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Press Contact:  
Jo Ann Driscoll  
Public Relations Consultant  
Habitat for Humanity East Bay  
(510) 749-0750 (direct)  
(510) 459-8144 (cell)  
[joann@pacbell.net](mailto:joann@pacbell.net)

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## **LARGEST DEDICATION AND CELEBRATION OF NEW AFFORDABLE GREEN HOMES FOR OAKLAND FAMILIES**

**TWENTY NEW HABITAT HOMES FINISHED AS RESULT OF  
THE BAY AREA'S BIGGEST EARTH DAY BUILD-A-THON AND YEAR-LONG  
VOLUNTEER EFFORT**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2009 11 A.M. – 1 P.M.**

(Oakland, CA) The public is invited to a special dedication ceremony to celebrate the completion of the largest number of new, green, affordable homes ever built by Habitat for Humanity East Bay (HEB). Twenty new homes, built by volunteers, community partners and homeowners, will be celebrated on Saturday, December 12 beginning at 11 a.m. at 10900 Edes Avenue in Oakland.

The new homeowners will receive the keys to their front doors at the ceremony. They and members of their families have worked side by side with an unprecedented number of volunteers who have donated their time and expertise to build a record-breaking number of homes in just one year. Each family worked on the job site and put in “500 hours of sweat equity” in the construction process as part of their unique partnership with the Habitat program.

HEB’s biggest-ever annual Earth Day Build-A-Thon, kicked off this year’s successful building program. Each of the 20 two, three, and four bedroom houses were framed in just four days with over 800 volunteers swinging hammers and working together in an accelerated build. With the completion of these latest 20 homes, a total of 46 (of a planned 54 homes) at Edes

Avenue, have been finished transforming a former blighted East Oakland auto salvage yard into a thriving, healthy community.

As part of the event, a self-guided tour of one of the homes in the development, showcasing Habitat East Bay's award-winning use of green technology, will be offered. The event will also include recognition for major donors, who have made corporate and individual gifts, and to recognize those who helped on work days or others who have underwritten supplies and equipment.

#### HABITAT EAST BAY IS ONE OF THE BAY AREA'S LEADING GREEN BUILDERS

Recognized today as one of the Bay Area's leading green affordable housing builders, Habitat for Humanity East Bay's commitment began nearly a decade ago in 2000. It was one of the first local organizations of its type building in an environmentally-sustainable way. HEB has won three Gold level LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certificates for its homes on the Edes Avenue site. Habitat East Bay is the first habitat affiliate in northern California to certify homes to LEED standards. It has completed more than 60 green solar homes, certified through Build It Green's GreenPoint Rated system and is moving forward on plans to integrate green building principles of design, execution, and product into all future projects. Habitat for Humanity East Bay's also has a unique ReStore, located at 9235 San Leandro Street in Oakland. This construction materials reuse facility diverts waste from landfills and it's profits help support the organization's building efforts.

Revitalizing neighborhoods and providing homeownership opportunities for families with limited incomes is the mission of Habitat for Humanity East Bay. In addition to its work in East Oakland, Habitat East Bay is active throughout Alameda and Contra Costa County.

Each of the new homes in the Edes Dedication has been supported, in part, by gifts from individual donors, corporations, foundations, faith based groups, and/or student groups. National, state and local government agencies help provide the land, infrastructure, and funding to clean up the brownfield site to residential standards.

Sponsors include:

US Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Environmental Protection Agency, Brownfields Grant  
The Corporation for National and Community Service, AmeriCorps Program  
CalHome / California Housing and Community Development  
California Center for Land Recycling

California Department of Toxic Substances Control Cleanup Loan  
The City of Oakland  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Solar Habitat Program  
Wells Fargo  
Thrivent Builds  
Wachovia  
Bank of America  
Coldwell Banker  
Lennar Charitable Housing Foundation  
Simpson Strong-Tie  
Habitat East Bay's ReStore  
The Home Depot  
State Street  
The Northface  
Cisco  
Lowe's Women Build  
Cars for Homes Program  
Build It Green  
Global Green  
US Green Building Council

For more information about Habitat for Humanity East Bay, the Edes Avenue Development, upcoming volunteer opportunities or how to become a Habitat family visit the website at [www.habitatEB.org](http://www.habitatEB.org) or call 510-251-6304.

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