

BENEFIT HOMES PROJECT PRESENTS FUNDS TO CHARITIES

Houston, TX – January 21, 2009 - For 28 years, the Greater Houston Builders Association Benefit Homes Project has dedicated the majority of proceeds from the sale of two homes each year to charity. For over 17 years Texas Children's Hospital and the Alzheimer's Association have received funds from the Project. The Benefit Homes Project recently added HomeAid Houston as a third charity to also benefit.

Three checks in the amount of \$85,181 each, were presented to representatives from the charities at the recent January 2009 Forecast Luncheon at the Westin Galleria. This annual GHBA event was attended by over 1,000 guests who came to hear the housing forecast for 2009 by Mike Inselmann, president of Metrostudy.

Don Klein, chairman of the Benefit Homes Project; Brian Binash, past president of the GHBA; Al Brende, president of Land Tejas, and Peter Houghton, vice president of sales for Bridgeland presented the checks to: Richard Elbein, CEO of the Alzheimer's Association, Bette Moser, executive director of HomeAid and Kelly Clibur, development director for Texas Children's Cancer Center.

Wilshire Homes was one of the two builder captains. Wilshire constructed their 2-story Arlington Plan in Bridgeland. General Growth Properties donated the homesite. The Arlington, as it was constructed for the Benefit Homes Project, includes the optional upgrade brick and stone elevation, a media room and additional square footage in the game room upstairs. The master suite is located on the first floor. There is a two-story family room and a resource center and a study are also featured on the first floor. This Benefit Home also includes a 3 car tandem garage. The Arlington will provide plenty of room and options for the Fordans, the homebuyers.

The home was built with donations by dozens of companies including: ACME Brick, American Fire Place, AHI, All-Texas Fence, Alamo Stone, BMC West, Boeker Countertops, Brighton Tile, Inc., Builders First Source, Captial Air & Heating, Champion Columns & Shutters, Chicago Title, Coamerica Bank, Energy Sense, Fashion Glass, GS

Roofing, Garage Door Services, Home Team Pest Defense, the *Houston Chronicle*, Image Setters, Master Brand Cabinets, Maintenance Builders Supply, Monarch Paint Co., Pinnacle Plumbing, Qualified Inspection Services, RBC Builder Finance, RC Signs, Royal Baths, Scholl Forest Ind., Seybro Door & Weatherstrip, Suncoast, Swartz Electric, Villarreal Drywall, Whirlpool, Weyerhaeuser, Wisenbaker, and Builder Services.

The second home was built by Chesmar Homes. Chesmar Home constructed their Venetian Plan in the community of Sterling Lakes. Land Tejas donated the homesite. Chesmar's Venetian Plan, a 2692 sq. ft one story design includes 4 bedrooms with a study/den option, 3 full baths, a dramatic oval foyer, a formal dining room, large family room and an open style kitchen with a breakfast room. The master bedroom includes his and her closets. The utility room is designed with convenient freezer space. This home also features rounded sheetrock corners, crown molding, granite in the kitchen and Electrolux appliances. The home includes a 3-car garage and an oversized rear patio. The homebuyers Brenton and Amanda Snyder enjoy the convenient location to their jobs in the Medical Center.

Just a few of the vendors who donated materials and services to the home's construction included: Builders Post Tension, Electrolux, Montoya Perez Construction, Jose Garza Framing, Safari Design Scapes, Allpoints, Ciro Cueller, Hurricane Construction, Narciso Arizpe, Wesson Sand, Gulf Coast Trees, Slabworks, Blue Hammer, Sirena Cavillo, Williams Contractor Services, Westwood Fence, W.R. Watson, The Ark Concrete Specialties, Summit Stucco and Stone, Stock Building Supply, Seybro Door and Weatherstrip, Royal Baths, RBC Builder Finance, R&R Tile, Quality Cabinets, PV Roofing and Houston Stafford Electric

“It was so rewarding to hand the checks to all three charities at the same venue and before the 1,000 Forecast Luncheon guests,” said Don Klein. “Many of the vendors who made the construction of these homes possible were on-hand to share in the presentation.”

For the past twenty-eight years, members of the GHBA have made the annual Project a success by donating hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of products and services to help in the construction of two homes. The homes are unique because they include upgrades and amenities not always offered in homes with similar pricing. Since the Project began, over \$5 million has been raised.

For more information on the Benefit Homes Project, contact the Greater Houston Builders Association at 281-970-8970 ext. 110.