

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY—NYC



THE BIG APPLE'S BRANCH OF THE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION HELPS OUT LOW-INCOME FAMILIES

by Ashley Morris

Above: Claudia Fox (right), a vice president at Coldwell Banker Previews International, learns to use a screw gun as she volunteers on Habitat-NYC's Atlantic Avenue complex.

ONE DOLLAR GOES A LONG WAY WHEN in the hands of Habitat for Humanity — New York City. In fact, it's life changing.

The nonprofit organization transforms \$1 land purchases from the city's Department of Housing Preservation and Development into new, safe homes for low-income families. "These are folks that are doing everything right," says Habitat-NYC executive director Josh Lockwood. "They're saving, they're working multiple jobs, they're great parents, and they're great children. They really just need a small chance in life to turn things around. When we

step in there and are able to offer that opportunity, it's really rewarding for us and for our supporters."

And in the case of Habitat-NYC's most recent project on Atlantic Avenue in East Brooklyn, a \$13 land purchase is also making history as the first LEED-certified multifamily Habitat building worldwide. The 41-unit complex is the biggest facility constructed by Habitat-NYC—double the number of homes usually produced in a year. "I think building more and building greenly really go very well together," says Lockwood.