



*Celebrating 25 years Building Houses, Building Hope
In Broward County 1983 - 2008*

**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

MEDIA CONTACT:
Christi Rice
(954) 396-3030, ext. 215
christi@habitatbroward.org

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY GIVES FAMILIES & YOUTH BLUEPRINTS FOR A BETTER LIFE

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL (July 29, 2009) – Habitat for Humanity of Broward County recently wrapped up the second year of its Youth Enrichment program, providing more than 70 participants ages 10 to 17 with a meaningful way to become invested in the Habitat experience and contribute to their family's journey to homeownership.

Called Blueprints4Life, the program offers a variety of activities designed to empower the youth of Habitat families to become mentally, physically and emotionally prepared to engage in educational and community opportunities that will serve them well into adulthood.

Blueprints4Life runs from September to June and features workshops on topics such as nutrition and fitness, drug prevention, financial literacy, domestic violence prevention, internet safety, leadership skills, and HIV/STD and pregnancy prevention. Each year Habitat Broward collaborates with a number of diverse community organizations to produce the workshops, including Bank of America, Broward County Schools' Office of Prevention Programs, Leadership Broward Foundation, Inc., Real Life Youth Ministry, Red Cross, Teen Challenge, The Kids Ecology Corps and Women in Distress of Broward County, Inc.

The youth program is an extension of Habitat Broward's Family Support program, which is designed to give Habitat families the knowledge, skills and confidence necessary to attain and succeed in homeownership. Recognizing the importance of a healthy support system to long-term stability, Habitat Broward also strives to promote the development of positive social networks among Habitat families and continues to link families to community resources for as long as they remain in their home.

Financial supporters of the 2008-09 Family Support and Youth Enrichment programs included:

- Community Foundation of Broward
- A.D. Henderson Foundation
- Sun Sentinel Children's Fund, a Fund of the McCormick Fund
- William R. Watts Foundation, Inc.
- Jarden Consumer Solutions Community Fund
- Whole Foods Market
- Florida Marlins Community Foundation

Planning for the 2009-10 Family Support and Youth Enrichment programs is already underway. For more information on partnership opportunities, please contact Melissa McDonald, Program Manager, at (954) 396-3030 Ext. 212 or melissa@habitatbroward.org.

About Habitat for Humanity of Broward

Celebrating more than 25 years of building houses, building hope in Broward County, Habitat for Humanity of Broward is a non-profit, non-denominational Christian housing ministry that has successfully built more than 280 homes. Dedicated to eradicating substandard housing by building simple, decent, affordable homes in partnership with low and very-low income families in need, Habitat for Humanity is a catalyst for individual and community transformation. Visit our website: www.habitatbroward.org.