



## Habitat for Humanity of Orange County

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 7, 2009

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## Habitat for Humanity International CEO to raise and sign walls for Orange County Home

*"Gordon's House"-- in Memory of Gordon Yeaton--to be Framed at Episcopal Convention in Anaheim*

**Anaheim, Calif.** - Habitat for Humanity International CEO Jonathan Reckford will join the bishops of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles and the Yeaton family at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 9, 2009, at the Anaheim Convention Center Arena to raise the first walls for *Gordon's House*, a home being built to honor the memory of the Reverend Canon Gordon B. Yeaton, Jr., an Episcopal priest, Habitat for Humanity of Orange County board member, teacher, volunteer and activist who died in 2007.

After the walls have been raised, Reckford and the bishops will sign messages of welcome and hope for the family who will purchase that home, and Dr. Henry "Nick" Nicholas will present a check from the Henry T. Nicholas, III Foundation in the amount of \$100,000 for the *Gordon's House* project.

On July 12, the house frames will be moved from the Anaheim Convention Center to the home's permanent location in Westminster, CA.

The home is the result of a partnership between Habitat for Humanity of Orange County and the Los Angeles Diocese of the Episcopal Church, and will be framed in the Anaheim Convention Center Arena on July 9, 10 and 11, 2009.

The bishops present for the wall-raising and signing will be the Right Rev. J. Jon Bruno, bishop diocesan of the six-county Diocese of Los Angeles; the Right Rev. Chester L. Talton, bishop suffragan (assistant);

and the Right Rev. Sergio Carranza, bishop assistant. Bishop Bruno will also bless the first walls for *Gordon's House*.

For additional background about *Gordon's House*, contact Project Coordinator the Rev. Michael Archer at (714) 962-7512; Robert Williams, canon for community relations in the L.A. Diocese at (213) 482-2040, ext. 240; or visit [www.active.com/donate/gordonshouse](http://www.active.com/donate/gordonshouse).

For additional information about Jonathan Reckford, CEO, Habitat for Humanity International in Atlanta, GA, please contact Gladys Hernandez (714) 434-6200 x229 or [gladys@habitatoc.org](mailto:gladys@habitatoc.org).

### **Gordon's House Timeline/Photo & Interview Opportunities**

#### **Anaheim Convention Center, Arena**

Wednesday, July 8	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Homebuilding materials arrive, volunteer training and start of window and door components.
Thursday, July 9	8:00 a.m. – noon 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. 3:30 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.	Volunteer crew leader training Volunteers begin to pre-build walls Yeaton family builds first walls for <i>Gordon's House</i> . <u>Wall raising/wall signing:</u> Habitat for Humanity International CEO Jonathan Reckford joins the bishops of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles as the Yeaton family raises the first walls for <i>Gordon's House</i> . Reckford, the bishops and the Yeatons then sign the walls with messages of hope and welcome for the family who will purchase the home. Bishop Bruno will bless the walls. <u>Check presentation:</u> Dr. Henry "Nick" Nicholas presents a check for \$100,000 for <i>Gordon's House</i> .
Friday, July 10	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Volunteers build and raise first and second story walls for <i>Gordon's House</i> .
Saturday, July 11	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Episcopal youth and adult volunteers finish building and standing first and second story walls for <i>Gordon's House</i> . Episcopal youth assemble and paint miniature houses and create a village for them, and build raised planter boxes.
Sunday, July 12		House frames are loaded onto a truck and moved to homebuilding site in Westminster.

Wednesday, July 15 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Convention volunteers spend the day building a Habitat for Humanity home in Fullerton.

Thursday, July 16 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Convention volunteers spend the day building a Habitat for Humanity home in Yorba Linda.

#### **Anaheim Marriott Hotel**

Thursday, July 9 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Habitat for Humanity International CEO Jonathan Reckford speaks to a group of Episcopal youth and adults.

**Note to Media:** All attending media must register online for credentials at:

[http://www.episcopalchurch.org/newsline\\_86252\\_ENG\\_HTML.htm](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/newsline_86252_ENG_HTML.htm).

#### **About Habitat for Humanity of Orange County**

*Celebrating 21 years of changing lives and changing communities in Orange County.*

#### **130 houses built in Orange County**

Habitat for Humanity of Orange County, headquartered in Santa Ana, CA, is dedicated to ending substandard housing and building strong communities in Orange County. Habitat uses non-government donations of funding, materials, professional services and volunteer labor to build simple, decent homes which are sold to qualified low-income families for a 1% down payment, closing costs, and a long-term mortgage. Mortgage payments are recycled to build more Habitat homes. Habitat families contribute 500 hours of "sweat equity" to the program by building their own home, helping another Habitat family build a home, or working in some other area of the Habitat organization. Habitat for Humanity families and volunteers have built 130 homes in Orange County since 1988, and are currently building eight homes in San Juan Capistrano, three homes in Yorba Linda, and two homes in Fullerton.

#### **300,000 houses built worldwide**

Habitat for Humanity of Orange County is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, an ecumenical Christian housing ministry that welcomes to its work all people dedicated to the cause of eliminating poverty housing. Since its founding in 1976, Habitat International has built more than 300,000 houses worldwide, providing simple, decent and affordable shelter for more than 1.5 million people. Habitat for Humanity International is currently the 10<sup>th</sup> largest homebuilder in the United States, according to [Builder OnLine](#) magazine.

#### **About the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles and Congregations in Orange County**

The Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles unites some 70,000 Episcopalians in 147 neighborhood congregations, some 40 schools and 20 other specialized service institutions located in six Southern California counties.

With 22 congregations in Orange County, the Diocese is historically one of the five most populous and culturally diverse of the Episcopal Church's 110 dioceses located in 16 nations and territories. The Rt. Rev. J. Jon Bruno is bishop of the Diocese, which is currently focusing on the mission theme "Faith & Our Future."

#### **About General Convention**

The Episcopal Church's General Convention, held every three years, is the bicameral governing body of the church. General Convention, the second largest legislative body in the world, is comprised of the House of Bishops, with upwards of 200 members, and the House of Deputies, with clergy and lay representatives from the 110 dioceses, with approximately 850 members. For more information, call Neva Rae Fox, Public Affairs Officer at (212) 716-6080 or visit [www.episcopalchurch.org](http://www.episcopalchurch.org).

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