



10.25.2021

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Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity and Build With Strength host site visit event to announce the construction of newest home

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

[DES MOINES, IA] — Build With Strength, Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity, Iowa Ready Mixed Concrete Association and other partners gathered on Wednesday, October 13th to celebrate the construction of Habitat’s newest home in Des Moines. The home is being constructed using ICFs (Insulating Concrete Forms). ICFs are an innovative, resilient, and sustainable building system. All concrete for the home is being donated by National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA) members like Manatts, Inc.

Build With Strength is partnering with Habitat across the country to fortify decent, affordable, and sustainable housing and members of the NRMCA have led the material donation efforts.

The event Tuesday featured remarks by many of the partners involved in the project and also recognition of the homebuyers.

“We are very grateful for our partnership with Build With Strength and the concrete industry. Their generous donations are significantly impacting our community and helping to provide an affordable homeownership opportunity for a qualified family,” said Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Lance Henning. “ICF is a unique building technique that our homebuyers will greatly appreciate in the long run. Their home will be extremely durable and also benefit them financially.”

ICFs combine the strength and durability of reinforced concrete with the versatility of highly engineered rigid insulation to provide the most ideal building material. From improved energy-efficiency to lower life cycle costs, ICFs are the building material of choice thanks to their affordability, sustainability, and durability.

“Greater Des Moines Habitat’s reach into this community is very clear. We’re honored to participate in their mission to provide access to decent, affordable housing,” said Gregg Lewis, Executive Vice President with the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association. “Our hope is

that the family moving in here will have peace of mind knowing that their house is constructed with ICFs. We're thankful for the opportunity to be a small part in a much larger mission. Everyone deserves to have a place to call home."

"This partnership enables the ICF and Ready Mixed Concrete industries to support the very worthy Habitat For Humanity effort on a national level and gives us a great opportunity to set an example for how we should be building resilient communities across the country, said Andy Lennox, president of Logix Brands."

Backed by the 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.

Insulating Concrete Forms Manufacturers Association (ICFMA), American Concrete Pumping Association (ACPA), Logix, Iowa Ready Mixed Concrete Association, Manatts, Ide Concrete Homes and Continental Cement were also involved in the event and partnership.

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/>.

About Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity

In 2020 Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity partnered with the Des Moines community to build hope with 19 partner homebuyer families, giving 78 people, including 39 children, the greatest gift of all – a brighter future that they can make their own. Together we completed 229 home repairs, preservation, and weatherization projects with existing homeowners and in community areas through GDM Habitat's Rock the Block® program. Since our inception in 1986, we have served more than 2,000 total families.

About Insulating Concrete Forms Manufacturing Association

The Insulating Concrete Forms Manufacturers Association (ICFMA) is the North American non-profit trade association for the Insulated Concrete Form industry and was founded in 2014 by a dedicated group of manufacturers with the interest of improving the quality and acceptance of Insulated Concrete Form construction.

About American Concrete Pumping Association

The American Concrete Pumping Association was founded in 1974 with the objectives to promote concrete pumping as the choice method of placing concrete, and to encourage and educate the concrete pumping industry on safe concrete pumping procedures.

About Logix Brands

Logix Brands is owned by a group of leading expanded polystyrene manufacturers who joined forces to create a company focused on designing, developing and manufacturing products for a better and more sustainable future.

About Iowa Ready Mixed Concrete Association

The Iowa Ready Mixed Concrete Association was formed in 1949 as a state organization representing the ready mixed concrete industry. Its membership includes ready mixed concrete producers, material suppliers, equipment manufacturers, and other companies interested in promoting the use of ready mixed concrete.

About Continental Cement

Continental Cement started making cement in Hannibal, MO, in 1903 and are the proud producers of high-quality cement that has been used in many iconic construction projects, like the Empire State Building and the Panama Canal. More recently, Continental's cement has been used in the Minnesota Vikings' new football stadium and the St. Louis Cardinals' newest baseball stadium. Continental has a location in West Des Moines that was supportive of this project.

About Manatts, Inc.

Founded in 1947, Manatt's has built, paved, and hauled across the Midwest and beyond with quality products and a commitment to safety. Manatts, Inc. has grown over years to include asphalt and concrete paving, sealcoating, milling, trenching, and specialty services.

Learn more at www.buildwithstrength.com

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