



MEDIA RELEASE

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Habitat for Humanity Changes Name

Mobile, AL (May 13, 2011) – Habitat For Humanity In Mobile County is now Habitat for Humanity of Southwest Alabama. In 2008 the Board of Directors' 5-year strategic plan included a goal to expand its serving area into Washington and Clarke counties. Planning began in 2009 and within 18 months Habitat will have an office, ReStore and construction warehouse established in Washington County, the corporate office will remain in Mobile. The first community meeting is scheduled for June 2011; the first Habitat house in Washington County is expected to be completed by the end of 2012.

“We are excited to provide jobs and job skills training in office administration, retail and construction. Right now our greatest need is land and funding for start-up”, says Brenda Carson Lawless, president and CEO.

Habitat acts in response to human need, giving without seeking profit, believing that God has magnified the effects of their efforts through this expansion. Together, the donated labor of construction volunteers, the support of partner organizations and the homeowners' "sweat equity" make Habitat's house building possible.

Since 1989 The Mobile Habitat Affiliate continues to serve Mobile County by partnering with community and low-income families building new and rehabilitating over 200 houses for more than 1,000 individuals.

If you would like to support this important endeavor, please contact Brenda Carson Lawless at 251 476-7171 or email blawless@habitatmobile.org. You can also visit the website at www.habitatmobile.org and the new website May 13, 2011 is www.habitatswalabama.org.



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**About Habitat for Humanity in Mobile County**

Habitat for Humanity in Mobile County was founded in 1988 and has completed construction on 200 homes. Habitat for Humanity serves disadvantaged families in need of safe, decent, affordable shelter. Habitat for Humanity helps prevent the dissolution of families by providing a stable home place, while training new homeowners on how to manage finances and how to provide maintenance to their new homes. In 2009, Habitat for Humanity in Mobile began a new program for home ownership through acquisition and rehabilitation of foreclosed properties as part of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). Habitat for Humanity in Mobile is adding two additional programs for Repairs and Weatherization of homes in neighborhoods where Habitat typically builds new and rehabs existing homes.

Habitat for Humanity is a faith-based organization that builds and rehabilitates simple, affordable homes in partnership with people in need. Due to Habitat's no-profit, no-interest mortgages, and because homes are built primarily by volunteers, mortgage payments are affordable to low income families who are unable to obtain conventional financing for a home. Habitat homeowners are required to invest 300-400 hours of sweat equity; time spent building their own home and homes for other people, along with attending educational classes and promoting Habitat in other ways under both the new home construction and rehab programs. For more information on how you can make a positive, tangible difference in the lives of people within Mobile County contact Habitat for Humanity at 251-476-7171 or on the Internet at [www.habitatmobile.org](http://www.habitatmobile.org).

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