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Habitat for Humanity has built over 300,000 homes, housing more than 1.5 million people worldwide. Over 1,700 affiliates in the U.S. and 550 international affiliates in over 90 countries.

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles has built and renovated nearly 500 homes in Los Angeles County, and abroad since 1990. Serving 112 cities and unincorporated areas of L.A. County.



He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8



World Habitat Day October 5, 2009

In 1985 the United Nations declared the first Monday in October “World Habitat Day” in order to recognize the vast housing need in cities around the world. Habitat for Humanity uses World Habitat Day as a call to action for individuals and organizations to change the reality of poverty housing and to work together to find housing solutions for those in need.

This year’s World Habitat Day is Monday, October 5, 2009. We are asking not for money or volunteers but more importantly, **for your prayers**. As you worship and meet the first weekend of October, we ask you to include the Habitat for Humanity ministry in your prayers. Please pray that hearts be transformed into taking action, and to make decent, safe, and affordable housing a necessity for all. Please pray for the Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles ministry as we work daily to find resources and ways to serve as many deserving, hardworking, low-income families (your neighbors!) as we can - right here in Los Angeles County.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Habitat for Humanity Prayer for Shelter for you to use during the first week of October, and throughout the year. Please let us know you are praying.

Why do we believe your prayers are so important?

Let’s begin locally in your community and talk about our neighbors. Can you imagine your family living in a converted garage or worse? Throughout Los Angeles County, officials estimate that **hundreds of thousands of people sleep each night in accommodations originally built for cars, garden equipment, and storage.** This number does not include the homeless or those living in shelters in Los Angeles. This staggering number has earned Los Angeles the appalling title as the **Poverty Housing Capital of America**, where **one out of every four children now live in poverty housing.**

Building Hope, Lives and Communities

10 million people die each year from substandard housing and living conditions.

A child living in inadequate housing is 10 times more likely to contract meningitis, respiratory problems or asthma than his or her counterparts in adequate housing.

Children growing up in overcrowded conditions are less likely to graduate from high school.



If one of your countrymen becomes poor and is unable to support himself among you, help him as you would an alien or a temporary resident, so he can continue to live among you. Do not take interest of any kind from him, but fear your God, so that your countryman may continue to live among you. Leviticus 25:35-36



Beyond Los Angeles, the need for safe, decent, affordable housing is also dire. According to the United Nations, more than 100 million people in the world today are homeless. Millions more face a severe housing problem living without adequate sanitation, with irregular or no electricity supply, and without adequate security.

In a community with an obvious shortage of affordable housing, officials have long struggled with what to do about these problems, particularly when hardworking, low income families are paying well over 60% of their monthly income to live in substandard conditions, while working two or three jobs.

But at **Habitat for Humanity**, we know exactly what to do. As an ecumenical Christian ministry, we build and renovate homes with a goal of eliminating substandard housing by making decent, safe, and affordable housing a matter of conscience and action in our communities. However, we cannot accomplish this without your help.

Raising awareness and advocating for change are the first steps toward transforming systems that perpetuate the global plague of poverty housing that we see, even here in Los Angeles County. **World Habitat Day serves as an important reminder that we all must unite to ensure that everyone has a safe, decent place to call home**. This is why we believe that your prayers during worship services and gatherings throughout the weekend prior to October 5th will make a significant difference in eliminating poverty housing.

In a spirit of unity, prayers petitioning God on behalf of His children – that are suffering today in a similar manner as the wanderers in the desert did in need of safe, decent shelter – will be heard.

The gravity of the problem at hand is going to demand our prayers for more than a day or one weekend a year. **We ask that you would commit to consistently praying for Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles.**

Building Hope, Lives and Communities



Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Philippians 2:1-2



We would love to share more information about how your congregation can become involved with our ministry, including your Family, Youth, and Student Ministries. In the meantime, confirming your **commitment to unite with us in prayer on the first weekend of October for World Habitat Day, and as a prayer partner of our ministry** is easy to do! Please return the enclosed Prayer Partner Pledge Form by fax or by mail as soon as possible or online go to www.habitatla.com and click on Prayer Partners. We have created a user friendly online response form.

Our goal is for every House of Worship in Los Angeles County to be unified in prayer the first weekend of October, 2009 for their neighbors in need of safe, decent, affordable housing. **Please respond today to this call for prayer.**

We look forward to hearing from you soon!

In partnership and unity of spirit,

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