



THE HOME DEPOT FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES \$7.6 MILLION INVESTMENT IN ATLANTA COMMUNITY; LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS RECOGNIZED

Announcement Significantly Enhances Local Giving

ATLANTA, November 29, 2007 – The Home Depot Foundation announced yesterday its commitment to invest more than \$7.3 million in the metro Atlanta community over the next four years, in addition to providing \$340,000 to local non-profits as part of the group’s annual Building Community Day. The funds will support local nonprofit organizations focused on creating a healthier and more sustainable region. As the national giving arm of The Home Depot, The Home Depot Foundation is committed to building healthy communities with an emphasis on affordable housing built responsibly.

Through new strategic partnerships with several of Atlanta’s most effective nonprofit organizations, The Home Depot Foundation is emphasizing long-term, philanthropic giving, which will have a meaningful impact on the community, in addition to the company’s long-standing commitment to volunteerism and financial support to other organizations. The announcement was made as part of the second annual Building Community Day, a unique workshop designed to encourage and recognize innovation and collaboration among Atlanta nonprofit organizations.

“Atlanta is the city that built The Home Depot. We started our business here, and we have more than 25,000 associates in the area. We have a long-term stake in the future of this region,” said Frank Blake, chairman & CEO of The Home Depot. “The Home Depot embraces its role as a leader in Atlanta and celebrates the dedication of our nonprofit partners that, like The Home Depot, have a long-standing commitment to making Atlanta a healthier and more sustainable city.”

The new \$7.3 million investment will support several local nonprofit organizations focused on environmentally-responsible affordable housing and greenspace preservation in and around Atlanta. Partnerships include:

- **The BeltLine, Inc.** – Funding will support green affordable housing preservation, park space development, and tree planting along the 22-mile loop of historic rail that encircles Atlanta's urban core.
- **Woodruff Arts Center (WAC)** – As Woodruff Arts Center’s sustainability partner, The Home Depot Foundation will enable WAC to incorporate conservation awareness into its educational programs, make its campus more energy efficient, and incorporate sustainability into its master plan.
- **Piedmont Park Conservancy** – This challenge grant will support the restoration of the Park’s North Woods, will add more than 1,000 new trees to the park, and will help educate local residents about the social, economic and environmental benefits of city trees. The new plantings and tree restoration program will increase the total number of trees in Piedmont Park by 150 percent.
- **Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta Foundation** – Funding will support the creation of a laboratory to measure lung function in children at the Asthma Center at the new hospital planned for Hughes Spalding and support facility enhancements toward earning LEED® certification for the building.
- **Southface** – Funding will support a variety of Atlanta-based initiatives designed to create a healthier and more environmentally sustainable city, including incentive programs for solar installation, water conservation, and renewable energy.
- **Atlanta Habitat for Humanity** – Funding will increase the annual production of Earthcraft-certified homes by 20 percent and support the organization’s move into townhomes and cluster housing.

“We believe in creating environments – both inside a home and outside in a community – that contribute to the financial stability, personal success, physical health and overall well-being of our neighbors,” said Kelly Caffarelli, president of The Home Depot Foundation. “By creating long-term partnerships supporting the

sustainability efforts of these organizations, we believe we will have a significant impact and will help address a number of the needs of our dynamic city.”

Building Community Day, in partnership with the Georgia Center for Nonprofits, will feature a panel discussion entitled, *Collaborating for Community Transformation*, with representatives of National Building Museum, Clean Air Campaign and Atlanta Neighborhood Development Partnership, followed by facilitated group discussions around collaborative best practices. A special awards reception that evening will recognize the 2007 Building Community Day grant recipients, receiving a total of \$340,000 in funding: Agnes Scott College, Atlanta Micro Fund, Atlanta Urban League, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Atlanta, Inc., Bobby Dodd Institute, Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta, Cobb Family Resources, Communities in Schools of Marietta/Cobb County, Inc., Families First, Genesis, Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, Latin American Association, MUST Ministries, National Black Arts Festival, Push Push Theater, Quality Care for Children, Inc., and Safe America.

In addition to recognizing Atlanta’s nonprofit community, three photography students from the Art Institute of Atlanta were recognized for their winning interpretation of “Life Without Leaves.” The Home Depot Foundation partnered with The Art Institute of Atlanta to sponsor the photography contest designed to bring to life how the planting and preservation of community trees has a positive impact on the health and beauty of the city of Atlanta. Students were challenged to take and retouch photos of Atlanta area landmarks and tree-lined locations depicted with and without trees.

The Home Depot, founded in Atlanta in 1978, has more than 70 stores in the Greater Atlanta area, and employs approximately 25,000 associates here. In recent years, the company and The Home Depot Foundation have made several substantial investments in the Atlanta community, from building playgrounds to funding affordable housing to helping with the preservation of The King Papers Project. More than 25 company executives serve on the boards of Atlanta-area nonprofits, including the Metropolitan Atlanta Arts Fund, Hands On Georgia, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta community board, and Girls Incorporated of Greater Atlanta. The Home Depot partnered with the City of Atlanta to refurbish 50 city parks, and is a major supporter of Mayor Shirley Franklin’s “Next Step...The Atlanta Promise” initiative, which provides financial aid to college-bound graduates of Atlanta’s public schools.

About The Home Depot Foundation

The Home Depot Foundation is dedicated to building healthy communities by supporting the development of affordable, healthy homes for working families and by planting and preserving trees in parks, in schoolyards and along city streets. Since its formation, The Home Depot Foundation has granted nearly \$30 million to non-profit organizations, supported the development of more than 40,000 affordable, healthy homes and planted and preserved more than one million community trees. In 2007, The Home Depot Foundation committed to significantly increase its financial support in these two areas by awarding \$100 million in grants over the next 10 years, which will result in the development of 100,000 affordable, healthy homes for working families and the planting and preservation of more than 3 million community trees. For more information, visit www.homedepotfoundation.org.

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