

## **Builders Blitz 2019**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Betsy Culpepper

Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County

Office: 407-567-0009; Cell: 407-222-1065 bculpepper@habitatorlandoosceola.org

Local Builders Join Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County in Builders Blitz 4 Builders will Construct 4 New Homes in 5 Days, February 4-9, 2019

ORLANDO, Fla. (January 30, 2019) – <u>Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County</u> is partnering with four (4) builders to build four (4) new homes for future Habitat homeowners in just five (5) days. The Builders Blitz will be held next week starting with the kick-off Monday, February 4 at 7 a.m. and will conclude on Saturday, February 9 at 10 a.m. with a celebratory home dedication ceremony for the four new homeowners. In addition, the nonprofit will celebrate with their Cornerstone Guild giving society members on the build site on Thursday, February 7, 7:30-9:30 am, following which attendees may tour the homes under construction. The build site is located at Arbor Bend in South Apopka, 1221 South Washington Avenue, Apopka, FL.

Professional builders and subcontractors donate the necessary building materials, supplies and hours of labor for the weeklong event to help change the lives of four families who will be calling Arbor Bend home. Arbor Bend is Habitat Orlando & Osceola's third community which will feature 34 homes upon its completion this year. Participating Builders include K. Hovnanian Homes, Park Square Homes, PCL Construction and Pulte Homes.

"To pull off the amazing feat of building four homes in five days requires the partnership of generous builders, the engagement of all their subcontractors, support from Orange County, and months of planning and preparation," said Catherine Steck McManus, President and CEO of Habitat Orlando & Osceola. "Building industry professionals understand the importance and impact of having a safe, affordable home. When builders provide the labor, funding and materials, it allows Habitat Orlando & Osceola to serve even more homeowners. We are grateful for everyone's generosity in making this week a reality."

## Meet the Builders Blitz Homeowners

**Anna** and her three children lived in a motel for six years while she saved money to rent an apartment and buy furnishings. But rent took up a large percentage of Anna's gross income, making it difficult to pay for other necessities. Additionally, her middle daughter was diagnosed with a brain disorder whose vision has deteriorated so much that they can begin applying for a service dog to assist her once they are in a home of their own.

**Lizbeth** currently shares an over-crowded two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartment with her sister and her sister's family. In addition to being over-crowded, the apartment is infested with roaches, has poor maintenance and is in an unsafe neighborhood. Lizbeth works full-time at Walmart as a cashier and part-time at Costco as a brand ambassador. Her dream is to return to school to become an x-ray technician.

**Rodreca** is the mother of three daughters and one son. They are currently sharing a substandard, over-crowded subsidized apartment in an unsafe neighborhood. Rodreca has always wanted a home for her family and she is looking forward to realizing that dream soon.

**Patricia** is living in an over-crowded apartment with her two sons who must share a bedroom. Patricia works full-time in guest services at Arnold Palmer and Winnie Palmer Hospitals. She can't wait for the day when her two sons can help decorate their own rooms and she can have a bedroom of her own.

## About Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County

Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County partners with sponsors, donors and volunteers to build affordable housing, revitalize neighborhoods and strengthen communities. Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage, achieving the strength, stability and independence to build a better life for themselves and their families.

Neighborhood Revitalization efforts are tailored to address the vision of residents who take on leadership roles in their community's renewal. Residents are empowered to revive their neighborhood through repairs, beautification projects, community cleanups and developing community partnerships to enhance their quality of life and to nurture their sustainability.

Habitat Orlando & Osceola is one of approximately 2,100 U.S. affiliates of Habitat for Humanity International. To learn more about Habitat Orlando & Osceola, call (407) 648-4567 or visit <a href="www.habitatorlandoosceola.org">www.habitatorlandoosceola.org</a>, like us on <a href="mailto:Facebook/habitatorlandoosceola">Facebook/habitatorlandoosceola</a> and follow us on <a href="mailto:Twitter\_@HabitatOrlOsc">Twitter\_@HabitatOrlOsc</a>.

###