

fact SHEET

**More than
450 homes
within the
United
States have
already
been built
by women
crews.**



The Women Build program has been established by Habitat for Humanity International to encourage the involvement of women in the construction of Habitat homes.

Women crews have already built more than 450 Habitat for Humanity houses within the United States, and they are now building in more than a dozen other countries. Women Build projects provide an environment in which women can feel comfortable

learning skills they might not otherwise have the opportunity to learn.

Women Build is not about excluding men;

it is about including women. The Women Build program enables women to discover for themselves that they can build Habitat homes.

The Women Build program enables women to discover for themselves that they can build Habitat homes.

Women Build brings together women from all walks of life to actively address the problem of children in poverty by building Habitat for Humanity houses. Safe, decent housing is critical to a child's health and development, yet children are the

In the U.S. alone, more than 12 million children—one out of every six—live in poverty.

single largest age group living in poverty. In the United States alone, more than 12 million children—one out of every six—live in poverty.

The need is great, but it can be met. Women can be part of the solution—one house, one family at a time. Women Build challenges and empowers women to build safe, healthy housing where children can flourish and grow to be all that they can be. Throughout the United States and around the world, women are positively impacting the future of children by making homeownership a present reality for families.

Women make up 50 percent of Habitat's volunteer force; yet often because of lack of training, they account for less than 15 percent of workers on the construction site. Nationally, more than 60 percent of Habitat for Humanity's houses are built with women heads of household. These women are often dependent upon the goodwill of neighbors, friends and relatives for even minor repairs. By receiving training as part of the build, they are better equipped to maintain their homes and, consequently, are more confident in their ability to cope with day-to-day situations.

**Women make up 50 percent of
Habitat's volunteer force...**

Lowe's, a Fortune 100 company with more than 58 years in the business of home improvement, is the 2004 national underwriter of the Women Build program and, with their support, Women Build houses will be built throughout the nation. Lowe's is also expanding much-needed training opportunities for women by offering workshops at Lowe's stores, where women volunteers and women homeowners will be able to participate in skills workshops, gaining hands-on experience in basic construction techniques.

The Women Build program is expanding internationally with women crews building houses in Australia, Chile, Costa Rica, Ghana, Kenya, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, the Philippines, Portugal, South Africa, South Korea, Tanzania, Thailand and Uganda.

While women building together offers tremendous empowerment, the benefits go beyond the individuals to transform the lives of families and their communities.

For further information about the Women Build program, please call the Women Build department of Habitat for Humanity International at (229) 924-6935, Ext. 2700.



We're Redefining Home Making

Habitat for Humanity® International

Habitat for Humanity International • Women Build department
121 Habitat St. • Americus, GA 31709-3498 • (229) 924-6935, Ext. 2700
www.habitat.org/wb

Lowe's is the national underwriter of the Women Build program.