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Celebrating 1,000 Homes

### \*\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\*\*

## Houston Habitat Welcomes Mr. Washington to Angel Lane

Houston, TX (September 29, 2015) – It doesn't seem that long ago when thousands of New Orleans residents found themselves west-bound due to the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. It was then that media mogul Oprah Winfrey partnered with Houston Habitat for Humanity to create a community for those relocated from New Orleans, affectionately known as *Angel Lane*. Fast forward ten years, and some residents have been able to return to their beloved New Orleans, opening up an opportunity for others. One of those is Mr. Edward Washington. Mr. Washington also came to Houston via Hurricane Ike, but his path was somewhat different. He was able to secure resources from many different agencies; but it was when he partnered with the Houston Housing Authority that he got some stability. The Housing Authority found out that Mr. Washington was an IT expert and hired him on; earning him more self-sufficiency. Family and friends came to visit often; but he could not offer them a place to stay in his tiny apartment. He decided it was time to purchase a home; although he knew it would not be easy, he was determined to try.

After several sessions with Houston Habitat's Family Services, an appropriate place was found for Mr. Washington. There was an available home, already built, in *Angel Lane*! Over the past 15 months, Mr. Washington has worked hard to become a Houston Habitat home owner. Because his new home was an existing home, Mr. Washington spent most of his sweat equity hours at the Houston Habitat ReStore, where Store Manager Todd Jordan said, "He kept everyone in line and on their job!" Mr. Washington often filled in as their cheerful greeter.

On Wednesday September 30<sup>th</sup>, Houston Habitat will proudly welcome Mr. Washington into the growing Partner Family community. His closing will take place just hours before we dedicate the home to him.

**Date:** Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>  
**Time:** 3:00 p.m.  
**Location:** 3450 Angel Lane, Houston, TX 77045

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Houston Habitat for Humanity, with community minded sponsors and volunteers, has built almost 1,000 homes with hard-working, low-income Houstonians in mind. 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 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.

