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Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County kicks off Orange County build for 5th annual 'Home for the Holidays'

ORLANDO, Fla. (Dec. 2, 2024) – Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County is partnering with Williams Company to build safe, affordable homes for two local families ahead of the holidays in Orange County and in Kissimmee. Orange County's kickoff ceremony in the Holden Heights community was held on Dec. 2.

"This is a monumental year for Habitat Orlando & Osceola's Home for the Holidays with two builds in two different counties," said Habitat for Humanity Greater Orlando & Osceola County President & CEO Catherine Steck McManus. "This would not be possible without the generous support of Williams Company and their continued commitment to our mission."

This is the second kickoff for Home for the Holidays 2024, with the first taking place in Kissimmee, where Habitat Orlando & Osceola is building for the first time in Osceola County. This year's Orange County home will be purchased by Stephanie. She is excited to have a safe, affordable place to live along with her son and granddaughter.

This is the fifth consecutive year that local builder Williams Company and its subcontractors and vendors have donated the materials, supplies and labor as part of the annual Home for the Holidays event. It's the first year they've done two homes in this sped-up timeframe.

"Our team is excited to provide support to build homes for two future Habitat families this year," said Williams Company Vice President of Operations Matt Olberding. "We are proud to be a part of Habitat Orlando & Osceola's mission for the last five years. This event exemplifies the essence of people coming together to support one another, especially during the holiday season."

Learn more about Home for the Holidays, our builder and homeowners here.

For images from today's kickoff ceremony, click <u>here</u>. The Home for the Holidays event will conclude with home dedication ceremonies for both home builds on Dec. 13.

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 Crisis and the Cornerstone Housing[™] 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 900 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 in more than 70 countries and is a HUD-certified local Housing Counseling Agency. To learn more, visit HabitatOrlando.org.

About Williams Company

Established in 1920, Williams Company is a 100% employee-owned company with a 104-year legacy of construction excellence. The company's operating units include Williams Company Building Division, Williams Company Southeast, and Williams Company Tampa. Williams Company specializes in industrial, cold storage, education, retail, and multi-family projects and is currently licensed in 14 states from Texas to Maryland. For more information, visit www.williamsco.com.

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