

November 10, 2012

MEDIA ALERT

Farm Credit Donates \$42K To Help Support A Farm Family

Farm Credit System partners, American AgCredit and CoBank have made a generous one-time donation of \$42,000 with the goal to support local Sonoma County farm families by donating to Habitat for Humanity to help sponsor a home for a local family working in agriculture.

Through their respective contribution programs each organization donates to a worthy agricultural-related non-profit that will support their local communities.

CoBank is sponsoring this project as part of its Growing Rural America Initiative, and American AgCredit is donating as part of its community outreach program, which aims to build and support the communities in which it operates.

About the Farm Credit System

Founded in 1916, the Farm Credit System is a nationwide network of banks and retail lending associations chartered to support the financing needs of U.S. agriculture and the nation's rural economy. Combined, American AgCredit and CoBank serve more than 75,000 farmers, ranchers and other rural borrowers in 23 states around the country, with a majority in the West and Midwest. Nationwide, Farm Credit provides more than \$174 billion in loans, leases, and related services to farmers, ranchers, rural homeowners, aquatic producers, timber harvesters, agribusinesses, and agricultural and rural utility cooperatives.

About American AgCredit

Founded in 1916, American AgCredit specializes in providing financial services to agricultural and rural customers throughout California, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, Kansas and Oklahoma, as well as to capital markets customers in more than 30 states across the nation. American AgCredit serves customers through branch offices located throughout the Western and Midwestern states, with corporate headquarters in Santa Rosa. American AgCredit offers a broad range of agricultural loan and leasing services from winery, orchard, timber, row crops and dairy financing to country homes loans, equipment leasing and construction financing.

About CoBank

CoBank is a national cooperative bank serving vital industries across rural America. The bank provides loans, leases, export financing and other financial services to agribusinesses and rural power, water and communications providers in all 50 states. CoBank is a member of the Farm Credit System, a nationwide network of banks and retail lending associations chartered to support the borrowing needs of U.S. agriculture and the nation's rural economy. In addition to serving its direct retail borrowers, the bank also provides wholesale loans and other financial services to affiliated Farm Credit associations serving more than 70,000 farmers, ranchers and other rural borrowers in 23 states around the country.

(more)



About Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity of Sonoma County (HfHSoCo) is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International. HfHSoCo is a faith-based organization dedicated to improving lives by building modest, affordable homes in partnership with our communities and people in need. Our vision is for Sonoma County families in need to have a simple, decent place to live. Since the inception of the Sonoma County Habitat for Humanity affiliate in 1984, the nonprofit organization has built and renovated 31 homes in the county, with three more currently under construction. Complete details on how to donate to Habitat for Humanity of Sonoma County, how to volunteer, or how to apply to become a Habitat partner family is available at www.HabitatSoCo.org or by calling (707) 578-7707.

Contact Information

W. Terry Lindley – American AgCredit

Leili Ghazi – CoBank

Tyler Turkle – Habitat for Humanity

tlindley@agloan.com / 707-545-1200

LGhazi@cobank.com / 916-380-3534

t.turkle@habitatsoco.org / 707-578-7707 x 106

(more)



PROJECT FACTS-----

Home address: 2826 Fulton Rd., Santa Rosa

Family information: Alberto and Maria Garcia have been married for 18 years, and have 4 sons ranging in age from 4 to 17. They are a hard-working immigrant family with permanent resident status. Alberto has worked as a butcher at Rancho Feeding Corporation for 12 years, and Maria works at Sonoma Tilemakers in Windsor. All 4 boys, who are doing well in school, share a room in the family's current small apartment.

Qualification criteria: Families must be low-income (typically 50-60 percent of median income) and currently living in sub-standard housing. They must have stable employment so that they can repay the no-or low-interest mortgage over a 15-30 year period. Also, family members are required to invest 500 hours of "sweat equity"—time spent building their own home or other Habitat homes.

Home Build Milestones:

April 27, 2012	House purchased by Habitat For Humanity
June 6	Reconstruction work begins
July 16-17	HVAC system installed
July 26	Electrical system re-wired
July 30	Solar installed
Aug 2-8	Drywall repaired
Aug 10-14	Floors re-tiled
Aug 10	Exterior painting
Aug 11	Fence building / Exterior yard clean-up
Aug 18	Interior painting
Aug 20	Tub replaced
Aug 21-22	Floors refinished
Aug 22-23	New appliances installed
Aug 23	New carpet installed
Aug 24-31	Clean up / Punch list review
November 10	Home Dedication and Family Move In!

#