

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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This Thanksgiving Extra Special for Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County's 107th Family Habitat Dedicating Home November 9th

Chris and Charlene Herrod, and their three children, became a Partner Family in Habitat's home ownership program three years ago. This year, they're looking forward to celebrating Thanksgiving in their very own home.

"We are so grateful for the opportunity Habitat has given our family," said Charlene. "This house has already changed our lives in so many ways and is giving our family security. I'm excited that we can have family gatherings here, build for the future and not have to worry about moving again. Our children will remember everything – from seeing us cry tears of joy when we were accepted, to hammering boards and painting walls alongside so many people who gave of their time and money to make our dream a reality."

Habitat partners making this home possible were SOB festival (a part of the Conn Family Community Works), Westminster Presbyterian Church, Catholic Diocese Campaign for Justice and Hope, Hickory Point Bank, Tom Cullen Family, Anne Capestrain, Duggins Design Center, IBEW, and the annual build campaign donors.

"We are grateful for the support of our community partners who make it possible to do what we do," said Colleen Stone, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County. "Together we're building long-term strength, self-reliance and stability not only for this family, but for our community."

The Central Illinois Foodbank will also be filling the Herrod's pantry with a week's worth of supplies to get them settled into their new home.

"We're excited to continue this partnership with Habitat for Humanity," said Pam Molitoris, Central Illinois Foodbank Executive Director. "Our goal is to have the homeowners walk into their new home, sit down, relax, and not have to worry about going to the grocery store right away."

Partner Families in Habitat for Humanity's home ownership program build alongside Habitat volunteers and invest hundreds of "sweat equity" hours. Once a home is completed, the family pays a zero-interest, affordable mortgage, which is invested back into Habitat's program to build more homes for other families in need. The Herrods applied for Habitat's home ownership program after Charlene's mom told her about it and encouraged them to apply. They were the perfect candidate for Habitat's program – they had decent credit, stable jobs, and were willing to invest their time and energy to partner with HFHSC and help build their home.

Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County (HFHSC) invites you to join them at 5 p.m. on Thursday, November 9th to celebrate the dedication of this 107th home. The home is located at 729 North 4th Street in Springfield. For more information or to join the efforts to eliminate poverty housing, visit <http://www.habitatsangamon.com> or call 217.523.2710.