

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Habitat Announces Groundbreaking for Eighth Annual Blitz Build**

Kick-off for Saginaw's eighth annual Habitat for Humanity blitz build is Saturday, April 17, 2004. The Groundbreaking Ceremony at the corner of South 14<sup>th</sup> and Hartsuff (five blocks east of Genesee) begins with prayer and song at 9 a.m. U.S. Representative Dale Kildee and Rev. Murry Culberson of Rose Hill Baptist Church are among those confirmed to speak. Attendees will then walk together 1-1/2 blocks to Rose Hill Baptist Church (2403 E. Remington) for an informational meeting and FREE pancake breakfast, open to neighborhood residents, all Habitat supporters and interested parties.

Seven homes are planned for the June 11-26 build in the South 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at Hartsuff area. Up to 1,400 volunteers are expected for construction and support. This blitz build will see the completion of Habitat for Humanity Houses #108 through #114 in Saginaw County. Three additional houses are planned for completion on the parcel, formerly occupied by the Polish Falcons Hall that burned down in February 1986.

Returning house sponsors include Citizens Bank with SBC, General Motors Powertrain with the UAW, Catholic Churches of Saginaw County, Lutheran Churches, United Methodist Churches and the ecumenical groups Church Workers United and African American Christian Unity. Each sponsor pledges a minimum \$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 'three-peat' 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 160,000 houses in its 27-year history. Saginaw Habitat for Humanity has built or renovated 104 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.