

**NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Charleston Habitat Embarks on “Repair Rampage” In King Street Neighborhood**

North Charleston, SC - (October, XX, 2015)– Charleston Habitat for Humanity, known for building new homes in partnership with neighbors in need, kicks off its 26th year with a different kind of initiative. Starting October 28, Charleston Habitat will embark on a five-house repair project on Upper King Street through the Thrivent Builds Repairs program, funded by Habitat for Humanity International and Thrivent Financial.

The repairs, totaling $10,500, not including extensive volunteer labor being provided by Thrivent employees and community volunteers, will be completed on “F” and “H” Streets off King Street on the northern section of the peninsula. All of the work will involve exterior repairs.

Homeowners will contribute to the project by repaying the cost of materials through a five-year, zero-interest monthly payment and volunteering for one day on their home repair.

“Thanks to Thrivent Financial, this will allow Charleston Habitat to help local families maintain decent, affordable housing without the major financial commitment necessary to construct a new house,” said Jeremy Browning, executive director of Charleston Habitat for Humanity. “It is a key element in our portfolio of projects to offset some of the critical need for affordable housing in the Charleston market.”

In its first 25 years, Charleston Habitat has constructed 79 new homes, completed 13 major renovations, employed about 100,000 volunteers contributing half-a-million volunteer hours and provided modest, decent housing for roughly 500 local people.

The repairs will take the month of November and will take place every Thursday, Friday and Saturday for the next five weeks. Following that, Charleston Habitat will begin work on more houses in the Joppa Way neighborhood of North Charleston, where it has already constructed five new houses and has plans for another 10.

**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. More than 1000 volunteers invest more than 4,000 volunteer hours per house to make affordable housing a reality for Charleston residents.

**About Thrivent Financial**

Thrivent Financial is a financial planning membership organization of Christians whose members are its owners. Its **purpose** is to serve its members *and* society by guiding both to be wise with money and live generously. Thrivent members believe that all we have is a gift from God and that generosity is an expression of faith.

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