

Rebuilding Together of Washington, DC

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The “Nuts and Bolts” of What’s Happening at RT of DC

2011 Rebuilding Day is Here

On Saturday, April 30, 2011, 2,000 volunteers representing private businesses, professional firms, foundations, churches, and neighborhood organizations will come together to make free repairs for over 45 homes of low-income elderly, disabled, and families with children in Washington, D.C.

This is Rebuilding Together of D.C.’s 28th year of service in our Nation’s Capital. Since our inception in 1983, we have rehabbed nearly 2,800 homes making it possible for these homeowners to live safely and independently. Without repairs such as necessary handicap modifications, roof repairs, and other critical interior and exterior renovations, it would be unsafe for the homeowners to continue living in their houses.

Being a part of Rebuilding Day is immensely rewarding, as our volunteers and sponsors help better the lives of their fellow Washington, D.C. residents; it is truly neighbors helping neighbors.

Here is a sample of a few of the sites we will be working and some of the repairs that will be made on Rebuilding Day:

Address: 1812 - 8th St. NW, Washington, DC 20001

Sponsor: Booz Allen Hamilton

A 79 year-old homeowner, who has lived in her Ward 1 home for over 34 years, has severe arthritis and mobility problems. The upstairs bathtub is leaking through to the ceiling below, causing the ceiling to collapse. The railings inside the home leading to the second floor are unstable, pulling out of the walls, and need to be replaced. The windows and doors are all drafty, causing high utility bills, and need weatherizing. The air conditioning unit is broken and needs replacing. The toilet is mostly non-functioning. The group of volunteers will be correcting all issues above, which will help her to age in place safely. Booz Allen is our largest corporate sponsor. They are working at over 12 sites across the city—this is just one.

Address: 3600 Brothers Place, SE, Washington, DC 20032

Sponsor: Sears, Heroes at Home; City First Bank of DC (with skilled volunteers from the Government Accountability Office)

"This program will help me stay in my home and enjoy the rest of my life here..." Mrs. B, 80, has lived in her Ward 8 home for over 42 years. She suffers from diabetes, hypertension, bladder problems, and uses a cane to walk. Her son, 45, is living with her at this time because he lost his job due to cutbacks and is currently in a drug rehabilitation program treating his addiction. Mr. B, who passed away a few years ago due to Lupus and other medical problems, served in the Navy during the 1940s. Mrs. B says that while he was overseas, he contracted Lupus, and had many complications due to shell shock-- his hearing was shattered and he suffered from post traumatic stress disorder-- he never spoke about his time overseas because he was that traumatized. Since his passing, their home has deteriorated. The plaster walls on the stairwell are crumbling, there are no handrails to help Mrs. B navigate her steps safely, her windows are mostly broken and she cannot open/close them and the non-broken ones are old and drafty and cause her utility bills to rise, her kitchen cabinets are broken and falling off the walls, the toilet/sink/and tub leak, causing the



Washington, DC

April 27, 2011



GREATER WASHINGTON



Our Mission

Since 1983, Rebuilding Together of Washington, DC (formerly Christmas in April) has been working to revitalize low-income homes and communities in our nation’s capital. With the generous support of house sponsors, volunteers, and donors, we make free home repairs for low-income DC homeowners who are elderly, disabled, and/or caring for young children in seriously deteriorating conditions. The repairs enable them to stay in their homes, where they live in warmth and safety with independence and dignity.

tile to crumble and shift, she has no outlets in her bedroom and is currently running extension cords to her bedroom which is a fire hazard, the laundry tub in the basement is clogged and overflows when she does laundry, and she desperately needs grab bars and other handicap modifications in her bathroom so she may bathe safely. The group of volunteers will make this home safe by fixing the problems mentioned above. Sears, Heroes at Home is a nation-wide effort that funds projects, such as these, that allow Veterans and their families to remain in their own homes to age in place safely and independently. City First Bank of DC and the Government Accountability Office have been participating in Rebuilding Day projects for several years.

Address: 300 – 63rd St. NE, Washington, DC 20019

Sponsor: The World Bank Group

An 80 year-old homeowner lives in Ward 7 and suffers with debilitating arthritis and has trouble walking—she has to crawl up and down her stairs on her hands and knees because she has fallen so many times. The front concrete steps are crumbling and the handrails are falling off of the house. The handrails inside the home leading to the second floor have pulled out of the walls and need replacing. The living room ceiling has collapsed due to the leaking sink in the bathroom above it. The screens in her doors are all torn out and she needs new locks for safety. Several windows are broken and the ones that aren't broken are all drafty, causing her utility bills to be very high. There are no grab bars in the bathroom to prevent the homeowner from slipping and falling. The basement door is literally boarded shut and needs replacing. The roof is leaking, causing ceilings to become water logged and collapse. All of these life threatening situations will be corrected by the volunteers making the home safe for the disabled, elderly Veteran widow The World Bank Group is sponsoring 2 different house projects this year—this is just one.



Booz Allen Hamilton and Sandy Cahill Honored at March Fundraiser

Congratulations Booz Allen Hamilton and Sandy Cahill for being honored with our First Annual Corporate Sponsor and Volunteer of the Year Awards this past March at our Winter Fundraiser. Booz Allen won for the Corporation of the Year, as not only are they sponsoring and making repairs on 12 houses again this year, but their employees are most energetic and dedicated to each project they undertake. Sandy Cahill won for the Volunteer of the Year, as she has spent years volunteering by serving the sick at Sibley and Georgetown Hospitals, and every time Rebuilding Together DC asks for her help with administrative tasks, she is there. Every single day of Sandy's life is a day of service.

Thank you, Booz Allen Hamilton and Sandy Cahill. Your generosity and kindness are unsurpassed.

Booz | Allen | Hamilton

Save the Date

RTDC's Fourth Annual Golf Tournament Friday, September 23, 2011 at Renditions Golf Course

Sign up today to sponsor and play in our Third Annual Golf Tournament on Friday, October 15, 2010 at Renditions Golf Course in Davidsonville, MD. Registration begins at 12 noon and tee off time is at 1:45pm. There'll be a silent auction, a dinner banquet, golfer goodie bags... all in all an afternoon of great fun. \$175 per golfer to sign up. Please spread the word to all of your golfing buddies and any organizations that may be interested in sponsoring the tournament. For more information, call the office at (202) 965-2824.



THERE'S STILL TIME TO SIGN UP TO WORK ON A PROJECT

Please remember we are operating year round—we are not just in April anymore. It is not too late to sign up to sponsor a home repair project. Projects can be done at any time of convenience to your volunteers. Already we have 4 projects lined up for June, and several in October. Should your group have funding but no volunteers, we can make the repairs happen in the name of your organization. We have hundreds of low-income homeowners waiting for new roofs. There are homes with no heat that would love to not have to go another winter without heat. We need many more sponsors to accommodate those on our waiting list. It is with such pain that we write the letters explaining that no team was found to work on their homes for amputees, diabetics, asthmatics, and others suffering from debilitating diseases and mobility problems. Go to our website at www.rebuildingtogetherdc.org to learn how to sponsor a project.