

HOMEAID SCORES BIG WITH PROJECT PLAYHOUSE AUCTION

August 17, 2010 – Drayton and Elizabeth McLane, owners of the Houston Astros made a big hit at the 21st annual Astros Wives Gala recently by having the winning bid for HomeAid Houston’s Project Playhouse. HomeAid, a Greater Houston Builders Association charity built the playhouse to be auctioned off to raise funds to help build transitional housing for the homeless of Houston. The Astros are partners with HomeAid on Project Playhouse. A second playhouse was on display at Minute Maid Park through August 19. A drawing for that playhouse also raised funds for Houston’s homeless.

The McLane’s bid \$13,000 for the playhouse that will be installed at their home for their grandchildren. The Houston Astros Wives Gala called “Black Ties and Baseball Caps” benefits the Houston Area Women’s Center. Since the first Gala in the early 1990s, Astros Wives have raised more than \$3 million for the Center which provides a safe environment for victims of domestic and sexual violence in Houston. This year 550 guests helped raised \$500,000 for the Center.

David Weekley Homes built both playhouses with donated materials, labor and services by GHBA members. Each playhouse was named “The Vintage Astros Dugout” in honor of the Astros 45th year as a ball club. The exterior of the 10 ft. x 10 ft. playhouse dugouts are reminiscent of actual baseball dugouts, and were loaded with extra perks. They included: authentic bench seating from the Astros dugout at Minute Maid Park, electronics donated by Best Buy including a wall mounted 32” HDTV, Nintendo Wii, Panasonic Blu-ray disc Player, Klipsch iGroove SXT audio system and a Wii sports pack. There was also an 8,000 BTU air conditioner with remote, a G.E. stainless steel mini refrigerator, electrical hookup, a sliding window, a Dutch door, a front porch, a metal roof, and authentic metal sports lockers. The playhouse construction team at David Weekley Homes was lead by Mark Welch, Mike Funk, Cindy Miller, Brian Underwood, Matt Dubroc and Cecilia Jones. Both playhouse lead sponsors were Bridgeland, Masco Environments for Living and Westin Homes.

In-kind donations were key to the construction and finish-out for both playhouses. Best Buy, BrivicMedia, Inc., CBS Outdoor, D&R Signs, Fox Sports News, James Hardie, John Manlove Marketing & Communications, Johns Manville, On-Target Marketing and Southwest Precision Printers, L.P. have given generously.

HomeAid Houston, a 501 © (3), works to provide shelter for the homeless in the greater Houston area with the help of partners and volunteers. Since its inception in 2003 HomeAid has built facilities that provided 390 beds for men, women and children in crisis.

For more information about Project Playhouse or HomeAid Houston visit
www.homeaidhouston.org.