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**News release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**79 Homes for 500 People in 25 Years**

**Charleston Habitat Celebrates A Quarter Century on Thursday, Oct. 15**

Charleston, SC - October 12, 2015 -- Born in the wake of Hurricane Hugo’s devastation in 1989, [Charleston Habitat for Humanity](http://www.charlestonhabitat.org/events/) celebrates a quarter century of building houses in partnership with families in need this Thursday, 7:00 pm at the Rice Mill at Charleston Marina.

Charleston Habitat for Humanity has built 79 new homes, completed 13 major renovations, and changed the lives of more than 500 Charleston community members. Charleston Habitat plans to construct 15 new homes by 2018 in the Joppa Way community of North Charleston. In November, it will be working with Thrivent Financial to provide needed repairs on homes off Upper King on “F” and “H” Streets.

In 25 years, an estimated 100,000 volunteers have contributed half-a-million hours to Charleston Habitat projects.

Jonathan Reckford, CEO of Habitat for Humanity International, only the second chief executive in the organization’s nearly 40-year history, will join Charleston Habitat at its 25th anniversary celebration.

The event will also feature heavy hors d’oeuvres, beer, wine, signature cocktail, live entertainment, inspiring discussion about Habitat’s work in the community and the mission to eliminate poverty housing.

Many participants are particularly enthused about the silent auction, which will include items like:

* Le Creuset Stainless Steel and Cast Iron Cooking Set (Valued at $830)
* Two-night stay for two at the Vendue Inn, Dinner for two at The Drawing Room (Valued at $1200)
* Custom bench from Landrum Tables (Valued at $375)
* Oyster Roast or Frogmore Stew Outdoor Party for 25 from Charleston Outdoor Catering (Valued at $750)

Habitat families qualify to buy homes with 500 hours of their own elbow grease and purchase it with a no-interest Habitat mortgage.

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