



News

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UNITY BUILD VOLUNTEERS BUILD AFFORDABLE HOMES IN THE SOUTH BRONX IN HABITAT-NYC'S 2ND ANNUAL LGBT DAY

LGBT VOLUNTEERS RAISED DRYWALL AND RAISED MORE THAN \$10,000 TO HELP PROVIDE AFFORDABLE HOMES FOR LOW-INCOME NEW YORKERS

Bronx, NY, June 4, 2010 – Fifteen dedicated volunteers from New York City's LGBT community spent the day installing Sheetrock in future Habitat homes in the South Bronx as Habitat for Humanity – New York City celebrated its second annual Unity Build.

The volunteers also raised more than \$10,000 to help fund future Habitat homes.

Established last year by popular demand, Unity Build was co-chaired by designer **Todd Oldham**, real estate financier **Jim Gillespie**, real estate broker **Stan Ponte** and business owner **David Terveen**, all longtime Habitat-NYC supporters.

Josh Lockwood, Executive Director of Habitat-NYC, said: "Habitat-NYC celebrates the great diversity of New York City, and we are pleased to bring members of the LGBT community together to build affordable, eco-friendly and healthy homes for hardworking New York families."

"I am grateful to have the opportunity to be involved with Unity Build for a second year and to work alongside hard working and compassionate members of New York's LGBT community to build quality affordable housing for deserving New York families while celebrating the city's great diversity," said **Jim Gillespie**, a New York City-based real estate finance executive.

"I am fortunate to be able to give modest sums of money to a number of different charities, but it isn't that often that an organization gives you the chance to roll-up your sleeves and actually do something 'concrete' to make a difference to help a person or family in need," said real estate broker **Danny Lux**. "Volunteering for Habitat for Humanity is allowing me to do both, which I think will be even more rewarding."

Unity Build volunteers worked in a new-construction co-op building at Macy Place and Prospect Avenue in the Bronx, alongside future Habitat homeowners.

(More)

An innovative new model for Habitat-NYC, this seven-story building is being developed in partnership with Blue Sea Development Company, a private affordable housing developer. It is the second such “co-development” Habitat project nationally. Habitat-NYC will have 14 units in this 63-unit co-op for Habitat families.

This “green” building is being constructed with environmentally friendly construction materials and energy-efficient methods that will help protect the health — and pocketbooks — of its future inhabitants.

Habitat for Humanity - New York City transforms lives and our city by building quality homes for families in need and by uniting all New Yorkers around the cause of affordable housing. With the help of thousands of volunteers every year, Habitat-NYC has built more than 220 affordable homes in the five boroughs of New York City. Learn more at www.habitatnyc.org.

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