



## MEDIA CONTACT:

Abby Glenn, Development Associate  
Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, Missouri  
(417) 829-4001 x109  
(913) 522-9876 (cell)  
[abby@habitatspringfieldmo.org](mailto:abby@habitatspringfieldmo.org)

### News Release

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## Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, MO starts 2017 by rehabbing a 2-bedroom home for the Duke Family: home kickoff celebration held Wednesday

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – The first project on Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, MO's (HFHS) project list of 2017 is a home rehab for the Duke Family. To celebrate the start of the rehab, a kickoff celebration will be held Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

"Our partner homebuyers become part of our family as soon as they fill out an application to be a Habitat partner," said Larry Peterson, executive director of HFHS. "We are thrilled the Duke Family will be able to own a home for the first time because of their dedication to Habitat."

The Duke Family home was donated by a private donor which allows Habitat homeowners to live in an established neighborhood. The home rehab will primarily focus on improving the home's energy efficiency and layout to maximize usability. Funds for the rehab were provided by grants from Bank of America and U.S. Bank.

The Duke Family applied to the HFHS homebuying program in August 2016 with the dream to finally own a home of their own. "Homeownership has always been a dream of mine, but being on a fixed income has made it out of reach for me," said Ms. Duke. "With a program like Habitat, my dream could come true."

Once the home is rehabbed, and the required "sweat-equity" and Tools for Life homeowner education courses are complete, the Duke Family will purchase the Habitat home with a 0% interest, 20-year loan.

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### About Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, Missouri

Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, Missouri (HFHS) believes every person in the Springfield and surrounding area deserves a decent place to live. As an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, HFHS impacts more than 130 households a year. Since 1988, HFHS has either built or renovated more than 490 homes, providing shelter for more than 998 men, women and children from Greene, Christian, and Webster Counties by helping people gain strength, stability and independence through housing, including home construction, rehabilitation and repairs and by increasing access to improved shelter through products and programs. HFHS is a United Way of the Ozarks partner agency. Learn more, including official word marks and images, at [habitatspringfieldmo.org/newsroom](http://habitatspringfieldmo.org/newsroom) or at [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).

2410 S. Scenic, Springfield, MO 65807 | 417-829-4001 | [www.habitatspringfieldmo.org](http://www.habitatspringfieldmo.org)