



**August 4, 2010**

**\* \* \* MEDIA ADVISORY \* \* \***

## **VOLUNTEERS FROM THE HOME DEPOT, KaBOOM! AND NHP FOUNDATION JOIN FORCES TO BUILD A NEW PLAYGROUND IN ONE DAY**

### ***Playground Strengthens Community and Benefits Children***

#### **WHAT:**

More than 200 volunteers from The Home Depot, The NHP Foundation, and organizers from the nonprofit organization KaBOOM! will join together to build a state-of-the-art, 2,500 square foot playground in one day. The playground will provide a safe, fun environment for the children in the community.

The playground is funded through a \$65,000 grant from The Home Depot Foundation along with a \$7,500 contribution from The NHP Foundation. As a founding partner of KaBOOM!, The Home Depot provides financial support, materials and numerous volunteers for playground projects across North America as part of its ongoing commitment to give back to the communities its stores serve. As official Sustainability Partners, The Home Depot and KaBOOM! work to make sure each playground project is as environmentally friendly as possible as well as educating children and communities about this important issue. For this project, all materials will be recycled and any unused materials remaining after the completion of the build will be donated to other organizations.

The NHP Foundation's Forest Park Apartments was drastically affected by Hurricane Katrina. Over two years ago, Forest Park reopened its doors with brand new renovated apartments and a commitment to providing resident services to the people of New Orleans. One of the final stages in our rebuilding will be to put a new playground where a playground once stood before Hurricane Katrina. This playground will be open to the entire community and will be a place for play and fun for hundreds of children and families. In addition, the food at the event is being given by a generous donation from Sodexo Remote Sites.

#### **WHERE:**

Forest Park Apartments  
3708 Garden Oaks Drive  
New Orleans, LA 70114

#### **WHEN:**

##### **Thursday, August 26**

8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

(Note: All times approximate)

Project Kick-Off

Best viewing of playground construction

Final construction phase and adjustments

"Board-Cutting" closing ceremony

#### **CONTACT:**

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#### **INFO:**

##### **About The Home Depot Foundation**

Created in 2002, The Home Depot Foundation supports nonprofit organizations dedicated to creating and preserving healthy, affordable homes as the cornerstone of sustainable communities. The Foundation's goal is for all families to have the opportunity to live in healthy, efficient homes they can afford over the long-term; to have access to safe, vibrant parks and greenspaces; and to receive the economic, social and environmental benefits of living in a sustainable community. Since its formation, The Home Depot Foundation has granted \$190 million to nonprofit organizations and supported the development of more than 95,000 homes, planted more than 1.2 million trees, and

built or refurbished more than 1875 playgrounds, parks and greenspaces. For more information, visit [www.homedepotfoundation.org](http://www.homedepotfoundation.org) and follow us on Twitter homedepotfdn.

#### **About The NHP Foundation**

In 1968 President Johnson signed the Housing Act to form The National Housing Partnership to encourage the development of affordable housing for American families. It successfully syndicated tax benefits, enabling municipalities, real estate developers, and other partners to work together to create and preserve affordable housing. With the change in the Tax Law of December 1986, the original model was rendered unworkable. In 1989, out of continuing concern for Americans in need of affordable housing, and with the assistance of \$6 million in contributions from 24 of the original National Housing Partnership institutional investors, a new organization was formed, The NHP Foundation (NHPF). The Foundation leveraged these contributions into a portfolio of properties with an aggregate book value of \$180 million by operating with the discipline of a for-profit enterprise. For nearly two decades, it has continued to successfully expand America's pool of affordable housing. In the last twenty years, NHPF has procured and preserved 43 properties, consisting approximately of 9,000 units in 15 states. Today, it currently owns some 5,000 units in the South Central, Mid Atlantic, North East and South East, providing quality affordable housing to thousands of residents. Its holistic approach combines safe, clean, affordable housing with resident services that offer a wide variety of education, health, and enrichment programs for children, their parents and seniors.

#### **About KaBOOM!**

Headquartered in Washington, D.C., KaBOOM! is a national non-profit organization dedicated to saving play. Through community building, the organization is focused on giving every child in America a great place to play within walking distance. Since 1996, KaBOOM! has used its innovative community-build model to bring together business and community interests to construct more than 1,800 new playgrounds, skate parks, sports fields and ice rinks across North America. KaBOOM! also offers a variety of resources, including an online community, free online trainings, grants, publications and the KaBOOM! National Campaign for Play, which includes Playful City USA and Playmakers – a national network of individual advocates for play. KaBOOM! also has offices in Chicago and San Mateo, Calif. For more information, visit [www.kaboom.org](http://www.kaboom.org).

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