



PR Contact: Vanessa DiStefano
(vdistefa@purdue.edu)

News Release

New Habitat ReStore Hammers Home Savings for Chicagoland Homeowners

ADDISON, Ill. (July 27, 2011) – Crowds of eager homeowners parked outside the new DuPage Habitat for Humanity ReStore in northwest suburban Addison early Saturday morning, hoping to be among the first shoppers to uncover Chicagoland's newest best kept secret in home improvement.

For the past 18 months, DuPage Habitat for Humanity has worked with the community, volunteers, and staff members to design, develop, and operate DuPage County's first ReStore. ReStore accepts donated new and gently used household and construction materials that are cleaned and then sold to the public at greatly reduced prices. All profits from ReStore sales fund the DuPage Habitat mission to build affordable housing throughout DuPage County.

Soon-to-be DuPage Habitat homeowner, Felicia Gibson, was among the guest speakers at Saturday's ribbon cutting ceremony in Addison. After growing up in Englewood, Gibson has been determined to give her children a better life. In the coming year, DuPage Habitat for Humanity will be able to give Gibson a hand up to homeownership in Naperville, where she will live with her son and daughter.

"DuPage Habitat is giving me such an opportunity, so I will be telling everyone to come out and shop at ReStore to help support other families," said Gibson. "I am volunteering here myself, so I can tell everyone first-hand how great this is."

After slicing her portion of the ReStore ribbon, Gibson marched to the door with the first DuPage Habitat ReStore shoppers. ReStore Manager, Jim Fessler, lined up next to her to unlock the door to savings for many Chicagoland shoppers.

"I work in construction and am always looking for new tools and materials for a good price," commented Mike Anelli, a local contractor. "I can use all of the tools and shelving I bought today to finish remodeling my own home and to use on other jobs."

Anelli was the first homeowner through the ReStore doors on Saturday. After loading up two carts full of ReStore bargains, Anelli exited a satisfied customer. He later returned that afternoon to make yet another purchase.

Typical items found in the ReStore include appliances, cabinets, countertops, doors, electrical supplies, plumbing, lumber (6' or longer), hardware, tools, lighting and wooden furniture. These items are donated by the public, retailers, manufacturers, distributors and contractors throughout DuPage County and the Chicagoland area. It is the perfect place for DIYers and homeowners on a budget to find affordable items to finish remodeling projects or start new ones.

The ReStore is located at 869 South Rohlwing Rd. in Addison, just two blocks north of North Avenue and Route 53. Hours of operation are Thursday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Donations are also accepted during this time.

DuPage Habitat for Humanity offers a pick-up service for large donations – please contact Jim Fessler at 630-510-3737 ext. 6 or e-mail restore@dupagehabitat.org to schedule. In addition to helping to reuse and recycle, donations of materials and equipment are tax deductible.

For a complete media kit, please visit <http://www.dupagehabitat.org/aboutUs/downloads.aspx>

About DuPage Habitat for Humanity

DuPage Habitat for Humanity is a locally run affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International®, a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing organization. DuPage Habitat serves DuPage County and works in partnership with people to build affordable housing using donated materials and volunteer labor. For more information, please visit <http://www.dupagehabitat.org>.

###