

## **HOMEAID AND GHBA REMODELERS COUNCIL DEDICATE HOUSE OF TINY TREASURES**

June 9, 2009 - HomeAid Houston, a Greater Houston Builders Association (GHBA) charity and the Association's Remodelers Council (RMC) recently dedicated a new remodeling project for SEARCH's House of Tiny Treasures. SEARCH Homeless Services provides an array of services designed to help people move from the streets and into jobs and safe, affordable housing. SEARCH's House of Tiny Treasures (HTT) was in desperate need of a number of repairs and renovations to improve the overall structure. HTT provides comprehensive early care, education and therapeutic services that will assist homeless children and families build stable, functional lives.

### ***THE HOMEAID TEAM***

HomeAid Houston partnered with the GHBA's Remodelers Council (RMC) and the project was headed by Remodeler Captain, Mike Wilburn of Mike Wilburn Homes. The RMC donated an entire three day weekend to demolish, repair and reconstruct many areas of the HTT facilities. Work also continued for several additional weeks. A number of GHBA members took part in the renovation. These generous companies also donated materials, services and labor to help make the transformation of this important childcare center possible.

On hand for the dedication ceremony were: Bette Moser, executive director of HomeAid Houston, Mike Wilburn, Remodeler Captain and president of Mike Wilburn Homes; Dennis Haws, All Star Construction; Mark Welch, David Weekley Homes; Stuart Feldman, Gulf & Basco; Chris Denison, Amegy Mortgage; Melissa Burky, HomeAid volunteer; Larissa Caramanidis, By Design Interiors; Thao Costis, Search president and CEO; Kaitlyn Sharp, Custom Plumbing & Hardware; Steve Egloff, Homesulate; David Rodriguez, House Loan, Gonzalo Garcia, JRG Builders & Remodelers; Rob Hellyer, Premier Remodeling & Construction; Chris Ogden, Continental Foundation; Tony Boilek, Sherwin Williams; Matthew Cavanaugh and John Carloss, Venetian Blind and Floor; Sharon Attra, Diversified Thermal; David Hodges, Pella Windows & Doors, Ronni Stevens, Mass Mutual; Terry Swenson, GHBA and Shelly Cyprus, Sandy Harris, John Knox, Donna Phillips and Ben Williams from SEARCH.

### ***WORK COMPLETED***

The Pre-School House required re-leveling and raising the house; replacing the porch and repositioning the wheelchair ramp; refinishing and repairing the wood floors and repainting and plastering the interior walls after the house had been resettled. New insulation was also added to the walls and the attic.

The Baby House required a reconfigured diaper change area that meets accreditation standards, replacing broken floor tiles and adding insulation in the walls.

"It was very rewarding to see all of the team members at the dedication who made this renovation project such a huge success," said Bette Moser. "It was an opportunity for all

phases of construction/remodeling to come together and enjoy the outcome of this important effort. Their hard work and generosity will be realized by the special children who are part of the HTT program.”

“SEARCH Homeless Services is most grateful to the HomeAid team for this invaluable contribution,” said Thao Costis with SEARCH. “Their involvement shows the commitment Houston’s homebuilding industry has to enhancing our community. Their work ensures a safe, quality learning environment for children who are homeless, and need to be prepared for school and a brighter future.”

SEARCH’s Houston of Tiny Treasures originated in 1992. It is Houston’s first licensed early childhood development center dedicated to serving homeless children and families. To be eligible for this program, families with pre-school age children must be homeless and the parents must be actively working on improving their education, job skills, or employment.

HTT opens its doors to children and parents in shelters, transitional housing programs, and special needs housing. Star of Hope, Corder Place of the Houston Housing Corp., AIDS Foundation Houston, SEARCH and Catholic Charities are agencies currently using House of Tiny Treasures services. The HTT anticipates serving approximately 30 families and 65 children in the current year.

For more information on HomeAid Houston visit [www.homeaidhouston.org](http://www.homeaidhouston.org). For more information on the GHBA or Remodelers Council visit [www.ghba.org](http://www.ghba.org) or call 281-970-8970.