

## HUMANITY PLAZA

### New York City Builds Homes For Victims of Hurricane Katrina



Al Roker and Katie Couric led celebrities and volunteers as they built 45 homes in Rockefeller Plaza during a five-day, around-the-clock blitz to support Habitat for Humanity International's Hurricane Katrina relief efforts.

More Photos  
Page 3



Habitat-NYC volunteer Andie Simon and dad Tom Brokaw visit "Humanity Plaza" blitz build.

### Andie Simon Sparks Today Show Build

Three years ago, volunteer Andie Simon joined St. Bart's Church congregants on a grueling winter day at a Bronx Habitat site, mixing icy water into grout to tile a bathroom. She found it so rewarding that she returned to wield hammers on more city builds.

When Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast, Simon's thoughts turned to her construction experiences with Habitat-NYC—and an idea began to brew.

continued on page 3

## Habitat-NYC Remembers Richard Wong

Richard K. Wong, Habitat-NYC's Director of Community Partnerships, died suddenly on Sept. 15, surrounded by his loving family and his pastor, Reverend David Dyson of the Lafayette Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn, where Richard had been an elder.

"He was the greatest social activist I've ever known," said Roland Lewis, Executive Director of Habitat-NYC, as he described the immense sense of loss felt by his colleagues. All those who knew Richard, whether for



a month or many years, were impressed by his personal kindness, sense of humor and his quiet efficiency at work.

Richard began his work at Habitat-NYC in 1993, when its staff of four was housed in the First Presbyterian Church in Manhattan. Through the years he reached out to clerics of many faiths, visiting churches, synagogues, and mosques to urge their congregations to put faith into action by building affordable housing and community in New York City.

continued on page 2

### IN THIS ISSUE



World Habitat Day  
Page 3

Builder Awards  
Gala  
Nov. 9  
Page 5



ReStore Opens  
Page 5

Letter from the  
Executive Director  
Page 2



## Katrina Exposed U.S. Poverty

Flood waters may be receding from the Gulf Coast, but national concern remains at the level of poverty—and poverty housing—that was exposed by Hurricane Katrina.

The poverty revealed in New Orleans is a microcosm of too much of our nation and the world: 30 percent of New Orleans' population is impoverished—as is 30.6 percent of the Bronx and 30 percent of India's residents.

Eliminating poverty, wherever it exists, is one of the greatest challenges of our times, and I'm proud to be part of an organization that is committed to building decent, affordable housing and ending poverty everywhere.

From New York to New Orleans to New Delhi, Habitat is on the frontline, bringing communities together to build a better future.

Our volunteers and friends turned out in force—more than 1,075 strong—to kick off Habitat for Humanity International's Katrina relief efforts with a five-day, 24-hour-a-day marathon build with the Today Show and Warner Music Group in September.

On Oct. 3, at the Habitat worksite in Harlem and in the august halls of Columbia University, we hosted diplomats from around the world in celebrating the United Nations' annual World Habitat Day. The day's goal was to spotlight the dire living conditions of the world's urban population—and to craft strategies that will become real and sustainable solutions.

Habitat's strength lies in unity, in our ability to bring together people from all walks of life with a shared commitment to create a better world. That strength is evident on Habitat worksites, where partnerships with faith congregations, businesses, neighborhoods and government result in simple decent homes—built with New Yorkers in need in communities around our city.

Habitat has tremendous power to affect lives, but we know that even with that power we are not the solution; we are part of the solution. To address the shame of poverty and substandard housing in neighborhoods in New York City, across our nation and around the world will take the concerted effort of Habitat, the faith community, the business community, our sister not-for-profit groups and especially our government.

Katrina and other natural calamities may serve as a wake-up call to the quiet, desperate need that surrounds us every day. We must remember that too many of those families living in squalor in the New Orleans convention center and the Superdome were living in substandard housing and squalor before the hurricane hit. Our commitment to helping those families in need, whether in the Bronx or Biloxi, must be constant and strong.

Roland Lewis, Executive Director  
Habitat for Humanity - New York City

## New HFHI Chief Tours New York City



Jonathan T.M. Reckford, center, new CEO of Habitat for Humanity International, and HFHI Board Chair Rey Ramsey, left, meet with Roland Lewis, right, in New York City.

New York City welcomed Jonathan T. M. Reckford, Habitat for Humanity International's new CEO, who took the helm in September. This fall, Reckford joined staff and volunteers at the Today Show's "Humanity Plaza," presided over World Habitat Day ceremonies and helped plant trees at new Habitat-NYC homes on West 128th Street in Harlem.

Reckford, 42, brings a combination of business acumen and faith leadership to HFHI. For the past two years he served as executive pastor of Christ Presbyterian Church of Edina, Minn. Prior to that, he held executive positions at the Marriott Corp., Walt Disney Co., Circuit City Stores Inc., and Best Buy Inc.

A native of North Carolina—and a longtime Habitat volunteer—Reckford also has a strong international background. He worked with missions in India, Latin America and Africa, and coached the Korean rowing team for the 1988 Olympics.

### Continued from page 1: Richard Wong

He was the "dean of faith-based organizing," said one of his colleagues, Aaron Bouska. "If you are in faith organizing and haven't heard of Richard, you don't have the full picture."

As Millard Fuller, founder of Habitat for Humanity International, often said on his visits, Richard was "the heart of Habitat for Humanity in New York City."

Richard began organizing for social justice as a teenager. Inspired by Martin Luther King, Jr. and Gandhi, he organized one of the first New York City walkathons to raise money for people starving in Biafra. He was Assistant Director at Asian Americans for Equality; President of the Brooklyn Local of the American Postal Workers Union, and a delegate to the New York City Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO. He served on the Board of Directors of the Brooklyn Chapter of the American Red Cross and the First Chinese Presbyterian Church Community Affairs Corp.

At his memorial service on Sept. 23 at the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church, people from many walks of life remembered Richard. Joseph Bel-Bey, who organized the Brooklyn Post Office with Richard in the 1980s, said he is certain that "Richard is organizing in Heaven."

"Richard will be deeply missed by the city he cherished and the many people and neighborhoods he touched in his life," Lewis said. "We lend our hearts to his loving wife Lydia, their children Joseph and Elizabeth, his daughter-in-law Ellen, and Yates, the grandson Richard adored."



# WORLD HABITAT DAY

United Nations delegates gathered in Harlem on Oct. 3 to commemorate World Habitat Day and to underscore the critical need for decent housing for poor people living in urban centers around the globe.

They called for a renewed commitment to the UN's Millennium Development Goals to improve the lives of at least 100 million urban dwellers by 2020.

"Nearly one billion people live in urban slums, and that number will increase dramatically," said Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University.

As part of the day's events, leaders from Habitat for Humanity - New York City, Habitat for Humanity International, the Earth Institute, the Rockefeller Foundation and interfaith leaders planted trees at new Habitat-NYC homes in Harlem.

Pictured above, the Rev. Dr. Bob Edgar, left, of the National Council of Churches, leads a prayer to bless the homes and new homeowners Judy and Tyrone Wise and their son Tyler, center. "Owning our home is like getting a piece of the American dream," Judy Wise said.



## Building for Katrina's Victims

More than 1,075 volunteers from Habitat-NYC joined celebrities, the Today Show, MSNBC and Warner Music Group to build Habitat homes for the Gulf Coast. Pictured above left is Senator Charles Schumer. Top right is volunteer Billy Burke. Below, Habitat-NYC staffer Christi Anderson shows Rockettes how to make a hammer dance.



### Continued from page 1: Volunteer Andie Simon Sparks Today Show Build

Andie Simon is the woman behind the weeklong, around-the-clock Habitat for Humanity build on Rockefeller Plaza, which was broadcast on the Today Show and MSNBC and co-sponsored with Warner Music Group.

The media partnership helped Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI) create a high-profile launch of Operation Home Delivery, its relief effort to create housing for people left homeless by the disaster.

Like most Americans, Simon was deeply moved by the Katrina tragedy and wanted to help. And what better way than with Habitat for Humanity? "I have such respect for Habitat, and I've had such great experiences on these builds," Simon said. "I knew it could help bring those communities back, and in a way that's empowering."

As Vice President of Strategic Marketing at Warner Brothers Records and the daughter of Tom Brokaw, Simon has the clout and Rolodex to make things happen, but initially, she simply asked for a few days off work to join a Gulf Coast build.

That small request turned into what Simon terms "a harmonic convergence."

Three days and numerous phone calls later, a group assembled at NBC. It included Simon, her boss Tom Whalley, Today Show Producer Phil Griffin, and Chris Clarke, Senior VP for Communications at HFHI.

"Let's build a house on Rockefeller Plaza," someone suggested. "What about five houses—one a day for a week?" someone else proposed. Soon, the idea became a commitment to create housing 24-hours every day for a week—with even more builds across the nation. The result: 45 homes built in New York and 65 nationwide.

"We had an overwhelming response—from artists to executives" to everyday citizens and corporations throughout the city, says Simon. "It's just a miracle that all of this came together."

# Individual Gifts October 1, 2004 - October 1, 2005

## \$10,000 and Above

Heidi Ackerman-Jordan  
Kevin J. Conway and Denise W. Conway  
Peter P. and Peggy D'Angelo  
Virginia L. Darrow  
Kathy L. Ferguson and Mark A. Zurack  
William S. Friedman and Lucy N. Friedman  
Mary P. Haggerty  
J. Christopher Hoefel and Ellen O. Hoefel  
Thomas Marano  
Jeffrey Mayer  
Maureen McPhilly-O'Reilly and William J. O'Reilly  
Michael Nierenberg  
Carole Pittelman  
Connie Sargent and John Sargent  
Theodore U. Schweitzer and Valerie Schweitzer  
Paul Shang  
Robert Sillerman and Laura Baudo Sillerman  
Ellen M. Violet and Mary P.R.

## \$5,000 - \$9,999

Thomas  
Jonathan Babkow  
Evan Bauer and Joan Bauer  
Les Bluestone  
Michael Cembalest and Rachel Hines  
Bruce D. Fiedorek  
Bruce Geismar  
Taylor C. Harris  
Tim Ingrassia and Stephanie Ingrassia  
Laura Klein  
Robert Lieber  
Nancy Long and Marc N. Waldor  
Mark Nelkin  
Michael Nimetz  
Jonathan Foote Pedersen and Patricia F. Pedersen  
Randy Reiff  
Stephen Rubin  
Peter F. Ryan and Dale Ryan  
Matt Williams and Angelina Fiordellisi  
Mike Windsor and Kelly Windsor

## \$2,500 - \$4,999

Sandra Baron and Gregory Diskant  
Scott Bowen  
Bill Charlton and Christina P. Charlton  
Colin Devine  
Lawrence T. Driskell  
Christopher Gates  
Joseph Gleberman and Carson Gleberman  
Alan Grumet and Sonia Lee  
Gail Hackett  
Suzanne M. Halbardier  
Warren I. Hirschhorn  
Sarah Klenbort  
Engeline Kok  
John S. Kwon  
Peter Lamm and Deborah Lamm  
Claudia J. Machaver  
Janet Mulligan  
Craig Overlander  
Jane Pauley and Garry Trudeau  
David Ritter and Marie Ritter  
David Terveen  
Valerie A. Tootle  
Philip D. Truscott  
Mark A. Walsh and Lisa J. Walsh

## \$1,000 - \$2,499

Barbara Ann Abeles  
Gregory S. Adams  
Roger Ailes and Elizabeth Ailes

Efrain Alvarado and Maryann Byrnes-Alvarado  
Rita Arien  
Frederick N. Barnewold  
Michael Barr  
Susan L. Barr and Michael Barr  
Joel D. Baskoff, M.D. and Maryann Iadanza  
Trez Bayer Thomas  
June Beckstead  
Alan R. Bell  
Rachel Berg and Carl Berg  
Alice E. Bergman  
Geoffry D. Best and Suzanne Best  
Glen and Emily Brooks  
Steven Brown  
Robert B. Carey  
Peter Cherasia  
Theresa C. Choh-Lee  
Mark G. Clancy  
Donald Clausen and Ruth Clausen  
Betty Conner  
Robert F. Conway  
Rosemary Darmstadt  
Graziano DeBoni  
Adrienne Deluca  
Liz Ann and Buzz Doherty  
Julia Doyle  
Arden D. Down  
Timothy Dugan  
Ruth E. Eisenberg  
Martin E. Elling  
Michael R. Fernbacher  
Michael R. Fletcher  
Thomas M. Flexner  
David I. Foley and Victoria Long Foley  
Arthur Foresta and Alina Alvarez  
Emily Frye  
Michele Ganeless  
Gordon Gano  
Scott J. Goldsmith and Jeffrey S. Silberstein  
Anne Gottlieb  
Matthew Grayson  
John M. Gross and Ila Gross  
Anthony Grosso  
Nathan Grubb  
Geoffrey Gund and Mrs Sarah Gund  
Esther C. Hahn  
Patricia R. Hall  
Paul Hallingby  
Peter A. Hamilton  
Joann S. Harrison  
Dana Hart  
Sally C. Harwood  
David M. Head  
Tanya Hernandez  
George R. Hornig and Joan B. Hornig  
Matthew Hranek  
Rona F. Jaffe  
Robert Janukowicz  
Antony Jenkins  
Kevin M. Jusko  
Joanna G. Kalliches  
Zachary Karabell  
Ruth Kaufman  
Richard K. Kave and Rhonda S. Kave  
Jo Anne Kennedy  
Sung Eun S. Kim  
Arlene D. Kirschner  
Charles G. Kiskaddon, Jr.  
Nat Klipper  
Mary Ellen Kris  
Rebecca M. Kuhar and Robert Kuhar  
Jennifer Lake  
Derek Larson  
Jeffrey Lavine  
Robert Lawrence  
Mary E. Linder  
Cara Lipshie  
John D. Lobrano  
Sandy Loewentheil  
Joanne Lyman  
John Magliano  
Elizabeth Maher

Barbara G. Marcin  
Stacey L. Marino  
Marty Markowitz  
David S. Marren  
Katharine F. Maxwell  
Joseph McBride  
Amanda McGowan and Lawrence Vitale  
Dennis M. McIntosh  
Henry P. McKean  
Thomas J. McLaughlin  
John McLean  
Lawrence Miles  
James R. Modrall  
James M. Moffat and Amanda Z. Moffat  
Keith Monda and Linda Monda  
Dominick J. Mondini  
Cynthia Morales  
Carol L. Morris and Robert G. Morris  
Janet Mulligan  
Kimberly Neil  
Nancy J. Neil  
Alvaro Ortiz and Elizabeth Hall Ortiz  
Anthony J. Parisi and Stacy A. Parisi  
Douglas Paul  
Laura A. Phillips and John A. Elliott  
David Pickett  
John H. Pierce and Carolyn D. Pierce  
John A. Quisenberry  
Christopher Reber and Kathleen Reber  
Stephen K. Reidy and Carolyn K. Reidy  
Deborah Rennels  
Thomas C. Rice  
Richard C. Richardson, Jr. and Patricia B. Richardson  
Abigail Rose  
Christina Rotelli  
Edgar J. Royce  
Regina Rule and Richard Rule  
Charles Rusbasan  
Lavinia Minty Russell  
Lisa R. Sarajian  
Susan Sarandon  
Ellen Sargent and Stephen W. Nicholas  
Preston A. Schell  
Alex Schlossberg  
Christopher Scott  
Michael Sears  
Pattie Sears  
Dom Seddio  
Craig Sedmak  
Joseph E. Serrill  
Robert Sinko, II and Mary Ellen Sinko  
David Sirulnick  
Michael D. Spatt  
Jean Colaio Steinbach  
Polly Z. Steinway  
Mallory Stevens  
John K. Sweeney and Margaret A. Sweeney  
Edmund Sylvester and Anne Sylvester  
Lawrence J. Szczech  
Joseph V. Taranto and Anne C. Taranto  
Robyn Tarnofsky  
Lois Teich  
Catherine M. Thompson  
Leonard Tow  
Peter Trieloff  
Chia Y. Tung  
Pankaj Uppal and Marianne Uppal  
Steve Varon and Beth Varon  
Mary A. Vetri  
Paul Vizzarondo Jr. and Andrea L. Vizzarondo  
Andrew Z. Waldman  
Andrew M. Wallach and Peggy Yannas  
Seth Waugh and Sheila Waugh  
Robert A. Wiesen  
Douglas Winter

## \$500 - \$999

Susan Schulz Wuornos  
Yuan Yeh  
Alice M. Young  
Jeffrey L. Zeidman  
Eric Zerof  
Edward Zimmerman  
Michael J. Zimmerman and Barbara Zimmerman  
Suzanne Zywicki  
Emmanuel Ackerman  
Peter Ackerman  
Kenneth G. Adams and Diana N. Adams  
Ruth S. Aledort  
Priscilla Alexander  
Sara E. Alexander  
Susan Aliabadi  
Mark E. Almeida and Theresa Galvin  
William J. Anast  
Rome G. Arnold  
Ann M. Barber  
Barbara T. Bartlett  
Naomi Bayer and Alan Bayer  
Frances Beaty  
Wendy Bellus and Gary Dolan  
Edward R. Benkert  
Rosemary Bennett  
Melvyn H. Bergstein, Esq.  
Sybil Bernstein  
Jason Binn  
Rene B. Blank  
Peter L. Bloom and Janet M. Greenfield  
Esther Bloustein and M. Dana Dratch  
Kevin M. Bollbach  
Nancy Boszhardt  
Stanley Brach  
Peter Braus  
Anne M. Brimberg  
Jane L. Brody  
H. Brooks-Morgan  
Susan Buckley and Lance Sherman  
Nicholas A. Buoniconti and Lynn Buoniconti  
Toni Burbank  
David W. Burgess  
James M. Burnosky and Karen Marie Ryugo  
William Burns and Gail Burns  
Ernest A. Calabrese  
Loretta V. Cangialosi  
James T. Chandler and Elizabeth R. Chandler  
M. Neron Cheng  
Kathy H. Chin and Denny Chin  
Stephen Y. Chiu  
Corey R. Chivers  
Frank Samuel Cicero  
Barbara A. Clark  
Martin Cohen and Michele Cohen  
Richard Corson and Cornelia Corson  
Joan M. Coughlan  
Jason Coulter and Mary C. Devine-Coulter  
Ronald Covelli and Jean M. Covelli  
James Cuomo  
Paul D. Dansker  
Susan W. de Saint Phalle  
Ashley L. Delp  
Kristine Dermody-Nolan  
Chaitanya R. Divgi  
Leon Lee Dorsey and Chesley Y. Maddox-Dorsey  
M. Pat Doudna  
Alan D. Dunkelberger  
Francis Dunleavy  
Robert Dupuy and Edith M. Dupuy  
William L. Edwards and Mary A. Edwards  
Sara Elinson  
Charles H. Erhart, Jr.  
Keith Fairry  
Edward J. Falk  
Kenneth R. Favaro  
Suzanne P. Fawbush  
Michael Fazio

Joanne Ferenczi  
Christopher J. Flament  
Vaughn W. Folkert, M.D.  
David Fondiller  
Alex Fung  
Marion Galison  
David Gamper and Gisela Gamper  
Daniel Gantl  
Paul Gazzero  
Bruce M. Gillam  
James R. Gillespie  
Herbert L. Glaser and Muriel F. Glaser  
Stanley F. Goldfein  
Abbey Goldstein  
Joan G. Goodman  
Shirley R. Gordon  
Dale Grimm  
Jay V. Grimm and Teresa Grimm  
Richard M. Grosbard  
Evelyn R. Gurney  
Scott Hagendorf  
Suzanne H. Hammett  
Jacqueline Hampton  
Jane L. Hamrick  
Gina Harman  
Douglas M. Harter  
Lucy I. Hernandez  
Julie A. Hilt  
Michael Hogan and Marjorie Hogan  
David Holmes and Florence Hutner  
Norma Hymes  
Sarah M. Johnson, M.D.  
Eric Katzman  
Laurie D. Kefalidis  
Ada R. Kennedy  
Lisa M. Kienzle  
Alfred D. Kingsley and Temma Kingsley  
Richard G. Kirikian  
Richard I. Kirkland, Jr. and Virginia Kirkland  
Charles H. Klein  
David J. Klem  
Terri A. Knakal  
Peter Knitzer  
John Koester  
Jonathan Korzen  
Rose G. Kovner  
Christopher Kraus  
Jhumpa Lahiri and Albert Vourvoulas  
Treyton N. Laird and Jennifer W. Laird  
Attilio Vincent LaPietra and Jennifer LaPietra  
Gina A. Lapinski  
Gabrielle Layden  
George M. Leing  
Theodore Levine  
John Levy and Victoria Westhead  
Robert I. Lichterman  
David A. Liebowitz  
Steven Lipin  
J. Bruce Llewellyn  
Ann Lynch and Michael Lynch  
Bruce G. Maasbach  
Jeffrey D. Maggard  
Marjorie Magner  
Sumaiya Malik  
Christopher Mancini and Erika Mancini  
Loring Mandel and Dorothy Mandel  
Frances E. Manzi  
Kayalyn A. Marafioti  
Patricia B. Marino  
Marlene Marko, M.D.  
Jon A. Maroto  
Miss Helen A. Mattin  
Georgene M. Maxwell and Hamish Maxwell  
Nancy A. McAllister and Richard M. Card  
Sharon E. McCaffrey  
Patricia A. McDonough  
Desmond F. McGowan and Catherine A. McGowan  
William D. McIntosh  
Hamilton W. McKay, Jr.  
Mary E. Medina  
Pauline C. Metcalf  
Sheila Metcalf  
Noah Millman

David J. Mirman  
Basil Mitrofanis and Panayiota S. Mitrofanis  
Myrtho Montes  
Robert Scott Morris  
G. F. Mueden  
Duncan Murdoch and Wai Ling Chan  
Madeline L. Nelson  
Maria Nicolo  
Wilma L. Nuetzman  
Jack O'Toole  
Scott D. Oaks  
Michael Offen  
Iris Okun  
James Ooi and Amy R. Yin  
Michael M. Ostrove  
Simon Ozanne  
Helene Parcesepe and Aldo Parcesepe  
Hank Paulson and Wendy J. Paulson  
Thierry Peng  
Susan M. Pikitich  
Barbara Pryor  
Ralph S. Raciti  
M. Leslie Rankow  
Thomas L. Reece and Sandra M. Reece  
Jay L. Remis  
Douglas Renfield-Miller  
Anne Rhodes Lee  
Timothy A. Robert  
Gerard R. Roche  
Sarah Roemer  
Gregory C. Rotz  
Howard J. Rubenstein  
Priscilla A. Rubertone  
David Russell  
Jane Buyers Russo  
Ralene Ruyle  
Pramila Sarva  
Jennifer E. Schneider  
Margaret Schwartz  
Tony Schwartz and Deborah Pines  
Janine Serell  
Clara W. Serra  
Diana S. Seuringer  
Rev. Byron Shafer and Margaret L. Shafer  
Matthew W. Shawl  
Patricia Ellen Shevlin  
Paula Sidewater  
John Siegal  
Kent C. Simons  
David Slaven  
Allen C. Small  
Lindsay M. Smith  
Michelle Lisa Sterling  
Laurie A. Storm and Larry A. Kaagan  
D. Strauber  
Jodi S. Sweetbaum  
Maria D. Tammik and Marc J. Schiller  
Susan A. Tanaka  
Julie Taymor  
Craig Tenney and Nancy Tenney  
Richard Todd  
Clive Tracey  
J. Forrest Tucker  
Mary Ann Tully and Kenneth Tully  
Deian L. Urso  
Leon B. Van Leeuwen  
Elizabeth Van Schilfgarde  
Diane G. Van Wyck  
Nora H. Verrett  
Mary H. Vinton  
Edward E. Walsh  
Barbara L. Westermann  
Phyllis Wiener Buying  
Walter J. Wilke  
Dana Williams  
Patricia Anne Williams  
Graham W. Willoughby  
Josephine Keating Woodward  
Livia S. Yanowicz  
Yvonne R. Young  
Joseph V. Zalner and Judith P. Zalner  
Mark Lloyd Zusy and Amy June Zusy

# From Sink to Nuts, ReStore Has It All

The new Habitat for Humanity – New York City ReStore has everything a landlord or home renovator needs—including the kitchen sink.

And even better, this thrift store for gently used or surplus building materials offers buyers a triple benefit: low prices, quality goods, and an opportunity to benefit both affordable housing and New York City's environment.

**"I always find a bargain here"**  
—George Santis  
ReStore Customer

A collaboration between Habitat-NYC and the Community Environmental Center (CEC), the ReStore receives donations of salvaged, surplus and green building materials, which it sells to the public at prices that are at least half of retail. All proceeds help support Habitat-NYC's mission of creating decent, affordable housing and CEC's Solar One environmental park and learning center on the East River near Stuyvesant Town.

"There's lots of demolition and construction waste in New York City. Much of it is perfectly good material, and we find a useful home for it," explains Justin Green, ReStore's program director.

The ReStore's constantly revolving stock ranges from the ordinary to the unique. If you are in



Photo: Tarche Collins

The Rev. Daniel Rachmat finds ReStore a godsend for supplies to build his church, the City Blessing Church, in Queens.

the market for a 10-foot mahogany French door, a seat from Broadway's now-defunct Henry Miller Theater, a cabinet from the Time-Warner Center's renovation, or simply a surplus can of unused paint, this is the place to come. The store encourages environmentally friendly building and sets aside an area strictly for green materials.

George Santis, a Queens landlord who was buying an Andersen window recently, said he stops by the ReStore almost daily. "I have a couple of buildings and tenants with small children, so just about every day, things break. I buy sinks, stoves, tiles for the bathroom, paint—whatever I can find for the buildings," Santis said. "I always find a bargain here."

Donors rave about the ReStore, too. Cameron Kellock recently tore down a small room in his apartment. He had two quality doors left over, which he stored for two weeks in his bathroom until he could take them to the ReStore. "They were perfectly good, and I'm not going to throw them out. Putting them in the trash would be terrible," he said.

The ReStore's 18,000-square-foot warehouse is located in Astoria, Queens, and easily reached by car. "I tell people, come on by—you won't leave empty-handed, and you'll be back," says Green.

For more information, log on to:  
[www.bignyc.org](http://www.bignyc.org)

**Habitat-NYC ReStore**  
3-17 26th Ave.  
Astoria, Queens  
718-777-0132

Hours: Mon.–Fri. 11 am–6:30 pm  
Sat. 10 am – 5 pm

## Nov. 9 Gala Salutes Habitat-NYC Partners

Honorees include Bloomberg, Bishop Sullivan and the Swindell Family

Join Susan Sarandon and Al Roker as they help Habitat for Humanity - New York City host its 6th Annual Builders Awards Gala on Nov. 9, beginning at 6:30 pm at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue at 112th Street in Manhattan.

This year, Habitat-NYC salutes honoree Bloomberg as Corporate Partner of the Year. Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn will receive the Richard Wong Faith in Action Award, which is newly named in memory of our late colleague, Richard Wong. The Swindell Family will receive our Family Partner of the Year award.

Handymen and other home improvement specialists will offer their expert services as part of a live auction led by Today Show weatherman Al Roker. Celebrities, including actress Susan Sarandon and designer Todd Oldham, will offer special auction prizes.

Bloomberg is being honored for its longtime support of Habitat-NYC through its generous corporate sponsorships and hardworking volunteers.

A powerful advocate for housing and social justice, Bishop Sullivan works hard to ensure that all New Yorkers have a safe, decent place to live.

After putting more than 600 hours of sweat equity into their new Habitat-NYC home in the Bronx, the Swindells hammered the final nail, spackled the last wall and settled into their house in January. They are being honored for their hard work, dedication and determination to overcome personal challenges.

Co-chairs for the gala include Les Bluestone, Blue Sea Development Co., Steven Freiberg, Citi Cards; Shauna Long, Health Plus; Maureen O'Reilly, Chair Emeritus of Habitat-NYC; Doug Paul, Credit Suisse First Boston; Connie Sargent, Vice Chair of Habitat-NYC; Paul Shang, Lehman Brothers; and Seth Waugh, Deutsche Bank Americas.

For tickets or more information:  
call 212-927-2268 or visit our web site at  
[www.habitatnyc.org](http://www.habitatnyc.org) and click on Events.

# 'Power of Unity' Wins Housing Funds

Habitat for Humanity – New York City—with affordable housing coalitions across the city—celebrated a major victory for low-income New Yorkers this spring when Mayor Bloomberg and City Comptroller William Thompson Jr. announced an agreement to use \$130 million in Battery Park City Authority revenues for affordable housing.

The funds will be funneled into a trust fund to build or preserve 4,500 apartments citywide, primarily for the lowest-income New Yorkers. Approval is still needed from Governor Pataki to seal the deal.

Use of the Battery Park City revenues has a long and contentious history. Back in the early 1960s when this Lower Manhattan luxury compound was little more than a twinkle in developers' eyes, then-Mayor Lindsay and Governor Rockefeller pledged that two-thirds of Battery Park City's 15,000 apartments would be affordable.

But by the mid-1980s, as construction began and Lower Manhattan rebounded, the obligation was abandoned and a luxury neighborhood rose.

Over the years, only a smattering of low-cost apartments were built—in Harlem and the Bronx—with rapidly accumulating surplus revenues

from Battery Park City. Pleas from the affordable housing community, beseeching the Authority to invest its surpluses in affordable homes, went unheeded.

**"The homes that rise from these long-pledged funds will stand as a testament to the power of unity."**

That changed last year when coalitions, including leaders from Habitat-NYC, convinced Mayor Bloomberg and Comptroller Thompson to press the Authority to honor its commitment for affordable housing.

The coalitions will continue to monitor Governor Pataki to ensure that he approves this agreement.

"Our Covenant calls for a united effort by all New Yorkers—from our people, to the public, private and non-profit sectors; the faith and business communities; schools and union—to provide decent, affordable homes for all," said Roland Lewis, Executive Director of Habitat-NYC. "The homes that will rise from these long-pledged funds will stand as a testament to the power of unity."

## Habitat-NYC Board of Directors

Les Bluestone, Chair  
The Blue Sea Development Company

Claudia Machaver, Vice Chair  
JPMorgan Chase Bank

Paul Shang, Vice Chair  
Lehman Brothers

Connie Sargent, Vice Chair  
Habitat-NYC

John Kwon, Treasurer  
Duff & Phelps, LCC

Shauna Long, Secretary  
Health Plus

Jennifer Armstrong  
Citigroup

Elaine Dovas  
Keith Fairey  
Enterprise Social Investment Corp.

Rev. Mark Hallinan  
Society of Jesus (Jesuits),  
New York Province

Rachel Hines

Chris Hoeffel  
Bear, Stearns

Karim Hutson  
Genesis Partners Real Property, LLC

Rabbi Bob Kaplan  
New York Center for Community and  
Coalition Building

Roy Miller

Doug Paul  
Credit Suisse First Boston

John Pierce  
Turner Construction

Nia Rock  
Independence Community Bank

Ted Schweitzer  
Tishman Speyer Properties

The Rev. Thomas Synan  
Church of the Heavenly Rest

Julia Taylor  
Platinum Caterers

Dana Williams  
Coldwell Banker Hunt Kennedy

Roland Lewis  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Habitat for Humanity - New York City** transforms lives and our city by uniting all New Yorkers around the cause of decent, affordable housing for everyone.

### Fall 2005 Contributors

**Editor**  
Ann Kone

**Writers**  
Beverly Chevront  
Roland Lewis  
Judith Werner

**Photographers**  
Beverly Chevront  
Tarche Collins

334 Furman Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201  
Ph. 718-246-5656

[www.habitatnyc.org](http://www.habitatnyc.org)

Habitat Times is published by Habitat for Humanity - New York City and is distributed to 20,000 readers throughout the greater New York City metropolitan area.

Founded by Millard and Linda Fuller in 1976, Habitat for Humanity is a Christian organization that welcomes people of all beliefs to join in its mission.