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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Springfield Family Realizes the Dream of Homeownership**

*First family in 2011 to move into a Habitat home*

Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County celebrated the construction of its first home to be completed in 2011. The home is the 83<sup>rd</sup> home Habitat has built in Sangamon County. The new homeowners thank all those who worked so hard to help them reach this goal.

Through donations of money and materials and volunteer labor, Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County was able to build the homes and sell them at an affordable price. The homeowners purchased the homes with no-profit loans, and their monthly mortgage payments will be used to build more Habitat houses.

After explaining that the family had performed 250 sweat equity hours working on their home and the homes of others as a requirement for becoming Habitat homeowners, Sarah Mackey, executive director, presented the family with the keys to their new home.

“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 Mackey. “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 in the process of recruiting volunteers for Habitat houses #84 and #85 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.

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*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 83 houses in Sangamon County, served over 300 individuals in Sangamon County and served 73 international families.*