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“Extreme Makeover” Open House promotes awareness for homeless community

Classic Homes raised thousands for Habitat for Humanity at “Extreme Makeover” Open House

Poolesville, MD -- Classic Homes raised over \$3000 for Habitat for Humanity at their fundraiser and open house on July 11, 2009 at the Jackson Family's “Extreme Makeover” built home in Poolesville, MD. Classic Homes recently built a free home in five days for the Jackson Family on ABC's TV show "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" in June 2008. The event was not only a celebration of the one year anniversary of the build, but also an opportunity for Classic Homes, a local, community-focused Maryland builder, to raise awareness about the issue of homelessness and the struggles of low-income families, like the Jackson family of 15.

Through the donation of a free home to the Jackson's on “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition”, it is clear that a safe, healthy environment and home life makes a huge impact on the happiness and success of individuals in a family and Classic Homes wanted to continue supporting families in this way. In helping one family, the Jackson's, their lives have already changed. Since the build of their new home, three children from family have graduated from high school, and they all receive good grades and have great attitudes toward life, despite the struggles these children have already faced. Through supporting Habitat for Humanity Classic Homes is allowing other families to have this same success story. Each guest of the “Extreme Makeover” Open House was asked to donate \$5 upon entry to Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County, a non-profit organization that helps build homes for families in need.

Attendees of the open house and fundraiser had the opportunity to meet the Jackson's and the builders of the home. The volunteers, contractors of Classic Homes, and supporters of the build had a chance to meet the Jackson family and share the impact that the experience of giving back to a well deserving family has had on their life. They were able

to tour the home that they helped build and received memorabilia, including a free t-shirt and DVD copy of this extreme makeover episode, to remember this great few days where they helped a family in need.

As a single mother of 15 children, Felicia Jackson was struggling to keep her family intact - the family had no place to live and was on the verge of being placed in foster care. Classic Homes, wanted to help. They teamed up with ABC to build a home for the Jackson Family on the TV show “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition”.

This episode of the show aired on September 28th, 2008 as the two-hour season premiere episode. Four years ago, Felicia Jackson made a promise on her sister's deathbed to keep all 10 of her nieces and nephews together. With that one act of kindness in 2004, Felicia went from being the mother of 4 to a single mother of 14. Felicia has been supporting all 14 children by working as a security guard at a mall. Unable to afford and find permanent housing, this family of 15 had been living in a hotel since December 2008. Felicia was told that if she didn't find appropriate housing soon, she would have to split the children up within the foster care system. With the community behind her story and fight for self-sufficiency, the community deeded her a piece of land with a small 5 bedroom house that was unlivable and in need of major repairs. Felicia could not afford these renovations since she was raising and taking care of 14 growing children ranging in age from 4 to 18. Classic Homes of Maryland heard her story and offered to build her a new “extreme home”, removing the old one altogether.

Classic Homes built the Maryland home for Ms. Felicia Jackson and her family in four days with the help of their partners, vendors, subcontractors, and hundreds of volunteers. The colonial red brick home required the labor of 30 bricklayers working simultaneously laying each brick by hand. Classic Homes' 60 or so framers worked through the day and night and framed the entire home ahead of schedule - in less than one day. The crowds cheered as the roof was laid on top by huge machinery.

Classic Homes will continue to partner with habitat for humanity and support families in need of a home.

About Classic Homes of Maryland

Classic Homes of Maryland, based in Rockville, Maryland, builds affordable, high-quality homes on its customers land. Customers choose from a wide variety of home designs, finding a plan that is the perfect fit for their lot and their lifestyle. For more information, visit www.classicmd.net or call 301-251-2001.

About ABC-TVs “*Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*”

“Extreme Makeover: Home Edition,” which has won back-to-back Emmy Awards as Best Reality Program (non-competitive), is entering its 6th season on ABC. The program is produced by Endemol USA, a division of Endemol Holding. Anthony Dominici is the executive producer; and David Goldberg is the president of Endemol USA.