

**NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Katie Norris
Charleston Habitat for Humanity
568-3160
katie@charlestonhabitat.org**

**Dedication for Fifth of 15 Houses in Growing North Charleston Community**

North Charleston, SC - (September, 23, 2015)– Diana Brown bought a new house today, thanks to Dan Ryan Builders and Charleston Habitat for Humanity. It’s the fifth on her street, with 10 more to come, and another eight on land procured by Habitat.

Charleston Habitat for Humanity is bringing responsible, hard-working new homeowners like Diana Brown into the Joppa Way community of North Charleston. That strengthens not just the Brown family, but the neighborhood as well.

Dedication for the house is September 23, 2015 and the Brown family will move in shortly thereafter.

Dan Ryan Builders sponsored the entire Habitat home at 2537 Celestial Court. Dan Ryan Builders made major contributions of their own and used their position as a premier home builder to leverage the supplies for the rest of the house.

This is the fifth house built by Charleston Habitat for Humanity since it began construction in Joppa Way in 2013, with plans to complete 15 new structures in the community by 2018. Financial support for new homes comes from a combination of individual donations, grant funding, and corporate sponsorships from local and national business partners.

In addition, Charleston Habitat sold eight lots to developers who are building houses on their sites. In all, 23 new families will move into the neighborhood when construction is complete.

*-- more --*

Brown currently lives in a downtown apartment with a sinking foundation, cracks in the drywall and rotting window frames. She has been waiting on this house for a year, during which she was busy earning her 500 hours of sweat equity. She qualified for a Habitat mortgage through steady employment with DLH Solutions, a North Charleston company providing mailed prescription medicines for veterans. She will pay a no-interest Habitat mortgage designed to fall within local and national standards of affordability.

Diana recently lost her cousin, Myra Thompson, in the Emmanuel AME Church shooting. Her daughter, Amber, has two children, Chavell, 11 and Tamyia, 9, who often stay with their grandmother.

Companies joining Dan Ryan Builders in supporting this project are: Super Concrete, Atlantic Building Components, Builders First Source, Campbell Plumbing, Fogel HVAC, Taylor Made Elec, Palmetto Exterminators, Simpson Strong-Tie, Low Country Renovations, Simons Construction, Pfaehlar Millwork, East Coast Wall Systems, Navarro Painting, Cohens Drywall, Archers Exteriors, Priority One Waste, Access Toilets, Baytree Landscaping, Manale Landscaping, Charleston Shelving & Mirror, City Electric, Décor, Masterbrand, Alpha EMC

**About Charleston Habitat**

Established in 1989, Charleston Habitat for Humanity works to strengthen communities and eliminate substandard housing conditions in downtown Charleston, West Ashley, and the City of North Charleston. Charleston Habitat for Humanity builds quality affordable housing in partnership with deserving, low- and moderate-income working families. Each year, more than 800 volunteers invest more than 3,000 volunteer hours in making affordable housing a reality for Charleston residents.

###