



August 28, 2006
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Habitat for Humanity and Bank of America Celebrate Partnership Milestone

Charleston, SC – Charleston Habitat for Humanity joined with Habitat for Humanity International and Bank of America recently to celebrate their partnership and the milestone 100th house built under the McColl Habitat Project. Named for former Chairman and CEO Hugh McColl Jr., Bank of America announced in 2001 a commitment to fund the building of 120 Habitat houses in the United States and an additional 100 houses internationally, including one house to the Antoinette family located at 1921 Iris Street in North Charleston.

Bank of America Associate, Mr. Tom Feeney, quotes, "Bank of America volunteers from Charleston, Columbia and Greenville participated in this project, and everyone enjoyed the opportunity to come together as a team for such a great cause. There was a great deal of hard work that went into building this home on the part of all the volunteers and the Antoinette family. The look on the faces of the Antoinette family at the new home dedication was priceless. Definitely a project for everyone to be extremely proud of."

HFH homeowner Anita Antoinette, states, "After going through many transitions in my life, I found myself in need of affordable housing not only for myself, but also for my pride and joy...my daughter. While doing our sweat equity hours we got to know the Habitat staff, other homeowners, volunteers, and we overcame many obstacles. I know that I appreciate my home more than I ever thought possible because of all that I learned from being in the Habitat program. My house is such a blessing to me."

"Habitat for Humanity International has been blessed by this partnership with Bank of America," said Jonathan Reckford, CEO of Habitat for Humanity International. "By sponsoring 120 houses around the United States, Bank of America has enlisted the involvement of its banking centers with local Habitat affiliates. The volunteer hours and the local relationships that have been generated go far beyond their generous financial contribution."

What began as a house sponsorship program has become an expanding and multifaceted partnership. Bank of America has donated roughly \$10 million to Habitat for Humanity International since 2002. The corporation has given \$600,000 to Operation Home

Delivery, Habitat's hurricane recovery project, and \$200,000 to local affiliates to increase building capacity. In addition, during the past 5 years, more than 20,000 bank volunteers from across the country have participated in building Habitat for Humanity homes.

Bank of America Corporate Philanthropy

In 2005, the Bank of America Charitable Foundation embarked on an unprecedented \$1.5 billion philanthropic goal over the next 10 years. The bank has announced it will donate \$200 million in 2006. The bank approaches giving through a national strategy called "neighborhood excellence" under which it works with local leaders to identify and meet the most pressing needs of communities. Through Team Bank of America, bank associate volunteers contribute more than 650,000 hours each year to improve the quality of life in their communities nationwide. For more information about Bank of America Corporate Philanthropy, please visit www.bankofamerica.com/foundation.

About Charleston Habitat for Humanity

Charleston Habitat for Humanity is an independent, nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry that partners with people of all beliefs. Charleston Habitat for Humanity has been an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International since 1989 and has built 67 homes. For more information about CHFH, please visit www.charlestonhabitat.org.

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 Americus, Ga., in 1976, Habitat has built more than 200,000 houses in nearly 100 countries, providing simple, decent and affordable shelter for more than 1 million people. For more information, visit www.habitat.org.

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