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Kaua'i Habitat for Humanity seeks 100 supporters for 6th Annual Build-a-thon

By The Garden Island
 Published: Friday, July 10, 2009 2:10 AM HST



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Hanapepe — Kaua'i Habitat for Humanity seeks 100 supporters to help build three

affordable homes during the 6th Annual Build-a-thon August 15 in Hanapepe. From 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. participants can work alongside Habitat homeowners to paint and raise the walls on family homes.

Each year, Kaua'i Habitat for Humanity organizes a Build-a-thon to raise money, support and awareness for the affordable housing crisis on Kaua'i.

Registration for the August 15 Build-a-thon is now open. Visit kauaihabitat.org to register. For more information call Avery Welkin, 335-0296 ext. 154 or e-mail avery@kauaihabitat.org.

In February, Kaua'i Habitat completed the construction of its 100th home on the island with a house blessing ceremony in Ele'e'le. At the ceremony, Habitat officials vowed to build the next 100 homes in seven years, twice as fast as the first 100.

With rising housing and land costs, the demand for safe, affordable housing on Kaua'i has increased dramatically in the last few years.

"The need for affordable homes on Kaua'i is as great as ever," said Executive Director of the Kaua'i Habitat, Stephen Spears. "There are over 1,300 Kaua'i residents interested in partnering with us to build a house they can afford."

The 6th Annual Build-a-thon directly addresses the need for affordable housing on Kaua'i by providing an opportunity for the community to help raise money and raise walls for the cause. Every year, dozens of local businesses, churches, groups, and individuals help make the Build-a-thon possible through sponsorships, in-kind donations, and donations of money and time to lend a hand.

This year participants are asked to raise at least \$100 in pledges from friends, family, employers and the community and to come help build one of the next 100 Habitat homes.

This year's theme is "Come Get Dirty With Us" and promises fun, camaraderie and the satisfaction of giving back to the community. All levels of construction experience are welcome.

Kaua'i Habitat is the local affiliate for Habitat for Humanity International. Established in 1992 after Hurricane Iniki damaged or destroyed thousands of houses. Habitat homeowners, who also invest 700 or more hours in sweat equity, purchase their home with a no-profit loan. Their monthly mortgage payments are used to build more Habitat houses.

For more information, visit kauaihabitat.org

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