



## National Women Build Week

Sponsored by Lowe's

### PRESS RELEASE

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Habitat for Humanity and Lowe's challenge women volunteers to build houses during national Mother's Day initiative May 1-9**

*Recording artist Trisha Yearwood joins effort to build houses with low-income families during National Women Build Week*

**EVENT:** Women Build  
**LOCATION:** Bay St. Louis  
**DATE:** May 3 – 5, 2010  
**TIME:** 8:30 – 4:30

**BAY ST. LOUIS, MS (March 30, 2010)** – In the days leading up to Mother's Day, construction crews of women volunteers, including recording artist Trisha Yearwood, will be pounding nails and raising walls at Habitat for Humanity construction sites across the country in recognition of National Women Build Week, May 1 – 9. Lowe's and Habitat for Humanity Bay-Waveland Area are looking for local women volunteers to work one to three days on a Habitat construction site in Bay St. Louis during the nine-day event. Construction or home improvement experience is not necessary.

The Bay-Waveland event will be May 3-5, at a construction site in Bay St. Louis. Women may choose to work as many days as they like. "We had such a great time last year, that this year we've expanded it to include three days," commented Wendy McDonald, Executive Director of Bay-Waveland Habitat. There is a thirty dollar participation fee, whether persons choose to build one, two or three days. Ten dollars of that fee will go to Habitat for Humanity International's relief efforts in Haiti. Persons can register online at [www.habitatbw.org](http://www.habitatbw.org), or by calling the office at 228-467-9699.

Developed through the partnership between Lowe's and Habitat for Humanity, National Women Build Week challenges women to devote at least one day to the effort to eliminate poverty housing. The event is an initiative of Habitat for Humanity's Women Build program, underwritten by Lowe's, which recruits, educates and nurtures women to build and advocate for simple, decent and affordable houses in their communities.

The Mother's Day timeframe was selected for its significance to many volunteers, as families with children make up a staggering number of those in need of adequate housing: more than 12 million children – one in six -- live in poverty housing in the United States alone. To date, women volunteers have built nearly 1,700 Habitat houses nationwide. This is the second year Lowe's has partnered with the Bay-Waveland affiliate in a Women Build event.

Lowe's is committing more than \$1 million to National Women Build Week, providing underwriting of the Women Build program, as well as providing construction know-how at in-store clinics and build sites, and funding for a variety of Habitat projects across the country.

To volunteer or donate to this project, please call 228-467-9699, email [sdaigre@habitatbw.org](mailto:sdaigre@habitatbw.org) or visit [www.habitatbw.org](http://www.habitatbw.org)

#### **ABOUT BAY-WAVELAND AREA HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

Habitat's work in Hancock County began after hurricane Katrina damaged or destroyed 70% of the housing in the county in 2005. Since then, Habitat has built more than 135 houses in partnership with homeowners, volunteers, donors, partners and friends. In recognition of its work in Hancock County, HFHBW was named 2009 Affiliate of the Year by Habitat for Humanity International. While much has been done, much work remains.

#### **ABOUT LOWE'S**

Lowe's is a proud supporter of Habitat for Humanity International, American Red Cross, SkillsUSA/SkillsCanada, and The Nature Conservancy, in addition to numerous non-profit organizations and programs that help communities in North America. In 2009, Lowe's and the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation together contributed more than \$30 million to support community and education projects in the United States, Canada and Mexico. Lowe's also encourages volunteerism through the Lowe's Heroes program, a company-wide employee volunteer initiative. Lowe's is a FORTUNE® 50 company with fiscal year 2009 sales of \$47.2 billion and has more than 1,700 stores in the United States, Canada and Mexico. For more information, visit [Lowe.com/community](http://Lowe.com/community).

#### **ABOUT HABITAT FOR HUMANITY INTERNATIONAL**

Habitat for Humanity International is an ecumenical Christian ministry that welcomes to its work all people dedicated to the cause of eliminating poverty housing. Since its founding in 1976, Habitat has built more than 350,000 houses worldwide, providing simple, decent and affordable shelter for more than 1.75 million people. For more information, visit [www.habitat.org](http://www.habitat.org).