



For Immediate Release:

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## HABITAT RESTORE GROWS FASTER THAN EVER DURING TROUBLED TIMES

*Sale of Low Cost Materials Promotes Home Restoration & Repair*

The challenges facing Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity are the same as those affecting the entire nonprofit sector. The current global economic situation continues to impact the organization, as well as their constituents, and community partners. Habitat's ReStore, however, is growing faster than ever and their commitment to the environment will be a major factor in the organization's ongoing success.

Habitat for Humanity ReStore sells rescued, recycled and donated building materials, tools and household items at a fraction of standard retail costs, with proceeds supporting Habitat's operations. Providing affordable construction materials and tools, so that the community can repair, renovate and rehab deteriorating housing stock, supports Habitat's mission to "eliminate poverty housing" while keeping tons of materials out of local landfills.

Habitat's ReStore is seeking donations of new or used bath and kitchen cabinets, windows, doors, light fixtures, lumber, tile, tools, furniture, garden supplies and more. Donations are often tax deductible.

With the help of the Cleveland Foundation, The George Gund Foundation, The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, The Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District and others, Habitat has leased a 60,000 square foot, fully raked, professional materials handling facility. The ReStore is designed to be the cornerstone of a community-wide effort to promote recycling, up-cycling, salvage, rescue, repair, deconstruction, decommissioning, and continual reuse of viable materials, which are made available to the community for 25 to 30 cents on a dollar.

Since materials are rescued and recycled from local sources, the carbon reduction is significant, not only because new material is not unnecessarily manufactured from scarce natural resources, but goods are also not shipped around the world and then trucked across the country using precious fossil fuels. This triple bottom line model allows Habitat to provide deeply discounted materials so that renters, homeowners, landlords, churches, community gardeners, and other nonprofits can rebuild and replant the central city using materials that are typically abandoned, discarded and buried in the ground.

In addition to being one of the largest low-income housing providers in the world, Habitat for Humanity is one of Cleveland's premier Green Builders, producing highly efficient new and renovated homes that meet or exceed Energy Star, Enterprise Green Communities, National Association of Homebuilders (NAHB) and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards. Habitat runs the ReStore and their construction sites based on a commitment to zero waste. Habitat's lawns are organic, the landscaping is accomplished with indigenous species, and they will be introducing rain barrels, rain gardens and other water management techniques during 2010.

ReStore is located at 2110 West 110<sup>th</sup> Street, and is open to the public Wednesday through Friday from 10am-4pm and Saturdays from 9am-1pm. Donation drop-offs are accepted Tuesday to Saturday from 9am-3:30pm, or you can call 216-429-3621 Ext. 238 to schedule a pick up. A Planet Aid clothing and shoe container, Abitibi paper recycling container and City of Cleveland glass, plastic, metal and cardboard recycling container are also available on site.

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