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**TRINITY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY HONORS VOLUNTEERS AT
HABITAT HEROES VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER**

FORT WORTH - Trinity Habitat for Humanity honored more than 400 volunteers Friday at the annual "Habitat Heroes Volunteer Appreciation Dinner" in Fort Worth. The event celebrates the hard work and dedication of Trinity Habitat volunteers. Trinity Habitat volunteers contributed 55,691 hours in 2009 to build homes and hope in Johnson, Parker, Tarrant and Wise Counties. The Independent Sector Estimated Dollar Value of Volunteer Time (up-to-date figure of 2008 hourly is \$20.25) is \$1,127,743.

The award winners for the evening follow:

Phil Muller Project Manager Award – Ken Robb - A volunteer project manager who has worked with THFH on an ongoing basis and demonstrated excellence and dedication as exemplified by the late Phil Muller. The award pays tribute to Phil Muller, a former Habitat volunteer who served as the project manager on 18 Habitat for Humanity homes.

Habititus Award – Doug Christianson, Melissa Hamby & Frank Williams - A volunteer that has demonstrated great spirit and enthusiasm volunteering with Habitat for Humanity and one that has caught the worse case of "Habititus" fever during 2009.

Corporate Award – XTO Energy, Encore Acquisition Co., Sundance Square – Special recognition of a corporation that has shown its unending commitment not only through financial support but also through their volunteer enthusiasm and spirit in partnership with Habitat.

Faith-Based Award – Arborlawn United Methodist Church and Emmanuel Presbyterian Church – Special recognition of a faith-based organization that has shown its unending commitment not only through financial support but also through their volunteer enthusiasm and spirit in partnership with Habitat.

Youth Group Award – Aledo High School Class of 2010 – The award goes to the youth group that has shown exceptional enthusiasm for Habitat for Humanity; were dependable and made a valuable contribution to our affiliate in 2009.

Founders Award – 20 Year Anniversary Committee – An individual or organization that has had continuous involvement with Trinity Habitat for Humanity since the early years of the founding of the affiliate in 1989 and has given support of time and energy to move the affiliate towards its mission.

Lidia Perez Good Neighbor Award – *City of Mansfield and City of Alvarado* – Individual, organization, company or church that has demonstrated special support, encouragement and enthusiasm for the Habitat for Humanity mission during the past year. This award is generally geographically specific.

Jim Hargroves' Spirit Award – *Rob Sell* – This special recognition is given to the person who most embodies the entire spirit of Habitat's mission. The award pays tribute to the late Jim Hargroves, a former Habitat board member who exemplified the teachings of Christ in his life.

Silent Partner – *Charlene Berry, Wanda Helms and Robin Mercurio* – This award is presented to those with at least five years of continued and significant volunteer partnership with Trinity Habitat, working behind the scenes to accomplish Habitat's mission.

Golden Hammer - Volunteers who have made a consistent contribution to the affiliate and/or have volunteered 100 hours (or more). More than 30 volunteers received this award for 2009.

Several other volunteers received awards based on tenure and Cornerstone Certifications.

Trinity Habitat home building resumes in February with the celebration of Building on the Dream, a tribute to the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King. Families wanting to be a part of its work can begin the application process by attending an orientation session. Call (817)926-9219 to reserve a seat.

Trinity Habitat for Humanity builds quality, affordable homes with volunteer labor and donations of money and materials. Sponsors and donors underwrite construction costs of Habitat for Humanity homes.

Partner families, as Habitat for Humanity homebuyers are known, invest 250 hours of sweat equity in the construction of their homes or others' houses, working side by side with volunteers. Partner families then buy their homes, making affordable monthly payments on a no-interest mortgage held by Habitat. Their house payments revolve back into Habitat for Humanity's work, making homeownership possible for more families. Because Habitat for Humanity is a pay-it-forward housing program, a dollar invested in its work is a buck that never stops--it just keeps building.

Trinity Habitat for Humanity has built 385 homes in Tarrant, Johnson, Parker and Wise counties since 1989.

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