



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
March 10, 2016

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HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF METRO LOUISVILLE LAUNCHES NEW COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT, “LOVE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD”

Habitat invites community volunteers to help beautify neighborhoods through low-cost repair projects in the Smoketown-Shelby Park neighborhoods

LOUISVILLE, KY – On April 16th, Habitat for Humanity of Metro Louisville will host its first official Community Development and Repair Project, “Love Your Neighborhood” in the Smoketown-Shelby Park neighborhoods. The goal of the program is to increase pride in the neighborhoods, while creating a safer and healthier environment through low-cost exterior repairs for homeowners, and beautification projects to improve the entire streetscape. The event will take place from **8 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 16** and Habitat expects hundreds of volunteers to participate in the event.

“Through our community’s compassion and giving spirit, we have built more than 450 Habitat for Humanity homes throughout Metro Louisville,” says Rob Locke, President and CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Metro Louisville. “In the spirit of building neighborhoods block by block, we have recognized the need to help friends and neighbors of Habitat homeowners make repairs to beautify their homes as well. This is how the concept of “Love Your Neighborhood” developed. We invite anyone in our community who wants to volunteer a day of service to help us in this new initiative.”

Projects proposed for the April 16 event include landscaping, vinyl siding repair, painting, fence repair and power washing at five different houses in the Smoketown-Shelby Park neighborhoods.

Volunteers should plan on meeting at 1030 S. Hancock St. between 8 – 8:30am on Saturday, April 16. All volunteers must be at least 14 years old and sign in at the meeting location. Dress appropriately for the weather in casual clothing and comfortable closed-toe shoes.

Complimentary lunch will be provided by Raising Cane’s and St. Edwards Parish. Those interested in volunteering or having their organizations participate in a “Love Your Neighborhood” event can contact Habitat’s Volunteer Coordinator, Allison Raque at (502) 805-1665 or araque@louisvillehabitat.org.

“Love Your Neighborhood” is sponsored by Thrivent Financial.

About Habitat for Humanity of Metro Louisville

Habitat for Humanity of Metro Louisville was founded in 1985 by a group of people concerned with the lack of affordable housing in Louisville. In 1986, a house in need of renovation was donated and the group began its first project. It took the consortium of volunteers, primarily from the faith community in Louisville, two years to complete the first project. Since then, Habitat for Humanity has built or renovated over 450 homes in Louisville and Oldham County.

Through volunteer labor and the donations of money and materials, Habitat builds and renovates simple, decent houses for people who make between 30%-80% of the area's median income. All partner families must be employed and meet credit guidelines in order to qualify. In addition to a down payment and a monthly mortgage, they are required to invest 400 hours of sweat equity in their home and in the homes of other partner families. Houses are sold at no profit with a zero interest, 20-year loan. We currently have a foreclosure rate of just under two percent, and continue to work with all of our families to ensure success. For more information, visit www.louisvillehabitat.org.

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