb).

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 affiliates of Habitat for Humanity International. Support to Habitat Greater Orlando 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 [habitat-orlando.org](https://www.habitat-orlando.org). Like Habitat Greater Orlando on Facebook at [facebook.com/habitatorlando](https://www.facebook.com/habitatorlando) and follow on Twitter [@HabitatOrlando](https://twitter.com/HabitatOrlando).

About Habitat for Humanity International

Driven by the vision that everyone needs a decent place to live, Habitat for Humanity began in 1976 as a grassroots effort on a community farm in southern Georgia. The Christian housing organization has since grown to become a leading global nonprofit working in nearly 1,400 communities throughout the U.S. and in more than 70 countries. Families and individuals in need of a hand up partner with Habitat for Humanity to build or improve a place they can call home. Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. Through financial support, volunteering or adding a voice to support affordable housing, everyone can help families achieve the strength, stability and self-reliance they need to build better lives for themselves. Through shelter, we empower. To learn more, visit [habitat.org](https://www.habitat.org).

About Lowe’s in the Community

Lowe’s, a FORTUNE® 50 home improvement company, has a 60-year legacy of supporting the communities it serves through programs that focus on K-12 public education and community improvement projects. In the past decade, Lowe’s and the Lowe’s Charitable and Educational Foundation together have contributed nearly \$300 million to these efforts, and for more than two decades Lowe’s Heroes volunteers have donated their time to make our communities better places to live. For the latest news, visit [Newsroom.Lowes.com](https://www.newsroom.lowes.com) or follow [@LowesMedia](https://twitter.com/LowesMedia) on Twitter.

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