



**NEWS RELEASE / MEDIA EVENT**  
**For Immediate Release**

**MORRIS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY KICKS OFF 10-DAY BLITZ BUILD ON JUNE 6**  
***Hundreds of volunteers will unite to build three homes in just 10 days in Mine Hill, New Jersey***

**MINE HILL, N.J., May 29, 2018** – Morris Habitat for Humanity is taking on one of its most ambitious projects yet—building three new homes in just 10 days. Hundreds of volunteers, sponsors, and the future homeowners themselves will work side by side at Randall Avenue in Mine Hill, N.J. from June 6 – 16 to help families achieve the dream of home ownership.

“This may not be our largest project ever, but it is certainly our most ambitious,” said Blair Schleicher Bravo, Morris Habitat for Humanity CEO. “We will be working at a radically accelerated pace to build these homes so there will be so much excitement. Three more families will soon have affordable, safe and decent places to live.”

Top Blitz Build Sponsor, Valley National Bank, will lead the way by donating \$75,000 to cover the complete construction of one home. Valley National will also send over 125 volunteers to assist at the build site over the 10-day period.

“Making a positive impact in the local communities we serve is a part of our culture we embrace passionately,” remarked Ira Robbins, President & CEO of Valley National Bank. “That’s why we’re proud to sponsor Morris Habitat for Humanity’s Blitz Build, which will provide affordable housing for deserving families in our local community.”

**MEDIA EVENT:**

**What:** Blitz Build 2018  
**Where:** 52 – 58 Randall Avenue, Mine Hill, N.J.  
**When:** Opening Ceremony, Wednesday, June 6 at 1 p.m.  
Home Dedications, Saturday, June 16 at 10 a.m.  
**Who:** Speakers to include: Blair Schleicher Bravo, CEO, Morris Habitat for Humanity; Ira Robbins, President & CEO of Valley National Bank and member of the Morris Habitat Board of Directors; and local dignitaries

**\*\*\* Representatives from all of the Randall Avenue families will be available for interviews**

"It will be incredible to see the walls and roof framing put together within the first few hours of the Blitz Build," continued Schleicher Bravo. "It is magical to see so many people working together on the houses at the same time."

**ABOUT THE BLITZ BUILD FUTURE HOMEOWNER FAMILIES**

Morris Habitat for Humanity’s path to home ownership includes each family donating “sweat equity” in the amount of at least 300 hours helping to build their homes.

--John Freudenberg is a U.S. Army veteran who served in Afghanistan. He and Tiffany Giacchino have a newborn daughter. Tiffany is a social worker and John works as a painter.

--Yaneth Alba Munoz has one daughter (age 17). She is a medical assistant.

--Lourdes Peres has one son (age 10) and one daughter (age 11). She works as a home health aide.

One of the three new single-family homes is a Cape Cod with three bedrooms and two bathrooms; the other homes are two-bedroom ranches with one bathroom. The three new houses will be handicapped-adaptable. All three homes will be ENERGY STAR certified and green or reusable building materials will be used whenever possible.

Additional Blitz Build sponsors include: Metropolitan Builders & Contractors Association of New Jersey, Lakeland Bank, GAF, Wells Fargo, Beyer Ford, and Mine Hill Affordable Housing Trust Funds. Sponsorships are still needed. For more information, contact Kathy Ritchey at: 973-891-1934 ext.122 or [kathy.ritchey@morrishabitat.org](mailto:kathy.ritchey@morrishabitat.org).

### **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 2007, have helped to fund construction of 22 homes 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 [Morrishabitat.org](http://Morrishabitat.org) or call 973-891-1934.

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