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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Celebrating a 'Home for the Holidays' built in 2 weeks with Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County

ORLANDO, Fla. (Nov. 27, 2023) – <u>Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County</u> is partnering with <u>Williams Company</u> to ensure a local family has a safe, affordable home in time for the holidays. The build, which is taking place in Orlando's Holden Heights community, kicked off with an opening ceremony on Nov. 27 and will conclude with a home dedication on Dec. 8.

"We are extremely grateful to Williams Company for their generosity and commitment to Habitat's mission to increase affordable housing in Central Florida," said Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County President & CEO Catherine Steck McManus. "Because of the support of Williams Company and other regional businesses, we can change the lives of those in our region and continue to Face The Housing CrisisTM."

This is the fourth consecutive year that local builder Williams Company and its subcontractors and vendors will donate the materials, supplies and time to help make homeownership a reality for future Habitat Orlando & Osceola homeowner Joselyn.

A mother of two, Joselyn and her late husband dreamed of buying a home for their family. After her husband passed away in 2020, she decided to go down the road of homeownership alone. Joselyn applied to be a Habitat homeowner previously, but faced obstacles initially because she did not meet the income or credit requirement. She worked diligently on improving her credit and pursued a raise at work. By the time she was able to apply for the third time, she was finally accepted into the program.

"Our team is excited to build our fourth Habitat for Humanity home to provide affordable housing," said Matt Olberding, vice president of operations of Williams Company. "We value our strong partnership with them and the positive impact we have on our community. Every year, we look forward to the Home for the Holidays project. It exemplifies the essence of people coming together to support one another."

Habitat Orlando & Osceola is building 22 homes on lots in Holden Heights. The community will offer three floorplans, including two 3-bedroom and one 4-bedroom, and all homes are greencertified and include energy-efficient appliances.

Learn more about Home for the Holidays, our builder and homeowner here.

For images from today's opening ceremony, click here.

About Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County

Driven by a vision that everyone deserves a safe, affordable place to live, Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County strengthens communities by building and repairing homes, and counseling and educating homeowners and the public. Families and individuals partner with Habitat Orlando & Osceola to purchase homes with an affordable mortgage. Through Face the Housing CrisisTM and the Cornerstone HousingTM Framework, Habitat Orlando & Osceola is working with community partners to address the wicked problem of the affordable housing crisis in Central Florida and its detrimental effects on community priorities. Founded in 1986, Habitat Orlando & Osceola has built, rehabbed or repaired over 850 homes throughout Central Florida. The nonprofit has achieved recognition as one of the 40 "top producers" out of over 1,100 Habitat for Humanity International affiliates working in communities throughout the United States and in more than 70 countries and is a HUD-certified local Housing Counseling Agency. To learn more, visit HabitatOrlando.org.

About Williams Company

Established in 1920, Williams Company is a 100% employee-owned company with a 103-year legacy of construction excellence. The company's operating units include Williams Company Building Division, Williams Company Southeast, and Williams Company Tampa. Williams Company specializes in industrial, cold storage, education, retail, and multi-family projects and is currently licensed in 14 states from Texas to Maryland. For more information, visit www.williamsco.com.

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