

Habitat for Humanity and Christian Horizons complete two homes on Forbes Street in London

August 21, 2018 – London, ON - Habitat for Humanity Heartland Ontario is excited to partner with Carlos and Claudia's family and with Christian Horizons at the key ceremony for two homes at 24 and 26 Forbes Street on Tuesday, August 28, 2018 at 11:00AM.

"This project is a great example of community partnership. It has been rewarding to work with Christian Horizons and Carlos and Claudia's family to complete construction of our tenth and eleventh homes on Forbes Street", said Brian Elliot CEO, Habitat for Humanity Heartland Ontario. "Staff and supporters of Christian Horizons were able to come on the build site to contribute in a tangible way to this new home for Chris, Justin and Ross. Carlos and Claudia have also been very visible on the build site and doing all they can to help out. This start to finish involvement is a unique part of what we do at Habitat for Humanity and these two homes demonstrate a lasting contribution to the Manor Park community."

Carlos, Claudia, and their son Diego, ten years old, live in a townhouse in London and are often visited by daughter Ynyfer who is attending school in Montreal. Carlos works for WinMar and Claudia drives for Uber on a full time basis. Diego is in the French Immersion program, learning his third language. Carlos and Claudia look forward to moving in and decorating their new home with all of their personal touches.

Christian Horizons partnered with Habitat Heartland to build a home which will meet the current and future needs of Chris, Justin and Ross. Founded in 1965 as a non-profit, faith-based charitable organization, Christian Horizons supports nearly 2,000 people with developmental disabilities in Ontario. "Christian Horizons is grateful for the opportunity to work with Habitat for Humanity and extends sincere appreciation to everyone who responded to our request to support the building of this home. The many churches and community members who partnered with us and participated in team build days are great examples of community working together so that everybody belongs. The men are looking forward to moving into their new home, getting to know their neighbours and belonging to their new community." said Anita Bacon, Executive Director, Christian Horizons South District.

Ross is an incredibly friendly person and when he enters a room he lights it up with his smile and personality. Ross works part time at Compassion Canada, where he waters their plants. He loves being with people, going out to dinner or the movies, in addition to all things connected to the TV show, Star Trek. Ross is dedicated to exercise using his treadmill. In his present home this equipment has to be set up in his bedroom. But, in his new home he can enjoy his walks in the spacious rec room.

Chris enjoys doing crafts and painting, and volunteers at a farm where he sweeps and cleans. Chris, like many of us, has times of the day where he prefers his own company in a quiet, personal space, while at other times he enjoys the company of his housemates whom he has built strong relationships with over the years. In his new home on Forbes St., Chris will have a private area downstairs (separate from the

recreational room) where he can watch television, paint, draw or work on the math puzzles he enjoys so much.

“I’m pumped to move to the brand new pad,” said Justin. The open concept style and larger living area of Justin’s new home will give him more space to do what he loves. Justin is highly creative. He likes to paint, adores music – especially county music – and enjoys dancing. Justin is happy that he will have his own areas in which to engage in his hobbies.

The public are invited to come out and celebrate with us on August 28.

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Who: Habitat for Humanity Heartland Ontario

What: Key Ceremony - 24 and 26 Forbes Street, London

When: August 28, 2018 - 11:00am

Contact: Habitat Heartland - Sharon Brennan, General Manager Community Partnerships

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About Habitat for Humanity Heartland Ontario

Habitat for Humanity believes that every man, woman and child has the right to the confidence, security and hope that a home provides. Affordable housing is key to building strong, equitable and thriving communities. By mobilizing volunteers and community partners, we can build affordable housing and promote homeownership. We’re building to end poverty.

About Christian Horizons

Founded in 1965 as a non-profit, faith-based charitable organization, Christian Horizons serves people with exceptional needs in Canada, and in developing countries around the world through Christian Horizons Global. Over 3,500 employees support nearly 2,000 people with developmental disabilities and their families through residential and ancillary programs such as participation supports, employment supports, and supported vacation opportunities. Christian Horizons has more than 200 residences as well as respite care and independent living locations in Ontario and is funded by the Ministry of Community and Social Services. In 2015, Christian Horizons began operating in Saskatchewan, funded by the Ministry of Social Services. Established in 1990, Christian Horizons Global works in partnership with local organizations to promote the inclusion and rights of people living in exceptional circumstances in six developing countries around the world. For more information: christian-horizons.org.