

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Habitat for Humanity's Inaugural Women Build Week in Upper Dublin. Construction is under way!

Upper Dublin, PA Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County is hosting their inaugural Women's Build Week from May 3-7, 2011 in Upper Dublin, which challenges women from all walks of life to help eliminate poverty housing and helps Habitat raise awareness.

Women plan, raise funds, publicize the project, and build the house from start to finish! This is a program that empowers women who want to learn construction skills and make a difference to low income families in our community.

The Women Build Program was established by Habitat for Humanity International to encourage the participation of women in the construction of Habitat homes. Women Build projects provide an environment in which women can feel comfortable learning skills they might not have the opportunity to learn.

There are three primary goals of the Women Build Program:

More volunteers: Women Build promotes gender equity on habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County's construction sites and includes more women in Habitat trainings, fundraising, and advocacy efforts.

More confidence: Through training clinics, on-site building, and team activities, Women Build volunteers gain the confidence and skills needed to effectively contribute to Habitat's mission.

More families served: In our region, one in three families headed by women lives in poverty. Recognizing that women and children face a particular disadvantage in the housing market, Women Build brings women together to build homes and communities.

At the Montgomery County Women Build Week, each morning begins at 8am with breakfast and a high-profile female community leader who will address the group (list below) and will be followed by a full day of building.

Tuesday, May 3: Pastor Beth Lyon of Glenside United Church of Christ

Wednesday, May 4: Ms. Leslie Richards, Candidate for Montgomery County Commissioner

Thursday, May 5: Ms. Cheryl Austin, Esquire: Former Chair of the Montgomery County Commission on Women and Families

Friday, May 6: Dr. Karen Stout, President of Montgomery County Community College

Saturday, May 7: Ms. Lynn Utter, President and Chief Operating Officer of Knoll North America at 8am and Congresswomen Allyson Schwartz at 12pm

Anthony's Coal-Fired Pizza of Horsham is our Premium Food Sponsor and will be providing lunch for three of the Build Days.

There are also non-building Women Build Week events that are open to everyone.

Tuesday, May 3: Restaurant Benefit Day/Night at Tonelli's in Horsham, PA. 20% of your bill donated to Women Build if you mention Habitat! 278 Easton Road, Horsham, PA.

Thursday, May 5: Mary Kay Makeover Night at the ReStore from 5-8pm. Make over yourself, make over your home.

Friday, May 6: Happy hour at MaGerk's in Fort Washington from 4-8pm. 10% of your bill donated to Women Build if you mention Habitat. 582 S. Bethlehem Pike, Fort Washington, PA.

For more information and event details, please contact Kim Tobin at Habitat for Humanity or visit our website at www.habitatmontco.org/womenbuild.html