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Publix Supermarkets Present \$50,000 & Labor to Build

Lee County, FL; January 14, 2008 – More than two dozen Publix Supermarket employees helped present a check from Publix Supermarket Charities in the amount of \$50,000 to Habitat for Humanity of Lee County on Saturday, January 12th. After presenting the check to pay for an entire Habitat home, the employees picked up hammers and started lifting walls on a Lehigh Acres Habitat house. There are 28 Publix Supermarkets in the Lee County area. The grocery store is hoping to send employees from six stores at a time to continue the building efforts until the house is complete. “This is the first time we’re participating in the Habitat building process from start to finish. We’ve been donating to Habitat for years and wanted to give our employees a hands-on experience with the non-profit,” says Donna Bonsanto, Administrative Coordinator with a local Publix Supermarket. Since 1996, Publix Supermarket Charities has donated more than \$349,000 to Habitat for Humanity of Lee County. This year the company will be recognized as Habitat’s Sustaining Sponsor of the Year for their continued efforts in building affordable, decent housing in Lee County for deserving families.

Habitat for Humanity of Lee County is a non-profit organization dedicated to eliminating substandard housing in Lee County. So far, Habitat has built more than 900 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.