

Summer 2006



Inside this Issue

- House Sponsorship -1
- Land Acquisition Report - 1
- Bank of America Wall Raising - 2
- Volunteer Spotlight - 2
- India Restaurant Fundraiser and Operation Home Delivery - 2
- Updates From the Sites - 3
- Picture Gallery - 4

House Sponsorship Report

"It is morally and ethically unacceptable to have families live in substandard housing..."

The fact that so many families in the world are living in substandard housing is traditionally considered a humanitarian issue. We have come to realize that substandard and unaffordable housing is stunting economic development. Today one in five children in the United States is born into poverty. When a significant percentage of the community cannot effectively and efficiently participate as consumers and producers, economic opportunities are lost. The lack of access to quality education, health care and affordable housing slows the ability of individuals to participate in a meaningful way in the economy.



Bank of America volunteers hard at work.

Businesses, small and large, are all facing the same two-fold problem: on the one hand there is a large group of potential customers not able to afford the products made in America, on the other hand the employees cannot afford to



The Housing Network



Struggling to Find Available Land

Operating a Habitat affiliate in a growing metropolitan area is a challenge for several reasons; chief among them is the climbing cost and scarcity of available land. When this affiliate first began building homes in Providence land was easily and cheaply available through certain city government programs. Over the past few years, however, land has grown more scarce. In response, the affiliate formed a committee who scour the newspapers, speak to municipal agencies, and contact local real estate agents to search for affordable land. Currently, a Habitat house in Providence, RI costs approximately \$90,000 to build (add to that about \$20,000 in land cost). Those of you who have recently purchased or searched for land in Rhode Island will agree that this affiliate's ability to keep the expense of a modest lot in Providence to \$20,000 is a small miracle.

If any of our readers are aware of land that could be sold at a discount or donated to the affiliate in order to further the goal of making affordable housing available to those who are willing to partner in our mission, please contact our site acquisition coordinator, Sharon Dwyer at Ed Wojcik Architects (401) 861-7139.



Prospective owner teaches son to hammer.



Volunteer Spotlight



Lorenzo Freccia

Lorenzo responded to the Habitat mission as a volunteer working on the construction of homes with the Wednesday work crew nearly six years ago! After retiring from his career as a teacher and running his own woodworking business, Lorenzo thought volunteering with Habitat would be an excellent way to help other people while utilizing his many skills.

Lorenzo believes in the mission of Habitat because as a volunteer you are not only able to work in partnership with others toward a worthy goal but you are also able to step back and enjoy the satisfying results that come from hard work. Lorenzo commented that people are generally called to volunteer because they either want to help people or they enjoy what they are doing; in this case you can have both.

We certainly appreciate all the years Lorenzo has worked with us and the Habitat families.

Habitat - Providence and India Restaurant Report on joint efforts for Hurricane Katrina Relief



Fundraiser attendees gather to enjoy live

India Restaurant hosted a benefit at their Warren, RI location on Thursday, October 27th, 2005 to support Habitat for Humanity's **Operation Home Delivery**. Habitat for Humanity International launched Operation Home Delivery, a long term rebuilding program, set up to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina cope with the unprecedented devastation in the Gulf Coast region. The event was a tremendous success! The money raised by the fundraiser together with other donations collected prior to the event, enabled India Restaurant

to donate over \$25,000 toward Operation Home Delivery. The affiliate is now coordinating volunteers to join together to build a home here in Rhode Island (a "House in a Box") that will be shipped down to the hurricane ravaged areas in Mississippi. Although the media attention has largely moved away from the Gulf Coast region, the rebuilding efforts require long term support and attention. Many thanks to India Restaurant for all of the long hours and tireless effort.

Donate Your Old Car To Habitat For Humanity

... and use it as a TAX DEDUCTION.

For more info call:

Auto Placement Center Inc. (APC)

1-800-456-5517



Bike & Build Rides Again...

This year over 60 students left Providence, RI riding bicycles across the United States for Bike & Build, an organization focused on raising awareness of sub-standard housing. The riders gathered at India Point Park in Providence on June 2, 2006 to kick off their ride by dipping their back wheels in the Atlantic Ocean (see photo inset below). The riders will mark the completion of their journey by dipping their front wheel in the Pacific Ocean once they reach the west coast. Bike & Build expects the funds raised from these trips will help build two Habitat homes here in Rhode Island. The first group will travel a northern route arriving in Seattle, WA and the second group will travel across the midwest, completing the journey in San Francisco, CA. If you would like more information on Bike & Build (including the ability to see their routes and track their progress), visit www.bikeandbuild.org. We wish this year's riders all the luck and strength they need for such and inspirational trip!



Bikers dip their rear tires in the "Atlantic".

(Continued from page 1)

live in certain regions due to the high housing costs.

Consequently, we are re-phrasing our statement: *"It is morally, ethically and economically unacceptable to have families live in sub-standard housing..."*

Habitat Providence has been fortunate over the years to have several businesses recognize the value of economic development through our home sponsorship program. The latest corporation to join this club has been **Bank of America**, a Habitat house sponsor for the home under construction at 9 Daboll Street in Providence. Through the Hugh McColl Program this house is one of dozens of homes built by Bank of America in the United States and abroad.



Other home sponsors are – or were – **Residential Properties, Amica Insurance, Nationwide Insurance, Citadel Broadcast Corporation, and Micro Fibres**. Each of these companies has responded to the message that it is good business to support Habitat by helping to create vibrant communities where consumers and workers can afford to live and bring up their families.

Update from the Sites:

(Home Sponsor or Primary Volunteer Group noted in parentheses.)

11 Crowninshield Street

Second floor complete. The walls and roof currently under way.

(*Bike & Build*)

103 Putnam Street

Interior in final phases of completion. Front porch and back steps under construction. (*Residential Properties*)

13 Steere Avenue

Exterior of home complete. Work on interior scheduled to begin over the summer. (*Regular Volunteers*)

17 Ida Street

Final stages of both interior and exterior work ongoing. Estimated completion scheduled for the end of June. (*Youth Build*)

9 Daboll Street

Early phases of construction well underway. Roof to be completed within next few weeks. (*Bank of America*)

Many Thanks to Our Supporters

- Adler's Hardware
- The Allied Group
- AMICA Insurance
- Amtrol
- Edward Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP
- The David Angell Memorial Fund
- Arden Engineering
- Bike & Build
- Bank of America
- City of Providence, All Departments
- Citadel Communications Corp.
- Dimeo Construction
- Federal Home Loan Bank Boston
- The Frost Family Charitable Fund
- The Fund for Community Progress
- GTECH Corporation
- The Housing Network
- The Hoffman Charitable Gift Fund
- Int. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
- Interstate Electrical Services
- KPMG LLP
- Larsen Doors
- Margaret Walker Puritan Foundation
- Church of the Messiah
- Microfibres
- Narragansett Improvement
- Nationwide Insurance
- Ocean State Blueprint
- The Olneyville Collaborative
- The Order of the Eastern Star
- Pawtucket Credit Union
- The RI Commission on Women
- The RI Foundation
- RI Housing
- The Roosa Family Foundation
- The Rotary Club of Providence
- Sacajawea Charitable Foundation
- Savage & Luther Family Foundation
- Smith Boilers
- St. Teresa's Church
- Tyco Inc.
- The UCC of RI
- United Way of RI
- US Senator Jack Reed
- US Senator Lincoln D. Chaffee
- Ed Wojcik Architects
- Word, Fisher & Company LLP
- The Wildwood Foundation
- Whirlpool
- Wes' Rib house

You can now support Habitat for Humanity by making a donation of shares of stock from your investment portfolio. Please contact Herman deKoe at (401) 831-5424 for details

VISIT US ON OUR NEW WEB SITE

www.habitatprov.org

- Site Updates
- Contact Information
- Volunteer Opportunities



WANTED:

Volunteer needed to help our affiliate edit and publish newsletters. Please call Kate Whalen at (401) 573-3987 for information.

- Building Houses
- Building Communities
- Building Hope





of Rhode Island—Greater Providence, Inc.
807 Broad Street, Providence, RI 02907

Return Service Requested



YOUTHBUILD
PROVIDENCE
"Building Futures"

**BUILDING
TOGETHER**

**IN ALL KINDS
OF WEATHER**