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Habitat for Humanity of Seminole-Apopka and Lowe's team up for National Women Build Week

Altamonte Springs, FL (5/11/2015) –Lowe's Heroes employee volunteers were among more than 60 volunteers to join Habitat for Humanity of Seminole County & Greater Apopka to help build affordable housing in the Oviedo area during National Women Build Week, May 2-10.

Volunteer teams worked all week to renovate a home in Oviedo. Starting with Demo Day on May 2, the home was complete by May 9. The volunteers included a team from local sponsor Farmers Insurance, Roger B. Kennedy and the 'Wondrous Women', a team comprised of local independent businesswomen, including 3 pairs of mother-daughter volunteers. The volunteers were delighted to work with the family who will soon call this charming house their home. The Conway's are raising their three grandchildren and have struggled to keep them together. Overcoming health issue and homelessness, this home represents the final leg of their journey to stability and self-sufficiency.

"With this year being only our second year working with the Women Build Program, we were thrilled to see it grow and give the women their own house to renovate," said Penny Seater, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Seminole County and Greater Apopka. "We are inspired by the women empowered to make a difference in the lives of the family while creating a nurturing environment to learn new skills. Lowes was a significant partner in the process by creating special workshops that address the skills needed to work on a renovation."

National Women Build Week is a weeklong event created by Habitat for Humanity's [Women Build](#) program that challenges women to devote at least one day to help build affordable housing in their local communities. Across the nation, more than 15,000 women volunteered at Habitat construction sites to spotlight the homeownership challenges faced by women.

Lowe's helped launch National Women Build Week in 2008 and each year provides the support of Lowe's Heroes and conducts how-to clinics at stores to teach volunteers construction skills.

"National Women Build Week has made a difference in the lives of thousands of families since its inception," said Joan Higginbotham, Lowe's director of community relations.

“We’re grateful to all the women in Oviedo who got involved this week and were part of something bigger with Lowe’s and Habitat.”

Lowe’s donated nearly \$2 million to this year’s National Women Build Week, including a \$5,000 store gift card to Habitat for Humanity of Seminole County and Greater Apopka. National Women Build Week is one of the major initiatives supported through Lowe’s national partnership with Habitat for Humanity. Since 2003, Lowe’s has committed more than \$63 million to Habitat and helped more than 4,000 families improve their living conditions.

Habitat’s Women Build program recruits, educates and inspires women to build and advocate for simple, decent and affordable homes in their communities. Since the program was created in 1998, more than 2,300 homes have been built in partnership with low-income families using Women Build crews.

For more information on Habitat for Humanity’s Women Build program and to learn about Women Build events in communities across the U.S. year-round, visit Habitat.org/wb or the Women Build tab on <http://www.facebook.com/habitat>.

About Habitat for Humanity of Seminole County and Greater Apopka

Habitat for Humanity of Seminole County and Greater Apopka has completed more than 136 homes throughout the community. The affiliate’s construction capacity has more than tripled over the last two years and expecting to serve an additional 70 families by June, 2015. *To learn more about Habitat Seminole & Apopka or to make a donation, call (407) 696-5855 or visit <http://habitatseminoleapopka.org>.*

About Habitat for Humanity International

Habitat for Humanity International’s vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Anchored by the conviction that housing provides a path out of poverty, since 1976 Habitat has helped more than 5 million people through home construction, rehabilitation and repairs and by increasing access to improved shelter through products and services. Habitat also advocates to improve access to decent and affordable shelter and offers a variety of housing support services that enable families with limited means to make needed improvements on their homes as their time and resources allow. As a nonprofit Christian housing organization, Habitat works in more than 70 countries and welcomes people of all races, religions and nationalities to partner in its mission. To learn more, donate or volunteer, visit habitat.org.

About Lowe’s in the Community

Lowe’s, a FORTUNE® 100 home improvement company, has a 50-year legacy of supporting the communities it serves through programs that focus on K-12 public education and community improvement projects. Since 2007, Lowe’s and the [Lowe’s Charitable and Educational Foundation](#) together have contributed more than \$225 million to these efforts, and for more than two decades [Lowe’s Heroes](#) employee volunteers have donated their time to make our communities better places to live. To learn more, visit Lowe.com/SocialResponsibility and LoweInTheCommunity.tumblr.com.