

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY HONORS COMMUNITY PARTNERS AT
25th ANNIVERSARY SPIRIT OF HUMANITY AWARDS**

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL (April 7, 2009) – More than 200 community leaders and Habitat for Humanity of Broward supporters attended the 9th Annual Spirit of Humanity Awards reception - presented by BankAtlantic and hosted by Chairman Alan B. Levan - held on Thursday, March 19 at the Hilton Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort. With the assistance of guest emcee Jason Crush, Executive Director of Habitat Broward, the program highlighted the 25 year history of the organization, the role it plays in supporting families eager to break the cycle of poverty and obtain homeownership and its innovative plans for the future featuring a 30-home, Leed Silver Certified Level, “green” community right here in Fort Lauderdale.

The evening included an awards presentation honoring three extraordinary community partners whose contributions have helped further Habitat Broward’s mission to build simple, decent, affordable homes in partnership with families in need throughout Broward County. The “Spirit of Humanity” was awarded to the Hudson Family Foundation, who provided financial support to help launch Habitat’s most ambitious project - the first official green build scheduled to kick-off later this year. Publix Super Markets Charities received the “Soul of Humanity” award. For 15 years, Publix has brought communities to life through annual home sponsorship and by providing support to our volunteers and homeowner families. The “Heart of Humanity” award was presented to Janet Boyle and JB’s on the beach restaurant. Janet and her dedicated team have supported Habitat’s mission for more than seven years since Habitat Broward’s first annual Women Building a Legacy project.

Following the awards presentation, Alan Levan issued the “BankAtlantic Three House Challenge,” pledging \$105,000 on behalf of BankAtlantic associates to co-sponsor the construction of three new Habitat homes. Levan urged the community to match the pledged donation in order to provide three families in need the chance to realize the American dream of homeownership. Mr. Levan has been personally committed to Habitat Broward for many years. His dedication to the program is shared by BankAtlantic associates who donate countless hours of “sweat equity” on the jobsite. In addition, BankAtlantic services Habitat Broward homeowner mortgage notes at no cost and provides the organization with free office space.

The success of Habitat Broward can be greatly attributed to its ability to build partnerships with local government, individuals, corporations, foundations and faith-based organizations who invest in the improvement of their community. “Spirit of Humanity provides us with the opportunity to pay tribute to our community partners that have generously shared their time, talents and resources throughout the year”, said Jason Crush, Executive Director for Habitat Broward. “Our sponsors and volunteers are people who go above and beyond - they do it because helping our community is the right thing to do.”

Additional sponsors of the 9th Annual Spirit of Humanity Awards reception included Crush Law, Hilton Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort, Huizenga Family Foundation, JM Family Enterprises, Inc., King Automotive Group, Linda D. Jones, Lochrie & Chakas PA, Maroone an AutoNation Company, Mollie Light, Nova Southeastern University and Stiles Corporation. In-kind support was provided by WSVN-TV Channel 7, Publix Super Markets Charities, Premier Beverage, Little’s American Portraits, JB’s on the beach, Fresh Beer, Inc. and Bimini Boatyard.

For more information on the “BankAtlantic Three House Challenge”, Habitat Broward’s first “green build” or how you can improve our community by building solid foundations that foster stronger families and nurturing home environments contact the Development department, at christi@habitatbroward.org or (954) 396-3030, ext. 215.

About Habitat for Humanity of Broward

Celebrating 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 300 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