

Habitat for Humanity launches new alliance with The American Legion

Habitat unveils volunteer guide to engage civilians and service men and women

WASHINGTON (Nov. 11, 2009) - Habitat for Humanity has joined The American Legion to help Legion members become an important part of the effort to end substandard housing.

The *Legionnaire's Guide to Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Opportunities* gives veterans options to advocate, build, donate and organize in support of Habitat's mission. The toolkit will be sent to Legion posts and members today and also is available online at www.habitat.org.

"We are excited about this joint effort with the American Legion," said Liz Blake, senior vice president of Government Affairs, Advocacy and Legal. "This alliance is an opportunity for service men and women to volunteer with Habitat, join us to make simple, decent, affordable housing a reality in partnership with families around the nation and the world."

The launch of the yearlong alliance with the Legion will be highlighted during the ServiceNation Civilian-Military Initiative kick-off in Washington, D.C. Habitat supports ServiceNation's national campaign to elevate service as a core ideal and problem-solving strategy.

"The American Legion welcomes the opportunity to partner with Habitat for Humanity," said Clarence E. Hill, National Commander of The American Legion. "This joint volunteer 'toolkit' will bring American Legion volunteers to Habitat for Humanity build-sites as well as refer eligible service members and veterans for possible housing opportunities."

Across the country Habitat affiliates celebrated Veterans Day by participating in a number of events including:

- **Habitat for Humanity in Orange County (Calif.)** is building homes in partnership with 14 veterans.
- **Bethany Church of Laporte (Ind.)** has teamed up with the Laporte County Habitat for Humanity to build a home with a soldier. They are calling this effort, "Welcome Home Soldier."
- **Habitat for Humanity of Lafayette (Ind.)** built a home in partnership with a veteran that was completed in time for Veterans Day.
- **Seminole Habitat for Humanity (Fla.)** hosted a Blitz Build led by a contingent of veterans to help rebuild homes destroyed by the Hurricane Katrina storm surge.

About Habitat for Humanity International

Habitat for Humanity International is an ecumenical Christian ministry that welcomes to its work all people dedicated to the cause of eliminating poverty housing. Since its founding in 1976, Habitat has built nearly 300,000 houses worldwide, providing simple, decent and affordable shelter for 1.5 million people. For more information, visit www.habitat.org.

About The American Legion

With a current membership of 2.5-million wartime veterans, The American Legion was founded in 1919 on the four pillars of a strong national security, veterans affairs, Americanism, and youth programs. Legionnaires work for the betterment of their communities through more than 14,000 posts across the nation. For more information, visit www.legion.org.