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MORRIS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY CEO BLAIR SCHLEICHER BRAVO APPOINTED TO NATIONAL COUNCIL ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING

MORRISTOWN, N.J., October 16, 2018 – Morris Habitat for Humanity Chief Executive Officer Blair Schleicher Bravo has been appointed to Habitat for Humanity International’s U.S. Council, which guides growth for the global organization’s work in the United States. Schleicher Bravo is one of 24 leaders selected to the group that oversees policy and planning for the 1,200 affiliates nationwide.

“I’m honored and excited to be selected to serve on the U.S. Council,” said Morris Habitat for Humanity CEO, Blair Schleicher Bravo. “In its 40-year history, Habitat for Humanity International has helped three million families. We’re on the verge of tripling that. I know we can do it. Those are big goals, but the need in the United States and around the world is great. I look forward to working with the U.S. Council to help positively impact the affordable housing work here in our country.”

One of the National Council’s priorities is Habitat’s Disaster Risk and Response Program, which provides shelter assistance, education, training and partnerships to those recovering from crises. Habitat continues to address long-term shelter and housing needs in the regions of Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico and the Caribbean that were devastated by hurricanes in 2017. Habitat for Humanity is currently mobilizing its response to Hurricane Michael. The U.S. Council also is working on a mortgage platform to help affiliates partner with more homeowner families, collaborative fundraising and affordable housing advocacy.

“Advocacy is a major piece of our work as we serve as a voice to influence policy and systems at the local, state and national levels,” said Schleicher Bravo. “One in six households spends more than half of their income on shelter. That is unacceptable. We want to change hearts and minds.”

The council is comprised of leaders from Habitat affiliates around the country. Schleicher Bravo was appointed to a three-year seat and will serve a maximum of two terms.

Schleicher Bravo is an affordable housing expert with over 30 years of combined experience in government, nonprofit and business. In her 14-year tenure at Morris Habitat for Humanity, she has grown the Randolph affiliate more than ten-fold delivering over 15,000 volunteer visits annually to directly helping 60 -70 families a year through new, rehab and housing repair programs, and building a ReStore with annual revenues of nearly two million dollars.

Growth plans include doubling the number of families served each year. Active in housing advocacy work, Schleicher Bravo is a founding member and current vice chair of the Housing Alliance of Morris County; member of the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey; chair of the Mountain Lakes affordable housing advisory committee; and a member of the Affiliate Enhancement Committee of Habitat for Humanity International's U.S. Council. She also serves on the College of Humanity and Social Sciences Dean's Advisory Council at William Paterson University.

About Morris Habitat for Humanity

Morris Habitat for Humanity is part of a global, nonprofit housing organization committed to building homes, communities and hope. Through volunteer labor and donations of money and materials, Morris Habitat builds new homes and provides home repair services to income eligible families. Morris Habitat collaborates with other Habitat affiliates and related housing organizations to improve the affordable housing stock in the region, and over the last four years has more than doubled the number of homes built. Morris Habitat welcomes volunteers and supporters from all backgrounds and serves people in need of decent housing regardless of race or religion. Since 1985, Morris Habitat has served over 400 households through home ownership opportunities, home preservation, and international home building programs. Proceeds from the ReStore, opened in 2007, have helped to fund construction while diverting almost 5,800 tons of useable material from local landfills. The ReStore store is located at 274 South Salem Street, Randolph. For more information, visit www.morrishabitat.org or call 973-891-1934.

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