



## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Habitat for Humanity Affiliates Merge to Provide More Families with Affordable Housing Brooks District, Calgary, Medicine Hat and Mountain View Affiliates now Habitat for Humanity Southern Alberta**

CALGARY, AB, January 4, 2012 – In order to increase the level of support that Habitat for Humanity is able to provide in several Alberta communities, the organization's Brooks District, Calgary, Medicine Hat and Mountain View affiliates have undergone a formal merger, following approval by all affiliates' board of directors. Effective **January 1, 2012**, the four affiliates combined resources and staff under the new name **Habitat for Humanity Southern Alberta**.

"Partnering with Habitat for Humanity becomes a life-altering event for a family, providing security, stability and a more promising future for generations to come," says Leslie Tamagi, President & CEO, Habitat for Humanity Southern Alberta. "Now, we will be able to partner with more communities, build more homes and ultimately serve more families."

The decision to merge was reached after months of discussion and due diligence, following which the four affiliates concluded that by streamlining operations and consolidating expenses, they would be able to have a greater impact in the region. Ultimately, this will mean that more low-income Southern Alberta families will have the opportunity to receive the hand-up of a home they can afford.

With the merger, administrative resources are being centralized out of the Calgary office. The intent is to have a Habitat for Humanity Chapter in each of Brooks, Mountain View, and Medicine Hat, which will continue to be run by local volunteers and conduct activities such as fundraising, volunteer engagement, and partner family recruitment and support locally. With greater operational efficiencies, volunteers and staff will be able to devote more time and effort to addressing housing need in each of these regions of Southern Alberta.

"In the past we have witnessed great things when our affiliates partner and collaborate," said Stewart Hardacre, President & CEO of Habitat for Humanity Canada. "And with the affordable housing crisis that is facing our nation, as an organization we must be determined to do everything we can that will lead to more low-income families realizing a safe and decent home they can afford."

By consolidating resources and operational activities, the new affiliate can better leverage shared resources, ultimately enabling the organization to deliver more homes and more hope to local families in need of safe, decent and affordable housing. It is a wonderful opportunity to improve upon the already great work of Habitat for Humanity.

For more information, visit [www.habitatsouthernab.ca](http://www.habitatsouthernab.ca).

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**About Habitat for Humanity Southern Alberta**

Habitat for Humanity Southern Alberta is a non-profit organization working for a world where everyone has a safe and decent place to live. Our mission is to mobilize volunteers and community partners in building affordable housing and promoting homeownership as a means to breaking the cycle of poverty. Consisting of Chapter affiliates from Brooks, Calgary, Medicine Hat, and Mountain View, Habitat Southern Alberta is a member of Habitat for Humanity Canada, and part of a worldwide network that spans 93 countries, which has built over 500,000 homes. Locally, Habitat for Humanity Southern Alberta has served more than 130 families, building more than 130 homes.

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