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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Habitat Buffalo Dedicates The House Beer Built

**Buffalo, New York** (February 9, 2019) — Habitat for Humanity Buffalo will dedicate a home on Saturday, February 9, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. The house is located at 73 Manitoba Street in Buffalo. The construction of this home was funded by *The House Beer Built,* a year-long campaign between Habitat Buffalo and local breweries, distilleries, and bars, in partnership with the Buffalo Niagara Brewers Association.

"We are truly grateful to collaborate with the local craft brewing community," said Stephanie Lawson, Habitat Buffalo's Development & Communications Manager. "They have been enthusiastic, hands-on partners in making homeownership possible for a local family."

The House Beer Built campaign includes The Craft Brew Tour, a punch card redeemable for drinks at participating establishments, and Hammers & Ales, a beer and food tasting event hosted by Lakeward Spirits Event Center at the Barrel Factory. In the first year, the campaign raised enough money to fund the construction of a whole house, which will be purchased by a family through Habitat Buffalo's Homebuyer Program.

"Habitat is a great organization to help people get a hand up – not a hand out," said Tim Herzog, owner of Flying Bison Brewing Company, and President of Buffalo Niagara Brewers Association. "People earn their way to owning their home, repay a mortgage, and make it possible to Habitat to build another house. We're happy to support this work."

In addition to donating to *The House Beer Built* campaign, several local breweries volunteered their time toward the construction of the house. Volunteers from *12 Gates Brewing, Big Ditch Brewing, Community Beer Works,* and *Resurgence Brewing Company* helped build the home. More brewing and distilling partners are signed up to volunteer in 2019 on the next house funded by this campaign.

The house on Manitoba Street will be dedicated to Mr. Manasse Nsabiyuma and Ms. Nechode Ndayishimiye. The couple has been in Habitat Buffalo's Homebuyer Program since 2008, and has worked 500 hours of "sweat equity" in order to purchase their house. Mr. Nsabiyuma and Ms. Ndayishimiye will live in the home with their six children. Habitat Buffalo acquired the property in partnership with Buffalo Erie Niagara Land Improvement Corporation (BENLIC).

Saturday's dedication will be attended by the new homeowners, their family, Habitat Buffalo staff, Habitat volunteers, and the brewers, distillers, and sponsors who supported *The House Beer Built*.

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Habitat for Humanity Buffalo works to build strength, stability, and self-reliance through homeownership. Habitat Buffalo was established by a group of dedicated volunteers, concerned about the lack of affordable homes in the City of Buffalo. Seeking to create homeownership opportunities for low income families, Habitat Buffalo subsidizes the cost of homes through donations (both, monetary and materials) and volunteer labor. Families that purchase homes through our program are required to first contribute at least 400 hours of "sweat equity", working alongside community volunteers to construct their home and the houses of other families in the program. Once approved, families purchase their homes from Habitat Buffalo by paying a low-interest, affordable monthly mortgage. For more information, visit <u>www.habitatbuffalo.org</u>.