

## MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Sarah Mackey, Executive Director  
217.622.6539 *mobile* / 217.523.2710 *office*

### **Habitat Helps Disabled Springfield Man Realize the Dream of Homeownership**

Habitat for Humanity celebrated the dedication of the 84<sup>th</sup> Habitat home in Sangamon County on Wednesday. The new homeowner is Daniel Snow, a single male in his twenties who is eager to live on his own in his wheelchair accessible home. Snow lives with Becker Muscular Dystrophy and congestive heart failure; he needed a house designed to accommodate his wheelchair. His new Habitat home features a custom bathroom with a roll-in shower, a custom kitchen design with accessible cabinets and ramps to enter the home.

“I’m excited to be out on my own, but I’m a little nervous being out when there’s no one else there, but it’s exciting mostly,” say Snow about moving into his own home for the first time. As with all Habitat homeowners, part of the down payment for the home is 250 sweat equity hours. In addition to sweat equity hours, Dan will make monthly mortgage payments for the home. By paying his mortgage payments, he will support Habitat building more homes in Sangamon County.

Thanks to the numerous volunteer hours, the home mortgage is affordable for Dan, who works part-time at a local retail establishment. “Taking the time to go out and do that means a lot to me because nobody has to do it. I think it’s great what they do,” Snow says of the volunteers.

“Habitat for Humanity is proud to partner with local businesses, churches and volunteers to increase the number of decent, affordable houses in Sangamon County,” said Sarah Mackey, executive director of Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County. Partners for House #84 include Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, IBEW, Hope Evangelical Free Church, Springfield Area Home Builders Association, Knob Hill Nursery & Landscaping, DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen, and Rolling Prairie Baptist Church. “Together, we are helping families escape from unsafe, unhealthy living conditions.”

Habitat for Humanity helps families and individuals break the cycle of poverty and build long-term financial security. Habitat's affordable, no-profit house payments free up money for food, child care, medicine and other necessities. And research has shown that decent housing improves health, increases children's educational achievement and strengthens community ties.

Habitat for Humanity is currently recruiting volunteers for Habitat houses #85 and #86 in Sangamon County. For more information or to join the efforts to eliminate poverty housing, visit [habitatsangamon.com](http://habitatsangamon.com) or call 217.523.2710.

###

*Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County is a community-driven nonprofit organization that develops working partnerships with local businesses, churches, community organizations and other individuals to build simple, decent and affordable housing for all people in need. Since its founding in 1989, Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County has completed 84 houses in Sangamon County, served over 300 individuals in Sangamon County and served 73 international families.*