



HGTV ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF ITS 'CHANGE THE WORLD. START AT HOME' ONLINE CONTEST

Knoxville, Tenn. [For Immediate Release—March 16, 2009] Voters have chosen veterans' group homes, Windsor Transitional House in **St. Louis, Mo.**, and the facility located on Romain Street in **Philadelphia, Pa.**, as the winners of the 2009 *HGTV Change the World. Start at Home* community revitalization and environmental awareness initiative. From among eight historic veterans' group homes in markets across the U.S., the two winning sites were selected via online vote held at the campaign's Web site, HGTV.com/changetheworld. The selected facilities will be featured in an HGTV special in October 2009. For the projects not chosen by popular vote, HGTV will contribute \$5,000 to facilities in need of renovations - to make them more energy efficient and enjoyable to residents.

This year's campaign offers new opportunities for Americans to get engaged in volunteer community projects. In partnership with Rebuilding Together, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), HGTV will encourage local volunteers to come together and complete the renovations at the two selected sites, as well as in communities across the country.

The Windsor Transitional House in St. Louis, a 104-year-old home that houses veterans as they transition back to civilian life, will be renovated to improve energy efficiency. New windows and doors, new insulation, as well as kitchen and electrical upgrades will be installed. The two-story, four-bedroom home also will receive a new back porch so residents have a place to relax. In Philadelphia, the three-bedroom facility located on Romain Street in the historic Frankford District, provides veterans with food, shelter and employment assistance after concluding military service. The 70-year-old home will receive a kitchen remodel and new appliances, insulation, windows and renovations to a bathroom that will improve accessibility for disabled veterans.

"The *HGTV Change the World. Start at Home* campaign helps those in need live better lives and, as a result, builds stronger communities," said Jim Samples, president, HGTV. "We look forward to having volunteers come out and lend their support."

Visitors to HGTV.com/changetheworld can nominate someone that 'changed the world' in their neighborhood. Each month beginning in January 2009, a *HGTV Change the World Community Crusader* will be selected and highlighted on the campaign Web site. The site also will offer information on local volunteer opportunities, eco-friendly content, quizzes, blogs, social networking, and open forums that allow users to upload stories, photos and videos.

As part of the environmental awareness phase of the campaign, the network will air the *HGTV Change the World. Start at Home* 'Green Living at Home' public service announcements beginning on Earth Day, April 21. The PSAs will feature HGTV craftsman and green expert Carter Oosterhouse and offer simple ways to go green at home.

About HGTV

HGTV, America's leader in home and lifestyle programming, is distributed to more than 97 million U.S. households and is one of cable's top-rated networks. HGTV's website, HGTV.com, is the nation's leading online home-and-garden destination that attracts an average of 5 million unique visitors per month.

About Rebuilding Together:

Rebuilding Together is the nation's largest nonprofit organization working to preserve affordable homeownership and revitalize neighborhoods by providing home repair and renovation services free of charge to those in need. Through the support of corporate sponsors, local businesses and the hands-on work of over 200,000 volunteers led by more than 200 affiliates, Rebuilding Together renovates and repairs nearly 10,000 homes and nonprofit facilities annually with a market value of nearly \$100 million.

In addition to its core home repair work, Rebuilding Together renovates community centers and conducts home modification and repair programs that focus on elder home safety, energy efficiency, veterans housing, and gulf coast recovery.

For more information, visit www.RebuildingTogether.org

Media Contact: BCarter@rebuildingtogether.org (202) 518-3500

About The National Trust for Historic Preservation

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a non-profit membership organization bringing people together to protect, enhance and enjoy the places that matter to them. By saving the places where great moments from history – and the important moments of everyday life – took place, the National Trust for Historic Preservation helps revitalize neighborhoods and communities, spark economic development and promote environmental sustainability. With headquarters in Washington, DC, six regional offices, 29 historic sites, and partner organizations in all 50 states, the National Trust for Historic Preservation provides leadership, education, advocacy and resources to a national network of people, organizations and local communities committed to saving places, connecting us to our history and collectively shaping the future of America's stories. For more information visit www.PreservationNation.org.

About The Natural Resources Defense Council

The Natural Resources Defense Council is a national, nonprofit organization of scientists, lawyers and environmental specialists dedicated to protecting protect people, the places they live, and the natural resources they depend on. Founded in 1970, with offices in offices in

New York, Washington, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Beijing, NRDC has the support of 1.2 million members and online activists who help ensure a safe and healthy environment for all living things. For more information visit www.nrdc.org or NRDC's [green living site www.simplesteps.org](http://www.simplesteps.org).

###

Contacts:

Lynne Davis

HGTV

212-549-8612 / ldavis@hgtv.com

Vicki Louie

Dera, Roslan & Campion Public Relations

212-966-4600 / Victoria@drepublicrelations.com