

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Habitat for Humanity Idaho Falls Area selected as HUD grant recipient

Idaho Falls, Idaho, June 30, 2011 – Habitat for Humanity Idaho Falls Area has been selected by Habitat for Humanity International to receive a portion of a \$5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Habitat for Humanity International is distributing the grant nationwide to 30 affiliates to support affordable housing and community development. The funding will be awarded under HUD’s Section 4 Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing Program.

“Our Habitat affiliate is fortunate to have been selected for a Capacity Building grant,” said Karen Lansing, executive director of Habitat for Humanity Idaho Falls Area. “The downturn in our economy means there is an increasing number of deserving low-income families in the Idaho Falls area. This grant will fund a new employee and go a long way towards helping our affiliate double our current home building capacity by 2014 and help meet this housing need.”

Habitat affiliates selected to receive a portion of the grant will help rebuild and revitalize neighborhoods and improve the lives of residents by creating affordable housing opportunities through community development. Each affiliate is expected to increase their house production by at least 15 percent over three years and to match their grant funds by a ratio of 4:1. The selected affiliates will also have access to continuing education to enhance their technical and administrative capabilities.

“We are grateful to HUD for supporting our efforts in local communities,” said Jonathan Reckford, chief executive officer of Habitat for Humanity International. “Funding from this grant will leverage private funds to help Habitat affiliates revitalize communities and provide opportunities for families to live in healthy, safe and affordable homes.”

Habitat for Humanity International began receiving HUD grants in 1998. Habitat affiliates have received \$58 million in Section 4 HUD funding since 2003. Nearly 380 affiliates nationwide have benefited from the grants.

About Habitat for Humanity Idaho Falls Area

Habitat for Humanity Idaho Falls Area is an ecumenical, Christian housing ministry that seeks to eliminate poverty housing by partnering with the community to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action in the Idaho Falls area. Habitat for Humanity Idaho Falls Area builds homes for families in the income range of 25% to 50% of the median for the Idaho Falls metropolitan area. Incorporated in 1994, Habitat for Humanity Idaho Falls Area has recently dedicated their twenty-second home. Habitat homes are built with volunteer labor and are sold to deserving Idaho Falls families at zero interest. To maximize affordability, Habitat homes are Energy Star rated. In addition to building locally, Habitat for Humanity Idaho Falls Area tithes 10% of unrestricted funds to build houses in developing countries around the world. To date they have built a total of eleven homes in the countries of Mozambique, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. For more information, or to donate or volunteer, please visit our website www.idahofallshabitat.org.

About Habitat for Humanity International

Habitat for Humanity International is an ecumenical Christian ministry that welcomes to its work all people dedicated to the cause of eliminating poverty housing. Since its founding in 1976, Habitat has built, rehabilitated, repaired or improved 400,000 houses worldwide, providing simple, decent and affordable shelter for more than 2 million people. For more information, or to donate or volunteer, visit www.habitat.org.