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Offering Detroit Area Youth a Construction Career

WAYNE, MI. – April 9, 2008 –Trying to stay on the right life path is difficult for all of us, especially young people, that’s why Liberty Hill Housing Corporation and O’Brien Construction are getting involved. “We wanted to offer a group of young people the opportunity to obtain some invaluable skills in their local communities,” said Liberty Hill Executive Director Peggy Frankie.

The partnership involves Young Detroit Builders, an organization that helps low-income young adults rebuild their lives while working on various building projects in communities. Liberty Hill has three homes slated to be built by fall ’08 and has been working with O’Brien Construction. “We heard about YDB from our carpentry subcontractor, Havana Construction, and wanted to give these youth a chance to actually help build a home,” said Project Manager Phil Hadley.

Young Detroit Builders is the local chapter of YouthBuild USA and was founded in 1993 to assist low-income young adults in transforming their lives to produce positive outcomes. YDB operates two programs serving approximately 150 people each year providing training in the construction trades, GED preparatory education, job and life skills training, leadership development, and counseling for young adults.

There are three homes located in Inkster and Westland that the group will help build. Their part of the construction will last about a month. “We are grateful to our partners who are helping youths re-build their lives and help transform communities,” said Beverly Manick, Executive Director.

“This is an excellent opportunity for everyone involved,” said Liberty Hill Executive Director Peggy Frankie. “Our three homes are getting built and the youth are getting “hands-on” experience in a building trade that will help them succeed in life down the road.”

Since its inception in 1991, LHHC has been fulfilling its mission by purchasing single family homes to lease to people with disabilities and has assisted them with their home purchases. LHHC currently owns and leases over 60 single-family homes located in various Wayne County communities. For more information, log onto www.libertyhillhousing.com.

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