



Habitat Ag Home at the Indiana State Fair is ready for family to move in

INDIANAPOLIS, NOVEMBER 11, 2010 -- The first-ever Habitat For Humanity of Greater Indianapolis home built at the Indiana State Fair is now ready for Tamika Allen and her five children to move in after a dedication and blessing ceremony today.

The five-bedroom home, built by more than 460 volunteers in just 14 days during the Indiana State Fair, was moved to its permanent location at 2062 Bellefontaine St. September 28. In the past month the foundation has been built, the utilities hooked up and site work was completed.

Allen was an active participant in the home's construction. As a Habitat homeowner, she is required to complete budget education classes and contribute 450 hours of sweat equity, working on her own home and others. She will also make monthly payments on a no-interest, no-profit mortgage. Throughout the process she has called the home "a dream come true for me and my family."

The Habitat Ag Home at the Indiana State Fair was sponsored by 22 agriculture-related organizations. All 22 sponsoring organizations were represented at the dedication ceremony. Using the theme "Agriculture – Growing Food, Building Family Dreams," the house was built using many sustainable materials, including wood siding and others derived from agricultural products. The carpet was made using corn sugar.

Dow AgroSciences and Kroger are the primary financial sponsors of the Habitat Ag Home at the Indiana State Fair. Both companies have sponsored many local Habitat For Humanity homes in the past. Kroger will also stock the kitchen with groceries and supplies to welcome Allen and her family.

Additional financial sponsors include Beck's Hybrids and Cargill. The remaining financial and in-kind sponsors are Reynolds Farm Equipment, the Indiana State Fair, King Park

Area Development Corporation, CountryMark, Indiana Hardwood Lumbermen's Association, the Indiana Soybean Alliance, the Indiana Corn Marketing Council and the Marion County Farm Bureau. In-kind services are being provided by: Achieva, Inc., Baxter Communications and Country 97.1 HANK-FM, Hamilton Exhibits, the Indiana State Department of Agriculture, Indiana Pork, MainGate, Purdue University, The National FFA Organization and Red Line Graphics.

The 2010 Habitat Ag Home at the Indiana State Fair was such a successful project that plans are already underway for another home to be built at the 2011 Indiana State Fair.

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Habitat for Humanity of Greater Indianapolis is committed to eliminating poverty housing and making home ownership available to very low-income families, most of whom have children and live in unsafe, overcrowded or substandard conditions. Each qualified low-income family must meet Habitat's income and credit history criteria, as well as agree to invest 450 hours in budget education classes and assist with the building of their own home. Each family must also make monthly mortgage payments with a no-interest loan. Through cooperative partnerships with volunteers, churches, corporations, foundations and builders, Habitat is able to make the dream of homeownership a reality. For more information about habitat, visit www.indyhabitat.org, or call (317) 921-2121, extension 121.