



***** MEDIA ADVISORY *****

The Home Depot Foundation and Local Nonprofits to Upgrade Veteran Housing Facility Combating Homelessness

WHAT: On Wednesday, April 10, from 8:30-11:30 a.m., The Home Depot Foundation, Volunteers of America of Florida (VOA of Florida) and Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay are teaming up to upgrade the VOA's Veterans Village of Punta Gorda. More than 400 volunteers will renovate the 16 residential housing units for veterans, as well as provide much-needed upgrades to the interior and exterior of the main facility, which offers an array of services to help stabilize and prepare veterans exiting homelessness for a life of independence.

In addition to housing, VOA of Florida's Punta Gorda Veterans Village provides residents with community and other necessities to help get them back on their feet, as well as job training, counseling and education. VOA of Florida supports 5,000 individuals annually and has grown into one of the largest providers serving veterans facing homelessness in the state. The Home Depot Foundation is working with Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay, which has repaired more than 1,000 homes across 20 counties since Hurricane Ian, to manage this project.

On April 10, Team Depot, The Home Depot's associate volunteer force, in partnership with Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay, will lead a large team of volunteers as they landscape, paint the building's interior and exterior and upgrade the facility's entrance. Team Depot will also build pergolas, install pavers, set up furniture and add a raised garden area for outdoor gathering spaces and a veteran memorial. These projects will help provide valuable property enhancements and create a peaceful and comfortable space for veterans to gather and heal as they put homelessness behind them.

Giving back to veterans is personal to The Home Depot, as more than 35,000 of the company's associates are veterans or military spouses. Since 2011, The Home Depot Foundation has invested \$500 million in veteran causes and helped renovate and enhance more than 60,000 veteran homes and facilities, ensuring more of our nation's heroes have a safe, comfortable place to call home that fits their individual needs.

Volunteer projects will include:

- Landscaping
- Painting the building's exterior and interior
- Placing privacy hedging around property perimeter and pool
- Upgrading facility entrance
- Building four pergolas
- Installing pavers
- Setting up outdoor furniture
- Adding raised gardens

WHO: Spokespeople available for interviews include:

- Erin Izen, Executive Director, The Home Depot Foundation
- Stephanie Vranich, Vice President of Development and Outreach, Volunteers of America of Florida



- Brandy Canada, Senior Director of Operations, Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay
- Jose Garcia, Executive Director, Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay

WHERE:

- 1250 Taylor Street, Punta Gorda, Florida 33950

DATE AND TIME:

- Wednesday, April 10, 8:30-11:30 a.m.

CONTACT: For more information, please contact Megan Eisengart at megan.eisengart@mslgroup.com or 412-389-3586.

- For day-of project logistics and media needs, please contact Whitney Jones, The Home Depot Foundation [ONSITE MEDIA CONTACT: 404-395-9185].

About The Home Depot Foundation

[The Home Depot Foundation](#), the nonprofit arm of The Home Depot (NYSE: HD), works to improve the homes and lives of U.S. veterans, support communities impacted by natural disasters and train skilled tradespeople to fill the labor gap. Since 2011, the Foundation has invested more than \$500 million in veteran causes and improved more than 60,000 veteran homes and facilities. The Foundation has pledged to invest \$750 million in veteran causes by 2030 and \$50 million in training the next generation of skilled tradespeople through the Path to Pro program by 2028. To learn more about The Home Depot Foundation visit HomeDepotFoundation.org and follow us on [Twitter](#) @HomeDepotFound and on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) @HomeDepotFoundation.

About Volunteers of America of Florida

[Volunteers of America of Florida](#) is a faith-based, human service organization that engages Floridians in need, including unhoused veterans, individuals and families experiencing homelessness, those diagnosed with mental health and cognitive conditions, and vulnerable seniors. Volunteers of America of Florida creates positive life changes through housing and supportive services (i.e., behavioral health, case management and more). Thousands of Floridians in-need are served each year across the state of Florida. For more information, visit [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#).

About Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay

RTTB's mission is "repairing homes, revitalizing communities, rebuilding lives." We achieve this by providing members of our shared communities with imperative home repairs, housing, education, and other forms of assistance free of cost, bringing their homes to not just a habitable state but one that is safe and healthy and that they and their families can thrive in. With 5 offices and a service area spanning 20 counties, covering the majority of Florida's Gulf Coast and a large swath of Central Florida, RTTB addresses critical issues such as leaking roofs, problematic ducts aggravating asthma symptoms in children, and installs safety features like grab bars for elderly residents. We also construct new homes, providing homeownership opportunities to those who may have never deemed it possible. Following Hurricane Ian, RTTB was designated the lead affiliate for statewide response and recovery efforts, extending our service area to heavily impacted communities in Southwest and Central Florida, where we



assist the most vulnerable in repairing and rebuilding. To learn more about us visit www.rttb.org and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).