



Contact: Angela Jones
Public Information Officer
(916) 440-1355 or (916) 919-3090

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 22, 2005

SOUTH OAK PARK RESIDENTS GET HOME OF THEIR DREAMS *Hundreds of volunteers spruce up 20 homes for low-income owners*

Sacramento, California. More than 700 community and business volunteers representing the non-profit organization Rebuilding Together, the City of Sacramento and the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (www.shra.org) participated in a marathon home repair event in South Oak Park today to perform repairs and renovations on 20 homes owned by elderly or disabled residents and families with children who could not otherwise get the work done.



“It’s more than just paint,” said City Council Member Lauren Hammond who represents District 5 where the work day took place. “I want to thank each and every one of you for giving up your Saturday to come to a neighborhood you don’t live in to help people who need a helping hand.”



Rebuilding Together is a national non-profit organization that works through a local multi-agency volunteer effort to improve the living conditions for low-income homeowners. Organized in 1991, Rebuilding Together has completed \$4,802,000 in improvements to 1,009 homes in



the Sacramento area with the help of 24,000 volunteers. The annual one-day event uses skilled and unskilled volunteers to improve the physical and cosmetic aspects of homes in the targeted street or neighborhood. Repairs and improvements included roofing, fencing, painting, new appliances, new cabinetry, electrical and plumbing repairs, wheelchair ramps and landscaping. The project goal for Rebuilding Together (www.sacramento.rebuildingtogether.org) is to keep neighbors living in comfort, safety and independence.

“The real value of all this comes at the end of the day,” said outgoing Rebuilding Together Board of Directors President Gary Davis, “when you see the marvelous transformation that’s occurred and that the people you’ve blessed today will always remember you for what you’ve done.”

“One Community, One Vision”
630 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 444-9210
www.shra.org

The Agency has partnered with Rebuilding Together, formerly Christmas in April, since 2001. More than 100 homes in the City and County of Sacramento have been improved and repaired through the Agency's partnership with Rebuilding Together. The program helps to preserve the existing stock of affordable single family homes, enabling seniors and low-income residents to remain in their homes longer, in more comfortable, safe conditions. With the leadership of the City Council, the Agency committed a grant of \$150,000 to Saturday's Rebuilding Dreams project, which has leveraged approximately \$600,000 in contributions from sponsors in the private industry.

"Lotar Lampe, a dedicated community advocate whose home received plumbing repairs, carpeting and new paint inside and out, said he was thankful that he was selected for the project.



Agency staff were among the volunteers who worked on Lampe's home. "I'm getting things back together," said Lampe. "A home again to myself."



SHRA is a Joint Powers Authority created by the City and County of Sacramento to represent both jurisdictions for affordable housing and community redevelopment needs. SHRA oversees residential and commercial revitalization activities in 14 redevelopment areas throughout the City and County. The Agency is the leading public developer of affordable housing. SHRA has a FY 2005 budget of \$222 million and approximately 325 employees. The Agency approximately 3,400 units of public housing and is one of the largest landlords in Sacramento. SHRA also administers about 10,400 rent-assisted vouchers per month.