

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Habitat Announces Groundbreaking for Seventh Annual Blitz Build

Kick-off for Saginaw's seventh annual Habitat for Humanity blitz build is Saturday, April 12, 2003. The Groundbreaking Ceremony at the corner of Federal and South 4th Avenue begins with prayer and song at 9 a.m. Attendees will then walk together to St. John Lutheran Church (915 Federal) for an informational meeting and FREE pancake breakfast, open to neighborhood residents, all Habitat supporters and interested parties.

Eight homes are planned for the June 13-28 build in the St. John Lutheran Church area. Up to 1,600 volunteers are expected for construction and support. This blitz build will see the completion of Habitat for Humanity's 100th house in Saginaw, with a partnership of inter-cultural and inter-faith individuals and groups working together.

Returning house sponsors include: African American Christian Unity, Church Workers United, Lutheran Churches, United Methodist Churches, Catholic Churches of Saginaw County and Citizens Bank with Covenant HealthCare. Bridge Center for Racial Harmony with Smith Barney Inc., and General Motors Powertrain will each build their first Habitat houses in Saginaw. Each house sponsor pledges \$25,000 toward the cost of construction and recruits and schedules all the volunteers.

Pepsi Bottling Group returns as exclusive beverage provider and Food Tent Sponsor.

Saginaw Mayor Wilmer Jones Ham will reprise her duties as Honorary Blitz Chairperson.

Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI) is a non-profit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry dedicated to eliminating poverty housing and homelessness. HFHI has built over 135,000 houses in its 26-year history. Saginaw Habitat for Humanity has built or renovated 91 houses since its founding in 1987. Donations are tax-deductible.

Skilled volunteers as well as coordinators are still needed for this year's blitz build. Please contact the Saginaw Habitat for Humanity office at (989) 753-5200 to volunteer, or for any questions.