



HomeAid
Houston



Breaking Ground

David Weekley Homes, Tilson Home Corporation Break Ground on Hurricane Evacuee Housing Project

Temperatures hovered near freezing on Thursday, December 8, 2005, but the sun broke through just in time to warm the 60 participants in the HomeAid Houston groundbreaking at Wellsprings Village. The HomeAid Houston project, with Builder Captains David Weekley Homes and Tilson Home Corporation, will construct six homes, serving eight women each, to increase the capacity of Wellsprings by 48 beds. Special funding for the project was provided by Ameriquest Mortgage, through the HomeAid Gulf Coast Rebuilding Fund.

HomeAid Houston, a charity sponsored by the Greater Houston Builders Association, provides construction of homeless housing for deserving homeless service agencies through the use of donated construction management services, labor and material, provided by GHBA members.

Wellsprings, Inc., founded in 1988, is situated on a three-acre parcel of wooded ground, located near South Post Oak and Main Street. The current facility, Wellsprings Village, serves homeless women recovering from domestic abuse, drug and alcohol abuse and joblessness in a home-like setting.

The Gulf Coast Rebuilding Fund was created through a partnership between HomeAid and Ameriquest Mortgage, in response to the devastation of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The funds are designated specifically for housing that will benefit evacuees of the hurricanes.

After welcoming remarks by HomeAid Houston board president, Brian Binash, MIRM, an invocation was delivered by Reverend Garrett Wingfield, a member of the Wellsprings, Inc. board of directors. Laura Brown from Congressman Al Green's office presented a Certificate of Congressional Recognition to Wellsprings, Inc. in honor of the Wellsprings Village groundbreaking. Annabelle Lopez from State Representative Alma Allen's office read congratulatory commendations to

Wellsprings Village, serves homeless women recovering from domestic abuse, drug and alcohol abuse and joblessness in a home-like setting.





Key project contributors broke ground on the Wellsprings Project December 8, 2005. Pictured here are (left to right): Bette Moser Wickline, executive director HomeAid Houston; Steve Clark, senior builder, David Weekley Homes; Toy Wood, executive vice president & CEO of GHBA; Brian Binash, Wilshire Homes and president of the HomeAid Houston board; Kevin Holland, 2005 GHBA president; Eddie Martin, president of Tilson Home Corporation; Carol Updyke, president, Wellsprings Inc board; Valerie Beckham, executive director, Wellsprings; and Diane Dempcy, director for Gulf Coast Rebuilding Fund, HomeAid.

HomeAid Houston will construct six eight-bed homes in Wellsprings Village to house Katrina evacuees and provide a stable environment for other temporarily homeless women. Pictured below are (left to right): Bette Moser Wickline, executive director HomeAid Houston; construction coordinator, Jim Smith of City Abode; and Diane Dempcy, director for Gulf Coast Rebuilding Fund, HomeAid.



GHBA and Wellsprings, Inc. for the combined efforts of the two organizations to improve the lives of women in the community.

A warm welcome and sincere thank you was delivered by Diane Dempcy, director of the HomeAid Gulf Coast Rebuilding Fund. The HomeAid Houston board was complimented for taking a project from inception to groundbreaking in just three months – a process that typically takes from six months to two years.

Anthony Love, CEO of the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston and Harris County, expressed gratitude on behalf of the Coalition that GHBA and HomeAid Houston would partner with homeless agencies to help provide shelter at a time when the homeless in Houston have grown so dramatically and the need for beds is so great.

Wellsprings Executive Director Valerie Beckham described the history of Wellsprings, noting the groundbreaking was the culmination of 17 years of dreaming and praying. She introduced a graduate of the Wellsprings program who then described her transformation from a life of substance abuse, mental illness and homelessness to a life where she is now mentally, physically and spiritually healthy, studying for her Associates degree and living and working independently.

David Weekley Homes was represented by Senior Builder Steve Clark, who talked about one of the most cherished goals of the company – to enhance the lives of those in our community – and how delighted David Weekley Homes was to be in partnership with HomeAid Houston, GHBA and Tilson Home Corporation to serve future Wellsprings residents.

Eddie Martin, president of Tilson Home Corporation, also spoke of how privileged and proud the company was to be a part of the Wellsprings Village project and how anxious they were to begin the project.

GHBA President Kevin Holland thanked the HomeAid Houston board members for their work on the Wellsprings project and recognized the generous GHBA members who were donating labor and materials to the projects: Jim Smith, City Abode; Amegy Bank; Apex Foundation; Capital Heating and Air; DR Signs; Goodman Manufacturing; Suncoast Post-Tension; Tarkett; Wilson Engineering; and a special thanks was given to Gordon Wittenberg of Wittenberg Oberholzer Architects for his tireless work in getting the Wellsprings project off the drawing board and into the ground.

HomeAid Board President Brian Binash then joined GHBA President Kevin Holland and invited everyone to join them in turning the first shovel of dirt.

Late Breaking News!

Co-Builder Captains Doyle Stuckey of Doyle Stuckey Homes and Randy Blanchard of Green Mountain Building Company have signed up to construct The Mission of Yahweh 16-unit dormitory for HomeAid Houston.

Groundbreaking is scheduled Thurs., January 19, 2006 2 p.m. at 10247 Algiers Rd. Houston, TX 77041

More details to follow!

HomeAid Houston is a 501(c)3
Tax ID# 33-0673009

All donations to HomeAid Houston are tax deductible. Checks may be made out to HomeAid Houston and sent to: HomeAid Houston, c/o GHBA, 9511 W Sam Houston Parkway N, Houston, TX 77064

www.HomeAidHouston.org