



of retail expertise along with his enthusiasm to be a part of an organization that changes family lives. "Our proceeds build homes, community, and hope. The families Habitat helps gain more than just safety, security, and a roof over their heads. They acquire a sense of belonging, pride, and self-esteem, plus improved job prospects and educational opportunities. This, in turn, creates a positive ripple effect throughout the community, in that home values increase and neighborhood connections are strengthened."

"Individuals that become homeowners through our program reduce their dependence on community, social, and financial services," Christina explains. "These are substantial benefits for those individuals and particularly positive for the next generation and generations to come."



Building Homes, Community & Hope

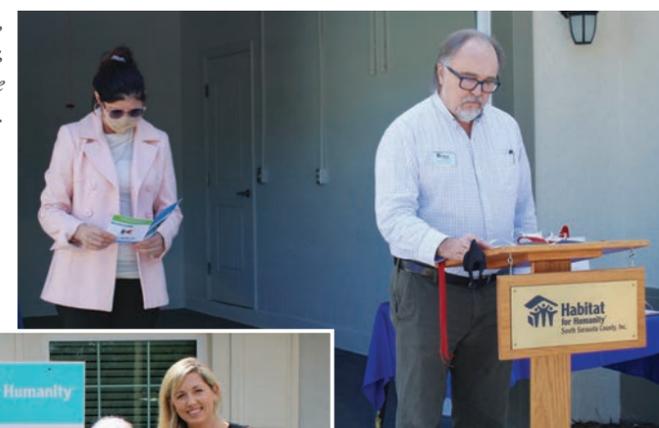
PHOTOS PROVIDED BY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
VENICE GULF COAST LIVING MAGAZINE

Habitat for Humanity believes that everyone, everywhere, should have a healthy, affordable place to call home. Since 1976, the 501(c)(3) non-profit organization has made that dream come true for over 6.8 million people worldwide. That number includes the adults and children who reside in over 18,000 homes built, rehabbed, or repaired by Habitat volunteers throughout Florida. Habitat South Sarasota's goal is to build or renovate safe, decent, affordable, energy-efficient homes for those in need in south

Sarasota County. Habitat South Sarasota has completed over 155 energy-efficient residences built or rehabbed in Laurel, Nokomis, North Port, Osprey, Venice, and Englewood since 1992.

Through Habitat's successful program, prospective homeowners are selected through an extensive application process. Those who are approved actively participate, contributing time and 'sweat equity' toward their home's construction.

Mary Ouellette, Homeowner Services Director, and Tracy Wilson, ReStore Director, speak at a dedication.



The Minisci family in front of their new home with Habitat donor Sylvia Hollister and Habitat CEO Christina McCauley.



Whether you shop, volunteer, or donate, ReStore makes it easy to help those who are in need find their way home.

For more information about this advertorial, log on to HabitatSouthSarasota.org or call 941.493.0529. Located at 1400 Ogden Road, the ReStore is open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat.



"Our homeowners work so hard for their forever homes," says Christina McCauley, CEO/Executive Director. "They must give 300 hours of sweat equity towards building their own home and the homes of other families and attend 8 two-and-a-half-hour homeowner classes and a HUD-certified 'First Time Homebuyer Workshop.'"

Building costs for Habitat homes are paid for, in part, through the ReStore, the non-profit's home improvement outlet and donation center. ReStore Director Tracy Wilson brings a wealth



Thank you Venice and the Herald Tribune for voting The Habitat ReStore Winner for Best Used Furniture Store!



Great Stuff - Great Prices - Great Cause
The ReStore helps Habitat for Humanity South Sarasota County build strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter in your community and around the world.



1400 Ogden Rd., Venice, FL 34285 • HabitatSouthSarasota.org