

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Builders Help To Build Community Spirit

(NAPS)—Members of the National Association of Homebuilders (NAHB) are giving something back to their communities in a variety of creative ways.

More than 700 individual charitable projects were conducted last year by builders, remodelers and home-building product and service suppliers in every state in the country.

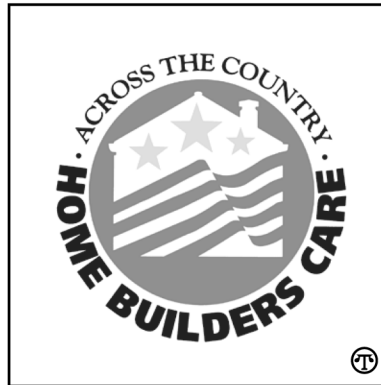
A Home Builders Care 2000 Report showed that the housing industry has made a difference through construction, repair, renovation and beautification projects, scholarships and grants, and giving campaigns.

Many home builders are using their skills and expertise to help Americans achieve the dream of home ownership as well as to provide shelter to neighbors in need. Home builders in hundreds of communities have given countless hours to help Habitat for Humanity wipe out poverty housing, volunteering expert labor for builds and donating materials and money and conducting fundraising campaigns. NAHB members worked on more than 40 Habitat Home Builders Care projects in 2000.

Other ways the housing industry contributes to communities include:

- providing advocacy, mentoring, counseling, education and financial assistance for children. This includes buying winter coats and funding trips to camp for underprivileged children.

- supporting in-school programs for high school students, and continuing education for adults.



Home builders have made a difference through a variety of projects nationwide.

- providing training and mentoring for high-risk students, such as offering career-specific construction classes for students who prefer a hands-on learning experience.

- serving dinners at homeless shelters, hosting blood drives and helping victims of domestic abuse.

- retrofitting or fixing up homes for disabled, elderly or low-income residents.

- helping to protect the environment by teaching builders and developers how to prevent dirt on job sites from flowing into rivers and streams; distributing trees and adopting hiking trails and parks.

Whether they are fighting hunger in Anchorage or building a foster-care home in Shreveport, hosting a ball to benefit the March of Dimes in Texas or donating funds to an AIDS Support Group in Seattle, home builders help make American communities a better place to live.