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**Rebuilding Together Dutchess County to Repair Five Homes in Dutchess County During National Rebuilding Month this April**

*Poughkeepsie, NY, April 1, 2018* – Rebuilding Together, a leading national nonprofit organization with a mission to repair the homes of people in need and revitalize our communities, will host its annual National Rebuilding Month this April. **More than 33,000 volunteers will serve in nearly 1,500 affiliate-led rebuild projects throughout the country during National Rebuilding Month.**

In our community, Rebuilding Together Dutchess County ([www.rebuildingtogetherdutchess.org](http://www.rebuildingtogetherdutchess.org)) will host volunteers to repair five homes in Dutchess County during National Rebuilding Month. Homeowners being assisted on National Rebuilding Day include Frank, a 93 year old widowed WWII veteran who has owned his Hyde Park home for the past 40 years. Frank served in the Navy from 1943-1945, where he was actively deployed in the South Pacific and to this day recalls the sadness of his experiences by recalling these events as something "no one should ever see or experience." When we first met Frank at his home we were overwhelmed by his enthusiasm to be getting a visit from RTDC and be considered for our program: "I'm just so happy and touched that you came to meet me and even consider me and my home. It's good to see that people and community still care!"

Throughout April, Rebuilding Together affiliates and volunteers will serve people in need, including veterans, people with disabilities, older adults, families with children and victims of disaster by providing them with a variety of critical home repairs. Repairs will include flooring replacement, weatherization improvements, roof and handrail replacements, accessibility modifications, plumbing, painting, landscaping, and other major home rehabilitation work. The repairs are provided free of charge to the recipients who often live with limited resources and must choose food and needed medicine over critical home repairs. These choices over time can lead to crumbling foundations, dangerously sagging roofs, and windows and doors that can't be securely shut.

“Too many of our neighbors throughout the country suffer from the health and economic consequences of living in substandard housing and unsafe communities,” said Caroline Blakely, President and CEO of Rebuilding Together. “National Rebuilding Month serves as a call to action to encourage everyone to support their neighbors, strengthen their community and ensure everyone is living in safe and healthy homes.”

National Rebuilding Month will culminate on National Rebuilding Day, Saturday April, 28. Rebuilding Together volunteers will work in a concerted effort to complete critical repairs on homes, nonprofit facilities and community spaces to bring immediate change to communities across the country.

National Rebuilding Month originated in 1973 in Midland, TX with volunteers helping neighbors rebuild their homes. The group founded Rebuilding Together, at the time “Christmas in April,” and gathered around a month of service each year in April. The mission then grew beyond the idea of providing service one month per year to bringing volunteers together to provide neighbors in need with critical repairs year-round.

For more information on National Rebuilding Month, visit <http://www.rebuildingtogetherdutchess.org/national-rebuilding-month> and follow #RebuildingMonth on social media.

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**Rebuilding Together** is the leading national nonprofit in repairing homes, revitalizing communities, and rebuilding lives with more than 40 years of experience. Together, with our corporate and community partners, we transform the lives of low-income homeowners by improving the safety of their homes and revitalizing our communities. **Rebuilding Together Dutchess County** and nearly 350 volunteers complete about 20 rebuild projects county-wide each year. Learn more and get involved at [www.rebuildingtogetherdutchess.org](http://www.rebuildingtogetherdutchess.org).