

For Immediate Release

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The House that Real Estate Built

Bend, OR, June 13, 2016: Over the next few months the Bend Area Habitat for Humanity and the Central Oregon Association of REALTORS® (COAR) are working to build a home for the Casner Family. With the goal of raising \$75,000 by August 31st, COAR members are excited to be a part of the project. “COAR recognizes the need in our community for workforce housing” said President Dave Feagans. “As Realtors, we get to bring the joy of homeownership to families on a regular basis. The opportunity to partner with the Bend Area Habitat for Humanity to give this joy to a hardworking family cuts to the core of realtor values”. Currently, members have contributed \$40,000 to the home and set-up over five volunteer build days.

Even with working a good job a Navis for the past seven years, Liz Casner found herself unable to afford a home for her and her three children. After two years in the program and with all her sweat equity completed, Liz and the kids will have a home this fall. Liz has grown a lot through the Habitat program and says this, “I’ve always had the hope of one day owning a home here in Bend and now Habitat and the wonderful people associated with COAR are making it possible. I’ve learned how to save my money and know that I deserve an affordable place to call home. I’m excited that this home will be a place where my children can thrive for years to come.”

The House that Real Estate Built is part of COAR’s Community Involvement program, which includes the Bend Livability Project, Building a Better Central Oregon, volunteering, donations, Realtors for Kids, sponsorships and community grants. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.coar.com/about/community-involvement>.

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About COAR

The Central Oregon Association of REALTORS® (COAR) is your voice in real estate industry in Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson and Harney Counties. COAR serves REALTORS® by maintaining ethical standards, providing continuing education, promoting the value of REALTORS®, and advocating on behalf of the real estate industry. COAR serves the public by working to build better communities by supporting quality growth and seeking sustainable economies and housing opportunities that embrace the environmental qualities we cherish, while protecting a property owner's ability to own, use, buy, and sell property.

www.coar.com, 541-382-6027

About Bend Area Habitat for Humanity

Bend Area Habitat seeks to put God's love into action to bring people together to build strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter. We are dedicated to changing lives by providing affordable homeownership for low-income families and individuals in Bend. Over the past 27 years, Bend Habitat has built 111 homes and repaired 60 more, providing more than 600 children and adults a safe, secure and healthy home. Bend Area Habitat also has a ReStore, a used and surplus home improvement center, in Bend, that accepts and sells a wide variety of building materials, appliances and home furnishings. All proceeds from the ReStore benefit Bend Habitat's mission. www.bendhabitat.org, 541.385.5387