

# Communities care: Miromar Lakes supports Habitat for Humanity's cause

## Golf, auction help to raise \$65,000

BY AMY SOWDER • ASOWDER@NEWS-PRESS.COM • APRIL 3, 2010

---

A group of Estero residents golfed, ate barbecue and socialized.

---

And that helped bring up the fundraising total to \$65,000 this year for Habitat for Humanity of Lee County.



Committee chairman Chuck Harrison and committee member Chuck Frederick check in for the fundraising dinner and auction after the golf tournament March 20 that the Miromar Lakes community in Estero does to benefit Habitat for Humanity of Lee County. (Special to news-press.com)

"That's \$20,000 more than last year," says Karen Quanstrom, Habitat's development vice president. "It's an expensive, expensive, respectable amount of work." The gated community's golf tournament, Taste of Miromar with 14 chefs from the community on Jan. 16, and other donations made up the total. About 64 residents of Miromar Lakes tee'd off in their third annual golf scramble for the nonprofit organization on March 20. Later that day, about 140 participants snatched up raffle tickets, bid on silent and live auction items and took in a barbeque dinner to help the Miromar community raise money for Habitat's housing cause. Habitat for Humanity of Lee County is a nonprofit organization dedicated to eliminating substandard housing in the county. Habitat has built more than 1,000 homes in Lee County since 1982. Through the use of volunteer labor and donations of money and materials, Habitat builds simple, decent housing for families who otherwise could not afford it. Homes are sold to the homeowners at no profit on an interest-free mortgage, making homeownership an affordable reality. A Miromar Lakes resident since 2002, Chuck Harrison planted the seed for the idea when he gathered a group of 10 to 15 residents to help Habitat build houses once a week.

"It's good exercise," Harrison says. By the second year of that, someone came up with the golf fundraiser idea. The next year, they added a tasting event, says Harrison, the fundraising committee chairman. The community has raised more than \$150,000 since 2007. "It's pretty exciting," Harrison says. "It's a time in many of our lives to give back to the community, both with volunteering and financially." For more information or to donate, visit [habitat4humanity.org](http://habitat4humanity.org).

---