



PRESS RELEASE

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HABITAT FOR HUMANITY COMPLETES POPE FRANCIS HOUSE FOR THE MCCOY FAMILY

Community leaders, supporters, and volunteers gather to celebrate a home dedication and the completion of the Pope Francis House and the Indian Lane Project.

Sacramento, Calif. (September 26, 2015) –Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento, along with community leaders, supporters, homeowner families and friends, will celebrate the completion of the two homes for the McCoy and Yang/Vang Families on Indian Lane with a special dedication ceremony in Sacramento on Saturday, September 26th at 10:00am.

The McCoy family's new; 3-bedroom home was made possible after an anonymous individual contacted Habitat wanting to donate \$60,000 to build a home in honor of Pope Francis. The donor, who still wants to remain anonymous, wished to engage the local Catholic community by challenging local Catholic churches, schools, individuals, and organizations to raise the additional needed \$15,000 in sponsorship dollars to build the home (it costs \$75,000 to sponsor a Habitat home in Sacramento.)

The donor stated the purpose of the house was threefold:

- To honor Pope Francis and his commitment to social justice & reinvigorating the Catholic Church;
- To provide a unifying, celebratory opportunity for both Catholic and non-Catholic volunteers to work together towards a common goal (as Pope Francis says, "Work confers dignity."); and
- To further Habitat's mission of building and preserving homes

In the months that followed, volunteers and donations for the project came in from all areas of the local Sacramento Catholic community. Individuals and teams from local Knights of Columbus Chapters, Cristo Rey High School, St. Francis High School, Christian Brothers High School, Jesuit High School, the Newman Catholic Community, Divine Savior Church, Emerson College, and numerous organizations came out to lend a hand in the building of the Pope Francis House. Meanwhile, matching donations to provide the seed money to build the Pope Francis House came from the Catholic Diocese of Sacramento, Bishop Soto, Thrivent Choice Donors, individual donations from the local Catholic Community, Emerson Catholic Ministry, and Knights of Columbus Councils #7241, #13672, and #13518.

The completion of the Pope Francis House for the McCoy family also marks the completion of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento's largest project in 30 years. The ambitious 14-home Indian Lane Development is a first of its kind development for Sacramento County with its inclusion of affordable housing, Platinum LEED building, and being a Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) through its proximity to the Florin Road Light Rail Station.

"It takes a community to build a community," said Anne Gambino, CFO for Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento. "Indian Lane is such an incredible example of what can happen when people come together."

Says Denise McCoy, a single mother with two daughters, “When I received my home assignment on Indian Lane, I took a jar and put some dirt into it from the empty lot and took it home to my daughters and told them – this is part of our new home. We look at it every day.”

Denise McCoy and the Yang/Vang family, who will also be receiving their home on September 26th, both put in 500 hours of sweat equity building their home alongside volunteers and will take on a 0% interest, 30 year mortgage. Their homes will be Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento’s 128th and 129th completed homes in Sacramento and Yolo County.

The dedication ceremony is open to the public and will be held on Saturday, September 26th at 10:00am at 7114 Indian Lane Sacramento, CA 95822.

For more information about Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento and how to get involved, contact Laine Himmelmann at LHimmelmann@habitatgreatersac.org or (916) 440-1215 ext. 1108

#PopeFrancisHouse

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About Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento: Celebrating more than 30 years of building hope and homes in Sacramento and Yolo County, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento builds homes and community in partnership with thousands of annual volunteers, hard-working families, donors, civic leaders, and engaged community members. Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento has built 129 homes in Sacramento and Yolo County. Those interested in supporting our work or volunteering can find more information on our website: www.habitatgreatersac.org or can follow us on facebook at [Facebook.com/HabitatGreaterSac](https://www.facebook.com/HabitatGreaterSac) , Twitter [@SacHabitat](https://twitter.com/SacHabitat) , and Instagram [@SacHabitat](https://www.instagram.com/SacHabitat).