



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Habitat for Humanity's Holds Hearts & Hammers Gala February 26**

*Fundraiser to benefit Habitat home builds in the Salem, Keizer, Polk County and Stayton Areas*

**Habitat for Humanity's Annual Hearts & Hammers Gala**

**Saturday, February 26, 2011 – 6 pm**

**Willamette Valley Vineyards (8800 Enchanted Way SE Turner, OR)**

**Salem, Oregon, January 12, 2011** — On Saturday, February 26, Habitat for Humanity of the Mid-Willamette Valley will hold its third annual **Hearts & Hammers Gala** to support Habitat programming within Salem and its surrounding communities. Presented by SELCO Community Credit Union and Ticor Title, the **Hearts & Hammers Gala** will feature wine, hors d'oeuvres, a catered dinner, and silent and live auctions to support Habitat's mission to eliminate poverty housing by building decent, affordable housing in partnership with hardworking local families in need.

Held at Willamette Valley Vineyards, this year's Hearts & Hammers Gala, "*Home is Where the Heart is,*" features a wide array of unique auction items sure to appeal to a variety of interests. Sweets enthusiasts may enjoy the decadent dessert auction by Extreme Chocolates, couples may want to bid on getaway packages to Ashland and Newport, and adventure seekers can win a tour Oregon Ballistics Factory or flight lessons with Graham Aviation. All proceeds go directly to local Habitat home builds.

**Purchasing Event Tickets**

Cost to attend the event, which will be held from 6 to 10 pm, is \$45 a person; RSVPs can be made by calling (503) 364-6642, in person at the Habitat office (1220 12<sup>th</sup> St. SE, Salem) or online at [www.salemhabitat.org](http://www.salemhabitat.org). Price includes entry to the event, wine, hors d'oeuvres, and a catered dinner.

**Guests are asked to reserve their tickets by Friday, February 11, 2011.**

**About The Cause**

You've heard the adage "*Home is where the heart is,*" but does the saying resonate with you? For families who've partnered with Habitat for Humanity on their path to homeownership, home is not only where the heart is, but where their sweat, tears and pride are as well. Their Habitat home is a gathering place for family and friends; a comforting sanctuary from life's daily challenges; a safe place for children to learn, play and grow – a powerful source of hope for a more promising tomorrow. The reality remains that families throughout the Mid-Willamette Valley live without a safe, healthy or affordable place to call home. They may not live next door, but they are still our neighbors.

Habitat for Humanity of the Mid-Willamette Valley works to eliminate this issue in our area. Working in partnership with hardworking families in need to build their homes and teach homeownership and maintenance skills. Support for builds and programs come from grants and sponsors and fundraising events such as our **Hearts & Hammers Gala**.

For more information on this event or the programs of Habitat for Humanity of the Mid-Willamette Valley, visit [www.salemhabitat.org](http://www.salemhabitat.org) or call (503) 364-6642.

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Habitat for Humanity of the Mid-Willamette Valley has been serving the community since 1991, working in concert with volunteers, donors, and partner families to build decent, affordable homes in Salem, Keizer, Polk County and the greater Stayton area. To date, Habitat for Humanity of the Mid-Willamette Valley has built more than 75 homes, housing more than 300 individuals— including over 200 children.

Habitat for Humanity is a worldwide, grass-roots movement. There are more than 2,100 active affiliates in 100 countries, including all 50 states of the United States, the District of Columbia, Guam and Puerto Rico.

**For more information or images**, please contact Meghan Rutledge at (503) 364-6642, ext. 103, or by email at [marketing@salemhabitat.org](mailto:marketing@salemhabitat.org)