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Volunteers
rebuilding
Greater Portland
... one house at a time.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Four years ago, we founded Rebuilding Together ★ Greater Portland with a simple mission: to rebuild homes in the Greater Portland area so our neighbors could live in warmth, security, and independence. Four years later, we are reaching that goal one house at a time, one neighborhood at a time. *In those four years, we have more than doubled the number of homes renovated and have quintupled the number of volunteers.* Recent events have reinforced the strong sense of neighborhood that we all share as Americans, as citizens of this great state, and as partners in the Greater Portland area. Through the tireless work of our board of directors and volunteers and with the critical financial support of our sponsors, we stand ready to help even more of our neighbors rebuild their homes, their neighborhoods, and their lives

This past Rebuilding Day, more than 200 tradespeople and other volunteers came together to work on 19 homes in Greater Portland, thanks to the generous gifts of our sponsors. New roofs. New windows. Bathrooms. Access ramps. The repairs in 2001 alone were valued at more than \$150,000, bringing the four-year total to more than \$400,000.

This commitment could not happen without the tireless efforts of many caring and giving people and organizations. Our Board of Directors is comprised of a collection of talented, hard-working individuals from diverse backgrounds and occupations, singularly committed to providing safe, secure and warm affordable housing. I commend each of them and thank them and their respective organizations for their time and effort on behalf of our homeowners.

Financial assistance is, and always will be, an essential element of our commitment to provide safe, warm and secure housing. As in previous years, some of Greater Portland's leading businesses stepped forward again to help us. Home Depot, a major corporate sponsor of Rebuilding Together nationwide, Fleet Bank, Banknorth, Rotary Club of Portland, Harvey Industries, and Waste Management fully underwrote entire homes. Neil and Gunter, Inc. was a half-house sponsor. Northern Utilities, DeWolfe and UNUMProvident were also sponsors. Thank you one and all.

Another vital element is skilled labor. Skilled contractors, carpenters, electricians and plumbers, as well as other tradespersons, played a crucial role in evaluation and planning, preparation, and orchestration of Rebuilding Day. For many, their sacrifice and contributions extended for weeks before and after that Saturday. The success of our organization is a direct result of their craftsmanship and commitment, and I thank them for that.

Last, but by no means least, volunteers are the backbone of this organization. More than 200 arrived at our early morning kickoff at the Doubletree Hotel in Portland. As the day wore on, not a single volunteer complained. They stayed and did the job. And even more than that, they constantly asked what else they could do.

As winter once again descends upon us, we all can appreciate the vital necessity of a warm, safe and secure home. For too many in the Greater Portland area, this necessity is beyond their grasp. Together, we can help our neighbors live in warmth, safety and independence once again. Together, we can rebuild Greater Portland one neighborhood at a time.

Thank you all for your tremendous effort. I hope to see you all back again on April 27, 2002!

Sincerely,
Brendan P. Rielly, Esq.
President

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REBUILDING TOGETHER: Renovating Our Name

On January 1, 2001, Christmas in April USA officially became Rebuilding Together. The name change, approved by the national organization's Board of Directors will help the organization to better identify and distinguish itself among many non-profit organizations who do good work. Here in Portland, we're now known as Rebuilding Together ★ Greater Portland. But, of course, the spirit of giving of Christmas remains in all of the work we do. To get more information call our voicemail box at (207) 791-3529.



By the Numbers: National Impact in 2001

- More than 7,100 houses and non-profit facilities rehabilitated
- 231,000 volunteers donating their time and skills
- Work performed in 720 cities and towns across America
- \$78 million market value
- Helped 70,000 elderly, people with disabilities and families with children

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Rebuilding Together relies on donations of time, money, materials and volunteers, both skilled and unskilled, to repair the homes. This year, we will need more than 100 volunteers to work on the homes that will be repaired. To help, call 791-3529.

- Anyone over the age of 14 can volunteer their time and talent on Saturday, April 27, 2002
- Area businesses can donate supplies and materials, make contributions and provide teams of volunteers.
- Local contractors can lend trucks, tools and skilled tradespeople to lead repair projects.
- Concerned citizens can make contributions to Rebuilding Together ★ Greater Portland, a non-profit corporation.

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