



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
February 28, 2011

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HABITAT FOR HUMANITY EAST BAY DEDICATES HOME IN ANTIOCH MONDAY, MARCH 7 AT 10 AM

PUBLIC IS INVITED TO JOIN CELEBRATION AND TOUR FIRST HOME REHABILITATED AS PART OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PROGRAM IN ANTIOCH

(Oakland, CA) – Habitat for Humanity East Bay (HEB) invites Contra Costa County and Antioch residents to join with volunteers, civic leaders and local business leaders at 10 a.m. at 3600 Gentrytown Drive in Antioch on Monday, March 7, 2011. The celebration will feature the dedication of the first home HEB has rehabilitated as part of the U.S. Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) in the City of Antioch.

Special guests include: Mayor Jim Davis, Councilmember Gary Agopian, City Manager Jim Jakel, Bank of America's Senior Vice President of Consumer Leadership Program, Ameet Seth and HEB's President & CEO, Janice Jensen.

During the dedication the Gargaro family, who have worked side by side with volunteers on the construction crew to earn their 250 hours of sweat equity for their down payment, will receive the ceremonial keys to their new three bedroom home.

Their home, sponsored by Bank of America, is one of five that HEB is renovating in partnership with the City of Antioch. The Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) is designed to help rehabilitate foreclosed homes in order to help address the problems caused by the large number of abandoned properties that can become a blight for neighborhoods. The NSP program is working through the City of Antioch's Community Development Department, which has provided HEB support through a \$1 million grant which will allow HEB to help in the rehabilitation of existing homes in Antioch.

In addition, HEB is also building nine new homes in its El Rincon development in Bay Point and is active in other locations throughout the East Bay with more than 50 homes currently in the development pipeline. Its goal is to serve 1000 families, both locally and around the world, by its 25th anniversary in 2013.

Habitat East Bay is one of the Bay Area's leading green affordable home builders. Although modest in size, the new Gentrytown Drive home features a number of green and energy efficient features, including a new roof, low VOC paint, kitchen cabinets, energy star appliances, new lighting, low flow toilets, new flooring and a 92.5% efficient furnace.

Praised for its success in creating home ownership opportunities for families with limited incomes, HEB is the largest Habitat affiliate in Northern California. It has been creating sustainable housing and revitalizing neighborhoods for over 20 years, serving over 275 families throughout Alameda and Contra Costa County.

Volunteers and homeowner applicants are needed. To learn more about Habitat East Bay's work in Antioch and Contra Costa County, or to donate to the home building efforts visit HabitatEB.org or call (510) 251-6304.