



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact

Amy L. Gates
Vice President, Habitat of West Bay & Northern RI
401-732-6407
amy@habitatwestbay.org

Artists and entertainers' Hurricane Harvey Relief telethon to support Habitat for Humanity's recovery efforts

Funds raised during "Hand In Hand: A Benefit for Hurricane Harvey Relief Telethon" will help Habitat assist more families to repair or rebuild their homes

Warwick, RI September 6, 2017—Habitat for Humanity's response to Hurricane Harvey will get a boost as one of six beneficiaries of *Hand in Hand: A Benefit for Hurricane Harvey Relief* telethon that will air nationally on Tuesday, Sept. 12, from 8-9 p.m. EDT. The telethon will feature some of the nation's biggest stars coming together to raise funds for those affected by Hurricane Harvey. Funds raised for Habitat for Humanity will go directly to support the organization's response to Harvey.

"As tens of thousands of Texans and Louisianans return home to salvage belongings and begin to rebuild, they need our support more than ever," said Habitat for Humanity International CEO Jonathan Reckford. "The entertainment community is stepping up in a big way, and Habitat is proud to partner with these artists as we start down the long road to recovery." - **Amy L. Gates, Vice President- Habitat West Bay and Northern RI**

The telethon will include appearances by stars including George Clooney, Jamie Foxx, Karlie Kloss, Beyoncé, Matt Lauer, Rob Lowe, Matthew McConaughey, Norah O'Donnell, Dennis Quaid, Julia Roberts, Kelly Rowland, Adam Sandler, Ryan Seacrest, Michael Strahan, Blake Shelton, George Strait, Barbra Streisand, Oprah Winfrey and Reese Witherspoon with more to be announced. The telethon will air nationally on ABC, CBS, CMT, FOX and NBC, as well as on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

As part of its response to Hurricane Harvey, Habitat has begun deploying Mobile Response Units and Disaster Corps volunteers to the region to begin rapid assessments. There are about 30 local Habitat for Humanity offices throughout the parts of southeast Texas and southwest Louisiana affected by the storms. With their help, Habitat for Humanity International is assessing the shelter and housing needs in areas impacted by the hurricane and developing response options.

In addition to long-term housing repair and construction, Habitat's response includes organizing volunteers and resources to help with the cleanup of damaged by wind and flood waters. Construction plans will be

determined after evaluations and will depend on the level of support received from donors, volunteers, corporate partners and other community organizations.

Habitat for Humanity has been responding to disasters since 1997 and to date has helped more than 230,000 families in 52 countries through its disaster response work. Following Hurricane Katrina, Habitat organizations along the Gulf Coast built more than 6,000 homes and removed debris and cleaned more than 2,500 homes in preparation for rehabilitation. Habitat also mounted responses to Hurricane Sandy, tornadoes through the South and Midwest, and earthquakes and typhoons overseas.

More information on Habitat for Humanity's response to Hurricane Harvey can be found here: habitat.org/hurricane-harvey.

More information on the telethon can be found at HandInHand2017.com.

About [Habitat West Bay and Northern RI](#)

Driven by the vision that everyone needs a decent place to live, Habitat West Bay began in 1996 as a grassroots effort in Warwick, RI. We have since built or rehabilitated more than 15 homes in the Kent and Providence counties and 16 communities. Habitat International, A Christian housing organization has since grown to become a leading global nonprofit working in more than 1,300 communities throughout the U.S. and in more than 70 countries. Families and individuals in need of a hand up partner with Habitat for Humanity to build or improve a place they can call home. Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. Through financial support, volunteering or adding a voice to support affordable housing, everyone can help families achieve the strength, stability and self-reliance they need to build better lives for themselves. Through shelter, we empower. To learn more, visit habitat.org.