



For Immediate Release:

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GREATER CLEVELAND HABITAT FOR HUMANITY KICKS OFF SECOND ANNUAL COMMUNITY TOOL DRIVE

Donated items will be used to help eliminate poverty housing

Cleveland, OH – On Tuesday, May 25, 2010, at 11:00 am, Mayor Frank Jackson, County Commissioner Peter Lawson Jones, County Treasurer Jim Rokakis, County Solid Waste District Director Diane Bickett and other business, community and civic leaders will join representatives from Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity to kick off the organization's Second Annual Tool Drive, at Habitat's facility at 2110 West 110th Street in Cleveland. The countywide Tool Drive, running through Wednesday, June 30, asks residents, organizations and businesses to donate new and used tools, as well as cabinets, sinks, building materials, and appliances, to Habitat for Humanity. The donated items will be sold at the organization's ReStore, a recycled building materials store located at 2110 W. 110th Street. Proceeds from ReStore sales will be used to help Habitat build and rehabilitate homes for those in need.

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 their mission to "eliminate poverty housing" while keeping tons of materials out of local landfills.

Supporters will be able to make monetary donations to Habitat "at the cash register" at all five locally owned Phoenix Coffee Shops, the Root Café, Dewey's Fair Trade Coffee, and the Popcorn Shop Factory.

Cash donations, purchased tool donations, and collection bins for rescued and recycled garden, hand and power tools are available at Alexander Hardware, Chagrin Hardware, Commonwealth Lumber, Corlett Lumber, Fatica Hardware, Ingersoll Hardware, Larsen Lumber and Supplies, Sietz-Agin Hardware, Solon Hardware and Van Aken Hardware as part of an ongoing Habitat partnership with Do it Best Stores.

The Tool Drive encourages participants to look through basements, garages, workbenches, warehouses, storage lockers and tool kits and then donate duplicates or items they haven't used in years. This is an excellent way to put a deceased loved one's tool set back into good hands, for the benefit of the community. It's also a great way for businesses and organizations to eliminate unnecessary storage expenses, floor stock and overhead.

This is a great opportunity to gather up the stuff cleaned out of the garage and basement for Mother's Day, and over the Memorial Day weekend and donate it to an organization that is helping others. It's also a great time to pick up a new tool for Dad for Father's day and donate the old one to Habitat.

One of the area's largest recyclers, ReStore will also accept remodeling materials such as kitchen and bathroom cabinets, windows, doors, light fixtures, lumber and appliances. Residents remodeling their homes should request that their contractors donate salvaged materials to the ReStore as a routine part of demolition. Contractors should never again pay to dump viable materials that could be put to good use.

Churches, organizations and businesses are encouraged to hold individual Tool Drives, collect materials and then arrange for a drop-off time at the ReStore. Small Tools can also be dropped off at the 14 area Do-It-Best locations. Those donating very large items, such as cabinets, sinks, furniture and appliances, who do not have the ability to deliver these items themselves, can call the ReStore to schedule a pick up. Habitat is also seeking volunteers to help with pick-ups and to work in the ReStore on a regular basis. For more information please visit www.clevelandrestore.org.

Last year's tool drive effectively doubled both donations to the Habitat ReStore and revenues from sale of material. The Campaign materials, designed by Liggett Stashower won Silver and Bronze awards at the Cleveland Addys, a Gold Award at the District Addys, and have now moved on to the National competition.

Tool Drive sponsors include AIA Cleveland, Benefits Resource Group, CharterOne Bank, Case Western Reserve, City of Cleveland Office of Sustainability, City of Cleveland Office of the Mayor, City of Bay Village, City of Seven Hills, Cleveland Bioneers, Cleveland Cavaliers, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland Foundation, Cleveland Neighborhood Development Coalition, Cleveland Marshall College of Law, Cleveland State University, Cool Cleveland, Crain's Cleveland Business, Cuyahoga County Commissioners, Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District, Cuyahoga Land Bank, Dewey's Fair Trade Coffee, Do It Best, Earth Day Coalition, Environmental Health Watch, EcoWatch, Entrepreneurs for Sustainability, The George Gund Foundation, Green City Blue Lake, Greater Cleveland Community Shares, Hard Rock Café, Huntington Bank, KeyBank, Liggett Stashower, Moen Inc., Neighborhood Progress Inc., Phoenix Coffee, Philips, Plain Dealer, Plymouth Church, Popcorn Shop Factory, Proforma, Radio 92.3, Root Café, Shore Bank, Third Federal, Time Warner Cable, Q104, Univercity Circle Incorporated, University Hospitals, WDOK, WKYC, WNCX, WQAL, Yasaki Photographic

Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit charitable organization that offers qualified families, with demonstrated need, willingness to partner, and the ability to pay a zero-interest loan, an opportunity to build and buy a home. Habitat for Humanity brings urban and suburban communities together to "eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world, and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action". As an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity is part of a worldwide powerhouse, building in 3,000 locations across 100 countries. The local organization has built and rehabbed more than 160 homes in Cleveland and 240 homes overseas. For more information visit, www.clevelandhabitat.org

For those who will make new tool purchases in support of the drive, immediate needs exist for: Garden Tools, Garden Supplies, Lawn Sprinklers, Sledge Hammers, Circular Saws, Cordless Screw Guns, Hammers, Pry Bars, Miter Saws, Speed-Squares, Tape Measures, Angle Drills, Utility Knives, Levels, Nail Sets, and, of course, Framing and Finish Hammers.

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