

## UPDATE FROM REBUILDING TOGETHER NORTH SUBURBAN CHICAGO DECEMBER 2011

We are very grateful for the support of our sponsors and volunteers. In partnership with them we help low-income homeowners live in dignity and remain in their homes, safe, warm and dry. Each year we help about 50 needy homeowners and not for profits with nowhere else to turn. Since our April 2011 **Rebuilding Day** we have continued to assist homeowners with necessary repairs. Our projects have included the following:

- **Provided a brand new roof and tuck-pointing** to a Glenview homeowner who had been using buckets indoors to catch the rainwater.
- **Performed essential plumbing, electrical repairs or structural repairs for five homeowners** and are scheduled to repair one more home with serious leaks, and one home with damaged fascia.
- **Performed major electrical repairs, extensive interior organization and painting, yard work and more for a Niles husband and wife** with serious physical disabilities, also benefiting their teen.
- **Replaced four broken appliances for a widow with three young children** coping with big challenges resulting from medical issues and reduced work hours.
- **Performed repairs for a Veteran in Round Lake Beach** and for the widow of a Veteran in Evanston.
- **Tackled a major project which enabled a family to keep their town-home** (see attached).



Further, on **Rebuilding Day 2011**, over 600 volunteers worked on 27 homes in 12 communities.

Here are a few of our stories:

- **Replaced the roof and replaced and repaired flooring and ceilings in a home that was so unsafe and unhealthy from a leaking roof** with a mold problem that the homeowners had seriously considered abandoning their home.
- **Rehabbed a ranch house with many needs using 60 volunteers determined to make it livable for two elderly sisters**, one with cancer, by building a new bathroom and a new kitchen.
- **Provided a mobile home lacking working appliances** with a new oven, hood, refrigerator and dryer. Replaced carpeting, installed a new kitchen floor, painted extensively inside and out.
- **Painted the living room and hall, removed an old and dusty carpet, and polished the wood floors** in the Skokie home of a couple married more than 63 years.
- **Replaced a bathroom floor for a Waukegan senior on dialysis whose toilet continually leaked, causing her floor to rot.** We rehabbed her bathroom with a new shower, sink and toilet. Volunteers also replaced her kitchen floor, and cleaned the premises.
- **Rehabbed an Evanston kitchen that had a small refrigerator with no freezer, a badly damaged kitchen floor, broken windows and a faulty sink, providing a brand new kitchen.**
- **Helped a Veteran who had gutted his kitchen in a do-it-yourself project, then suffered a debilitating stroke.** In a project staged over two years, we rehabbed the kitchen in 2010 and addressed wheel chair accessibility and other major problems throughout the home in 2011.
- **Rehabbed the kitchen for a mom with five foster children, performed major home reorganization and repairs**, and provided a new washer and dryer in two 2010-11 projects.
- **Painted the inside and outside of many homes, performed many repairs, tackled big landscaping jobs**, re-graded a yard, respectfully addressed clutter issues, washed windows, and more.
- **Improved the quality of life for the residents of four Glenkirk homes serving 35 adults with developmental disabilities located in Libertyville, Glenview and Highland Park.** These residential homes and apartments were improved and transformed as volunteers installed fencing, painted, performed repairs, built shelves and benches, rehabbed rooms and landscaped.

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