

## **MHI PARTNERS WITH HOMEAID HOUSTON TO BUILD WOMEN'S HOMELESS SHELTER**

Houston, Tx – Jan. 8, 2008– A dozen ceremonial shovels recently set the wheels in motion for construction of a 6,828 sq. ft., five-family residential facility for Gracewood, a residential ministry for single mothers and their children. MHI is donating the construction management of the 14-bed facility that will provide transitional housing for families who are at risk for homelessness due to a crisis situation.

“The entire MHI team is looking forward to working with both HomeAid and Gracewood for such a worthy cause,” said James Miller, president of MHI. “This new facility will provide a new beginning for so many deserving women and children.”

“In 2006 Gracewood received over 50 calls for every opening that became available,” said Kathleen Stadler, president of HomeAid Houston’s board. “This partnership with MHI and the countless vendors who will be needed for donated materials and services is a tremendous gift to this cause.”

HomeAid Houston, a charity sponsored by the Greater Houston Builders Association and the local arm of HomeAid National, works with the GHBA to recruit generous Association members to donate materials, labor and services for the construction of transitional housing for the homeless of Houston.

The effort to provide a safe place for homeless men, women and children in the Houston area, is ongoing. Over the past few years, with the help of area builders, vendors and individuals, HomeAid Houston has added over 320 beds for those less fortunate.

“Children at Heart Ministries and Gracewood are excited about joining HomeAid Houston for this important project,” said Jerry T. Bradley, president and CEO of Children at Heart Ministries. “This building will provide shelter for many families and children for years to come. The generosity by MHI and their vendors is priceless to our organization.”

Representatives from MHI, Gracewood, the GHBA, HomeAid and numerous vendors were on-hand to participate in the ground breaking. They included, James Miller, president of MHI in Houston; Jerry Bradley, president and CEO of Children at Heart Ministries and Don Cramer also with Children at Heart; Kathleen Stadler, president of HomeAid Houston’s board of directors; Eddie Martin, president of the GHBA; Toy Wood, CEO of the GHBA; Bette Moser, executive director of HomeAid Houston; Don Forrester, president of Gracewood; Debbie Ripstein, executive director of Gracewood; Leslie Searle, Gracewood development director, Children at Heart Foundation and Anthony Love, president of the Coalition for the Homeless. Vendors donating to the Project who were on hand included, Best Masonry, Hope Lumber, Royal Bath, West End Lumber, Gulf & Basco, Suncoast Post Tension and Weyerhaeuser Company.

Gracewood is one of four Children At Heart Ministries that serve children and families in crisis. The original facility is located in south Houston.

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