

## ***Partners in Sustainable Building*** **Program Fact Sheet**

*Partners in Sustainable Building* (PSB) is a five-year, national green building program created by Habitat for Humanity International and The Home Depot Foundation. The \$30 million green building program will provide funds and resources over a five-year period to help Habitat affiliates build 5,000 homes that meet Energy Star® guidelines or a nationally recognized green building standard. These features incorporate the use of energy-efficient equipment and water-conserving fixtures and help ensure good indoor air quality.

### **Pilot Program**

- Established pilot program with 30 U.S. Habitat affiliates in April 2008
- Total of 263 sustainable, healthy homes were built in the pilot program; 128 at Energy Star and 135 at Green Building level
- Habitat affiliates were eligible for up to \$2,000 per unit for homes built to meet the Energy Star minimum building standard and could receive an additional \$2,000 per unit if they met higher green building certification standards
- Four Habitat State Support Organizations were awarded a \$100,000 grant to add staff and host training sessions for Habitat affiliates covering techniques of building to regionally and nationally recognized green standards

### **PSB National Expansion**

- 123 Habitat affiliates across 45 states and the District of Columbia were chosen to participate in the national expansion of the PSB program through a competitive grant process; affiliates will be eligible to participate for a second year if they are successful in meeting their building goals; each year the program will be open for new affiliates to apply for grant funding
- Each affiliate will be granted \$3,000 for each home built to Energy Star and up to \$5,000 for each home built to a higher green building standard
- More than 1,500 homes will be built to nationally established green standards in 2009 and 2010
- With the technical support and training that Habitat affiliates receive as a result of this program, Habitat for Humanity affiliates will have the opportunity to impact more than 5,000 families or approximately 17 percent of all Habitat homes built in the United States over the five-year period
- Eight State Support Organizations that support 446 Habitat affiliates in Alabama, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Texas, Virginia and Washington will be awarded a \$100,000 grant to add staff, secure third-party verification of a regionally and/or nationally recognized green building standards, and host training and educational sessions for PSB and non-PSB affiliates

### **Features of Energy Star Plus Homes**

*Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*

- Green built homes commonly use up to 50 percent less energy than their conventional counterparts
- High-efficiency plumbing fixtures and appliances can cut indoor water usage by a third
- Incorporating durable materials reduces maintenance costs over the life of the structure, making homes more livable for longer
- Sustainably designed homes reduce carbon and greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 11 tons per household annually, the equivalent of taking 250 cars off the road