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**Peninsula Habitat for Humanity to “Raise the Roofs” for Five Brisbane Families June 7-10**  
*Event Part of Habitat for Humanity International’s “Home Builders Blitz” Week, a Nationwide Effort to Kickoff National Homeownership Month*

BRISBANE, Calif. (June 2006) – Peninsula Habitat for Humanity and more than 250 Bay Area volunteers will kickoff National Homeownership Month when they “Raise the Roofs” on homes for five Brisbane families June 7-10. Similar to an old-fashioned “barn-raising,” volunteers will complete the two-story framing on the five houses in four days. The event is part of Habitat for Humanity International’s “Home Builders Blitz 2006,” the largest single build in Habitat’s 30-year history.

More than 100 Habitat affiliates in 39 different states, including Peninsula Habitat for Humanity, are participating in the nationwide effort to raise awareness of the need for affordable housing, and the positive impact it has on our local communities. In total, Peninsula Habitat for Humanity and the other affiliates will build 437 homes during this year’s blitz-build.

Locally, the Bay Area is experiencing a housing crisis. According to a 2006 report issued by the nonprofit organization, Sustainable San Mateo County, only 12 percent of households in San Mateo County could afford a home last year in comparison to the 68.5 percent national average.

“While some of us have been fortunate to have homes in which to raise children, thousands of very capable low-income families struggle to find stable, affordable housing here everyday,” said Mary Boughton, executive director of Peninsula Habitat for Humanity. “We’re hoping that “Raise the Roofs 2006” and the other blitz-builds hosted by Habitat affiliates across the country will help educate our families, friends, neighbors and co-workers about making affordable housing a reality in our communities. With their support, we can break this cycle of poverty.”

Peninsula Habitat for Humanity’s “Raise the Roofs” event will also mark a major milestone as volunteers raise the roof on the affiliate’s 100<sup>th</sup> home on the Peninsula.

“We’re in the final stages of selecting the families for these five homes, and the candidate families will be joining us for this exciting time,” Boughton said. “More than 24,000 volunteers and community donors have already helped us transform the lives of 95 low-income families and the communities in which they live, and we’re excited to be giving five more hardworking families an opportunity to find stability and success through homeownership.”

The Raise the Roofs site is located at 20 Plumas Street in Brisbane. Each build day begins at 7:30 a.m. and ends at 4:15 p.m. Peninsula Habitat for Humanity will also host a block party on Saturday June 10 from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. to celebrate the building of its 100<sup>th</sup> home, and give Brisbane residents an opportunity to meet their potential neighbors and hear their stories.

“We hope the residents of Brisbane see just how much a house key is worth once they meet our deserving candidates,” said Boughton.

**About Peninsula Habitat for Humanity**

Founded in 1989, Peninsula Habitat for Humanity’s mission is to create stronger communities on the Peninsula by building quality, affordable homes for low-income families through volunteer labor, community support and donated funds.

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