



## News Release

Contact: Amanda Thomas  
(520) 326-1217 x. 213  
C: (520) 909-3777  
[amandat@habittucson.org](mailto:amandat@habittucson.org)

---

### Habitat for Humanity Tucson to Begin First LEED Home at Annual Event on 9/11 *Will raise walls on eight homes at Building Freedom Day*

TUCSON, Ariz. (August 24, 2010) – Habitat for Humanity Tucson will raise the walls on eight homes at its annual Building Freedom Day event this September 11. One of those homes, the Women Build home for Alyson Cichy and her daughter, will be Habitat Tucson's first LEED certified home.

“Green building has become a priority for us,” said Executive Director, Michael McDonald. “We recognize the importance of sustainability to our homeowners and our community and we are proud to be taking the lead as an example to our fellow home builders.”

Cichy's LEED certified, Women Build home, which will primarily be built by women, will include features such as greywater stub-outs, landscaping utilizing water harvesting techniques, along with passive and active solar design. Additionally, like past Habitat homes, it will comply with Energy Star standards and be TEP guaranteed for energy efficiency.

Building green is not new to Habitat Tucson. In June, Habitat's Building Freedom Day 2009 homes received the first gold certificates from Pima County's green building program. The year before, Habitat received silver certificates from the same program for four other homes.

This LEED certified home will be located at Habitat Tucson's Corazon Del Pueblo home development at I-10 and Craycroft Road along with its seven neighbors. It will take approximately eight months to complete the homes which will be dedicated on May 26, 2011.

In order to raise all 32 walls on September 11, Habitat will bring together more than 700 volunteers made up of community members, representatives from local businesses, congregations, members of the military and current and future Habitat homeowners as early as 5 a.m.

“I feel like I'm part of a new family,” said Cichy of her partnership with Habitat Tucson. “Living in a community where everyone is supportive, that's what I like about Habitat.”

Habitat for Humanity Tucson's Executive Director Michael McDonald and future homeowners of the eight Building Freedom Day homes will be available for interviews throughout the day.

*Building Freedom Day began in 2002 on the first anniversary of the 9/11 attacks as both a symbolic and a substantial way of commemorating the true spirit of American opportunity, community and hard work. Since then, Building Freedom Day has produced more than 59 homes for deserving local families. Habitat Tucson has built more than 325 homes since its inception in 1980.*