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Public Stacking of Blocks Highlights Habitat for Humanity Builds in Lincoln

Donated concrete for home will strengthen affordable housing, making it more resilient and sustainable.

[LINCOLN, NE] — Habitat for Humanity of Lincoln and representatives of Build With Strength gathered on Saturday, May 15th for a public stacking of blocks to celebrate the construction of Habitat's newest home in Lincoln. Build With Strength is partnering with Habitat to fortify decent, affordable, and sustainable housing in the area. The Nebraska Concrete and Aggregates Association has led the effort with donations, volunteers and materials. Capital Concrete, Central Plains Cement, Carrol Supply, Stephens and Smith Construction, and FoxBlocks are also providing materials and services for the single-family unit being constructed with Insulated Concrete Forms (ICFs). The project is set for completion near the end of 2021.

Backed by the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA), Build With Strength is a coalition of architects, builders, engineers, emergency services personnel, policymakers and others committed to solving challenging housing issues. Build With Strength is partnering with Habitat nationally to help further address those issues on a large scale.

"We are always looking for opportunities to get involved in the community. The Build With Strength and Habitat partnership is a great opportunity to do so," said Jeff Mulder, Promotions Director for the Nebraska Concrete and Aggregates Association. "Building with ICFs will provide the Habitat homeowners with a truly high-quality home. The energy efficiency benefits and resilient nature of concrete will both reduce costs and provide peace of mind. We look forward to continued partnership with Habitat and the other stakeholders involved," he said.

ICFs are foam blocks that stack like Legos™ and provide a core for the concrete to cure. The installation of ICFs can drastically cut construction time and requires less labor. The installation of this system is easy on volunteers, creates a safer construction site for build teams, reduces noise and waste on the jobsite, and provides an energy efficient home for the new homeowners.

"At the end of the day, all of our builds are done with the homeowner top of mind," said Josh Hanshaw, Executive Director for Habitat for Humanity of Lincoln. "We are thankful to the Nebraska Concrete and Aggregates Association for their leadership, the local companies that donated product, and also for our volunteers. We've not yet done a build using this method but are confident and excited to see the benefits that it brings our homeowners."

About National Ready Mixed Concrete Association

NRMCA is celebrating 90 years of representing the producers of ready mixed concrete and the companies that provide materials, equipment, and support to the industry. It conducts education, training, promotion, research, engineering, safety, environmental, technological, lobbying and regulatory programs. To learn more, visit <https://www.nrmca.org/>.

About Build With Strength

Build With Strength is a coalition of the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association and works with communities, lawmakers, and industry employees to advocate for safer, sustainable building materials. To learn more, visit <https://buildwithstrength.com/>.

Nebraska Concrete and Aggregates Association

NC&AA is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion, improvement, and growth of the industry. Since 1983, The Nebraska Concrete & Aggregates Association has worked diligently to represent the concrete industry through ongoing training and education, promotion, safety concerns, legislative oversight, and long-range planning efforts.

Habitat for Humanity of Lincoln

Habitat for Humanity of Lincoln is part of a global, nonprofit housing organization that brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope. Alongside future homeowners, volunteers, and supporters, Habitat for Humanity of Lincoln helps Habitat homeowners achieve the strength, stability, and independence they need to build a better life for themselves and their families. To date, Habitat Lincoln has built or repaired more than 180 homes; serving more than 810 local individuals and nearly as many globally through Habitat International's tithe program, serving approximately 1,500 individuals. More information can be found at www.lincolnhabitat.org.

Learn more at www.buildwithstrength.com

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