



Celebrating 1,000 Homes

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Houston Habitat's Women Build: A Home that makes a statement**

*Houston, TX (April 8, 2015)* – Imagine a host of women... coming together to build a home for you. Would you believe it? Would you be afraid? Well here at Houston Habitat for Humanity, we're very excited to hold our **2015 Women Build!** From April 30<sup>th</sup> – May 15<sup>th</sup>, several teams of women have put their resources together to make the possibility a reality.

Sonya Troullier, Senior Vice President of Wealth Development Strategies liked the idea of women helping women. Inspired by the mission of the Women Build - to empower women to make a difference and give a hand-up, not a hand-out, for a single mom and her family in need of decent, affordable housing – Troullier used her connections throughout the greater Houston area. She gathered together women who were friends, co-workers, family members and clients, and Women Working Wonders was born. They participated in the 2014 Habitat for Humanity Women's Build and raised over \$10,000 in 3 short months to help cover the cost of building a home for Marilyn Deblaw, a single mother and her family. Since then, WWW has become a force to be reckoned with! After witnessing the family's transformation, they left determined to do even more to give hard-working single moms the opportunity to make lives better for themselves and their children through home ownership. They want to help another single mom with a goal to raise \$70,000, the total amount needed to build a home! And, being the trailblazers that they are, their effort- "for women by women" – will be a first for Houston.

Teria Johnson, a legal assistant for a law firm in the Galleria area, visited the site last year to find out what the Women Build was all about. There she found groups of women teams from corporations and local ladies organizations working alongside the future homeowner to help build her home.

So moved by the comradery and teamwork, Teria decided that she would make it her goal to join the ranks, and raise funds to help build the Women Build home in 2015. After talking with several co-workers, they joined together and held bake sales to start the fundraising. They even compiled the good cooks' recipes, and published a cookbook to help raise more funds. After more bakes sales, and even a garage sale, the team was successful in fundraising over their \$10,000.00 goal. Her employer kicked in an additional donation, and the Hoover Slovacek Women Build Team was ready!

Together these two teams, along with Women Build teams from **H-E-B, Lowes, Schlumberger, Vaco Resources** and other groups will band together to raise the walls, raise the roof, and raise awareness about the need for quality, affordable housing in the greater Houston area!



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### **Kickoff Party**

(Including an active-wear/outer wear fashion show featuring Athleta and Whole Earth Provisions)

**Thursday April 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm – 9pm**

**Phoenix Tower, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Atrium**

**3200 SW Freeway Service Rd**

**Houston, TX 77027**

### **Women Build Location:**

**Harrel Park 2**

**8428 Woodlyn Road**

**Houston, TX 77028**

### **Women Build Days:**

**Thursday April 30th Metamorphosis, Kendra Scott, Zachry-Odebrecht, Texas Spring Cypress Chapter of the Links, Inc**

**Friday May 1st Schlumberger**

**Saturday May 2nd Hoover Slovacek**

**Wednesday May 6th Lowes National Women Build Day Team**

**Thursday May 7th Village Plumbing**

**Friday May 8th Vaco**

**Saturday May 9th Women Working Wonders**

**Friday May 15<sup>th</sup> Open Day Fundraisers**

### **2015 Women Build Partner Family**



**Vivian McGee**, Head of household, First time homebuyer, and 16-year employee City of Houston Airport Systems. Vivian is the mother of three adult children, and would like a home for her children and their children to enjoy with her. She has been a life-long renter and looks forward to homeownership. Though Ms. McGee maintains her rented home well, it is structurally defunct. Her home is decorated with multiple pictures of her family, and so it is obvious she is very family oriented. Ms. McGee, like many of our families, is very well capable of owning a home; Habitat will be an awesome opportunity for her as a first time homebuyer.

### **ABOUT HOUSTON HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

Houston Habitat for Humanity, with community minded sponsors and volunteers, has built almost 1,000 homes for hard-working, low-income Houstonians. Habitat Partner Families contribute 300 hours of “sweat equity” including financial and home ownership training in helping to build their own homes. They purchase their homes with zero-interest mortgages. For more information about Houston Habitat for Humanity and the Houston Habitat ReStore – a nonprofit home improvement store and donation center open to the public, go to [www.houstonhabitat.org](http://www.houstonhabitat.org), or call 713-671-9993. Houston Habitat for Humanity is a tax-exempt 501(C) (3) nonprofit organization. Your gift is tax-deductible as allowed by law.

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