

*** *MEDIA ALERT* ***



DOWNEY MOTHER OF THREE CELEBRATES HOLIDAYS IN NEW HABITAT FOR HUMANITY HOME THAT SHE & HER SPECIAL NEEDS SON HELPED TO BUILD

Dedication Ceremony Honors Newly Completed Monroy Family Home – Built with Volunteers & Sponsored by Thrivent Builds®

Los Angeles, CA – December 16, 2009: Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles (HFH GLA) and the sponsor of the Monroy home, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, will host a home dedication ceremony to celebrate Betty Monroy's long journey towards homeownership. On Saturday, December 19th from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm the Monroy family will be honored by the volunteers and generous sponsors, including Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, Lutheran Congregations, and City of Downey Community Development Department, who all contributed to completing the Monroy's new home in just five months. The home dedication and blessing ceremony will feature Erin Rank, president/CEO of HFH GLA, home tours plus presentations from sponsors, friends and family.

WHO: Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles & Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

WHAT: Home Dedication Ceremony for the Monroy Family

WHEN: Saturday, December 19, 2009
3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

WHERE: 12812 Blodgett Ave., Downey CA. 90242
Google Map

WHY: Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles partners with deserving families, like the Monroy family, to build safe, decent and sustainable affordable housing. Betty Monroy is a single mother of three: Joshua, Nicholas and Dominique. Joshua and Nicholas are both high functioning autistic enrolled in Downey's top ranked special education program, for this reason Monroy has struggled to remain in Downey despite the escalating cost of rent. Monroy and her children were living in a home infested by termites, with worn carpet, peeling paint and mold infestation. Betty and Joshua have

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completed 500+ hours of “sweat equity” building their home and have been transformed in the process. She will pay back a zero-interest rate loan, guaranteeing that her children will always have a home they can afford. Habitat for Humanity makes homeownership possible for families who earn less than 80% of the median household income and in Greater Los Angeles the organization currently reports a less than 1% default rate. The Monroy home is the fourth home in Greater Los Angeles to be funded by the Thrivent Builds Program.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF GREATER LOS ANGELES strives to eliminate poverty housing through advocacy, education and partnership with families in need to build simple, decent affordable housing. Since 1990, HFH GLA has built and renovated over 600 homes locally and worldwide, transforming the lives of hundreds of individuals. For more information, visit <http://www.habitatla.org>
<<http://www.habitatla.org/>>

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