

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Colleen Stone, Executive Director 217.523.2710 office

Dedication Celebration October 10 for The Methodist Build, Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County's 109th Home

Area Methodist Churches and dedicated Habitat volunteers came together to build with Disheba Allison to make her dream of homeownership, and security for her children, a reality. Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County (HFHSC) invites you to the Dedication Celebration on Wednesday, October 10, 5 pm, at 2244 East Enterprise Street, in Grandview, to share in this achievement (please do not park on Enterprise Street).

Disheba, a young mother of two children, works in customer service for a company in Springfield. She heard about the Habitat home building program and decided that if she worked hard she could get a home of her own. She contacted Habitat and was excited to be accepted into the home ownership program more than a year ago.

"This means security for my family," said Disheba. "I always wanted the kids to have their own rooms and to have a yard to play in. They'll be able to grow up in their own space now."

Habitat homes are not free. Partner Families, like Disheba's, pay a zero percent interest mortgage (provided by Habitat), property taxes and homeowners insurance. In addition, prior to building, Partner Families in Habitat's Homeownership Program take classes on topics that include budgeting, taxes and home maintenance, and also are required to invest "sweat equity" hours.

"We are grateful for Habitat volunteers, donors and community partners who make building houses and hope possible," said Colleen Stone, HFHSC Executive Director. "It's a hand up that provides long-term sustainability, not only for Disheba's family, but for the neighborhood and our community."

The Methodist Build, Habitat House #109, was made possible by Athens UMC, Auburn UMC, Cantrall UMC, Cotton Hill UMC, Douglas Avenue UMC, Jerome UMC, Laurel UMC, Rochester UMC, Sherman UMC, Springfield First UMC, Sugar Creek UMC, Williamsville UMC, and Steve Koch of Koch, Sylvia and Associates with Ameriprise Financial.

For more information about the Dedication Celebration or to join the efforts to provide simple, decent, affordable housing, visit <u>http://www.habitatsangamon.com</u> or call 217.523.2710. Habitat for Humanity is currently recruiting volunteers to construct accessibility ramps and to help with other projects in Sangamon County.

###