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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County doubles First-Time Homebuyer Workshop offerings through partnership with Orange County

ORLANDO, Fla. (May 6, 2024) — <u>Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola</u> County will host free First-Time Homebuyer Workshops twice a month. The 8-hour classes will be offered in English and Spanish. Orange County Government is providing funding for the classed through the Homebuyer Educational Seminar grant program. Residents who are interested in first-time homeownership will learn essential topics including credit, down payment assistance programs, property titles, and homeowner's insurance.

"We are grateful that Orange County will partner with us to educate more Orange County residents on all the essential topics to homeownership," Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County President and CEO Catherine Steck McManus said. "Our program exists to ensure homeowners are successful at both home buying and maintenance, so families can stay in their homes."

First-Time Homebuyers Workshops are HUD-approved, free, and open to all, whether you're looking to purchase a home through Habitat or on the open market. However, attending a First-Time Homebuyer Workshop is a requirement for applying to Orange County's down-payment assistance program.

"Our support for first-time homebuyers is not just an investment in homes, it's an investment in the foundation of our community." Said Orange County Mayor Jerry L. Demings. "Empowering individuals with knowledge and resources to achieve homeownership strengthens families and builds our region's prosperity and stability."

The next First-Time Homebuyer Workshop will be offered to Spanish-speakers May 8 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Zoom and to English speakers on May 11 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Habitat Orlando & Osceola HQ located at 4116 Silver Star Road. To learn more or register for a workshop, click here.

For high-res images and video of past classes, click here.

About Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County

Driven by a vision that everyone deserves a safe, affordable place to live, Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County strengthens communities by building and repairing homes, and counseling and educating homeowners and the public. Families and individuals partner with Habitat Orlando & Osceola to purchase homes with an affordable mortgage. Through Face the Housing CrisisTM and the Cornerstone HousingTM Framework, Habitat Orlando & Osceola is working with community partners to address the wicked problem of the affordable housing crisis in Central Florida and its detrimental effects on community priorities. Founded in 1986, Habitat Orlando & Osceola has built, rehabbed or repaired over 850 homes throughout Central Florida. The nonprofit has achieved recognition as one of the 40 "top producers" out of over 1,100 Habitat for Humanity International affiliates working in communities throughout the United States and is a HUD-certified local Housing Counseling Agency. To learn more, visit HabitatOrlando.org.

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