



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KICKOFF SCHEDULED FOR WOMEN BUILD 2015 – A HOUSE BUILT BY WOMEN

SPRINGFIELD, MO, Feb. 27, 2015 — More than 800 female volunteers, including members of Junior League of Springfield, MO (JLS), will team up to build a home for Ms. Dalton, a Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, MO (HFHS) partner homebuyer. A kickoff celebration for this Women Build project will be held Thursday, March 5, from noon – 12:30 p.m. in the HFHS subdivision, Legacy Trails.

The entrance to the subdivision is located at 3839 N. Farm Rd. 143, Springfield, MO 65803; from there, attendees can follow signs to the Women Build site.

Women Build is a Habitat for Humanity program for women who want to learn construction skills and build homes, communities and hope. This program brings together women from all walks of life to address the housing crisis facing millions of women and children worldwide.

JLS's partnership with HFHS in Women Build 2015 is part of JLS's ongoing focus on the prevention of child abuse and neglect in the Springfield area through advocacy, direct service and volunteer time.

"When families with children lack quality long-term housing, an unfortunate product of this instability can be child abuse and neglect," said JLS President Katie Moore. "Home ownership is a powerful tool in improving the lives of our community's children. JLS is proud to partner with Habitat for Humanity in helping a deserving Springfield family to achieve the stability, security and dignity that can come with home ownership."

The kickoff for Women Build 2015 will commemorate the start of construction on Ms. Dalton's home. HFHS staff, JLS volunteers, sponsors and guests will participate in a short celebration and a wall-raising ceremony. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

The Women Build 2015 home will be sold at no profit through a zero-interest loan to a family with two children. Ms. Dalton has already completed 157 volunteer hours toward her required "sweat equity" and a 14-week homeowner preparedness course. Construction of Ms. Dalton's three-bedroom home will begin on Wednesday, March 11.

More than 100 JLS members are expected to volunteer on the build. JLS members will also assist HFHS in recruiting local women and women's groups to help. Volunteers with skill levels ranging from novice to expert will work half-day and full-day shifts between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. each Wednesday through Saturday through May 16.

To volunteer on the Women Build 2015 project, visit the JLS website at www.jlspringfield.org/?nd=WomenBuild and fill out a Volunteer Interest Form. Potential volunteers may also contact Tommy Hawkins, HFHS volunteer coordinator, at tommyhawkins@habitatspringfieldmo.org or (417) 829-4001.

About the Junior League of Springfield

The Junior League of Springfield is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. The Junior League of Springfield reaches out to women of all races, religions and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and a commitment to voluntarism. Its purposes are exclusively educational and charitable.

Since 1959, the Junior League of Springfield has contributed over \$4 million and more than 1.3 million hours of volunteer service to the Springfield community. For more information, please visit the Junior League of Springfield website at www.jlspringfield.org.

About Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, MO

Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, MO (HFHS) believes every person in the Springfield and surrounding area deserves to live in safe, decent, affordable housing. As an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, HFHS impacts more than 70 households a year. Since 1988, HFHS has either built or renovated more than 250 homes, providing shelter for more than 600 men, women and children in Greene County. Learn more, including official word marks and images, at habitatspringfieldmo.org/newsroom or facebook.com/habitatspringfieldmo.

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