



August 21, 2018

For immediate release

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Habitat: Building & Transforming

Alachua Habitat for Humanity Celebrates Mortgage Payoffs, Impact Partners & New Events

Gainesville – Alachua Habitat for Humanity’s signature fundraising event will take place **Thursday, August 23rd, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm** at Sweetwater Branch Inn located at 625 E. University Ave. The organization will be celebrating Habitat homeowners who have paid off their mortgages over the past year, honoring Impact Partner Award recipients, and introducing two new innovative events the group will pursue over the next several months.

One of the new events to be introduced Thursday night is “Over the Edge” that will take place on November 30. Partnering with “Over the Edge” Global, Alachua Habitat for Humanity and its supporters will have the opportunity to rappel off the 5001 Celebration Pointe Ave building while raising funds and awareness for their cause. To date, “Over the Edge” has raised over \$70 million with non-profit partners through its signature fundraising rappelling events and has hosted over 700 successful events in the past 9 years.

The North Florida Design Showcase, also to be introduced on Thursday, will take place in late 2019 and is dedicated to celebrating design and architecture in Alachua County. Staged in six separate homes that are being custom build and have been chosen based on their innovative architectural and interior design, all work on the homes will be completed by local designers and builders. Grove Street Residential, LLC has partnered with Alachua Habitat for Humanity for the design showcase. Corresponding art and local foods will be featured as part of the design showcase celebration and 100% of the proceeds from the design showcase will go directly toward two charities: Alachua Habitat for Humanity and Bread of the Mighty Food Bank.

Habitat’s “Building & Transforming” event this Thursday will feature heavy hors d’oeuvres by Sweetwater Branch Inn and locally-crafted beer from First Magnitude Brewing Company. Guests can also enjoy wine and two different signature cocktails at the open bar. Local talent *Stir It Up* will perform live throughout the evening. A limited number of tickets for Thursday are still available. Contact Lois Fowler (lfowler@alachuahabitat.org or 352-745-7182) or go to www.alachuahabitat.org for more information.

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Founded in 1986, Alachua Habitat for Humanity is the local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International. We envision a world where everyone has a safe, affordable place to live and we work towards that vision by bringing people together to build strength, stability, and independence through shelter. To accomplish these goals, we invite people of all backgrounds, races, and religions to build houses together in partnership with families in need of affordable housing. Through volunteer labor and donations of money and materials, Alachua Habitat has built more than 135 homes in the local community. Habitat houses are sold to homeowner families at no profit and financed with affordable loans. For more information visit www.alachuahabitat.org