

PRESS RELEASE
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**NATIONAL COMMUNITY RENAISSANCE GETS HELP RELOCATING
PLAYGROUND SO THAT CHILDREN AT LOW INCOME HOUSING
COMMUNITY HAVE PLACE TO PLAY**

***More than 40 volunteers mostly from HD Supply will help rebuild playground that was
relocated from other apartment site destroyed by Hurricane Ike.***

HOUSTON – The playground just stood there, abandoned. It was the only part of the apartment complex not destroyed by Hurricane Ike. The apartment buildings that were home to low income families and seniors did not fare so well. The buildings were condemned, but the newly installed playground was intact. Meanwhile, less than four miles away the children at another apartment community for low income families didn't have a playground. All that changed when HD Supply, Gemstar Construction, and other companies decided to help the nonprofit owner and manager of both apartment communities relocate the playground to its new site.

On Saturday, December 5, 2009, from 8 a.m. – 11 a.m. volunteers will paint the newly installed playground and plant landscaping as part of a "Day of Caring" event sponsored by HD Supply and others at the Sunflower Terrace Apartments located at 5050 Sunflower Street, Houston. The day will end with a dedication ceremony and lunch of grilled hamburgers and hot dogs.

"HD Supply, Gemstar, and all the companies involved have demonstrated extraordinary investment and compassion for the communities where they conduct business," said National Community Renaissance CEO Orlando Cabrera. "These organizations are making a dramatic difference in the lives of the children and families that will finally have a great place to gather and play."

National Community Renaissance is a nonprofit developer and property manager of affordable housing communities for low income residents. Its mission is to create healthy, thriving communities through affordable housing and social programs that promote education and health. It works with community partners such as elected officials, residents, and corporate partners to support low income communities with resources that improve quality of life. HD Supply and Gemstar are corporate partners that have seen first hand the dramatic community improvements National Community Renaissance has achieved nationwide.

HD Supply, one of the largest diversified wholesale distributors in the infrastructure and energy, maintenance, repair and improvement and specialty construction markets, selected the playground project as part of its Day of Caring initiative. Day of Caring is a company-wide community action program where employees, in the spirit of volunteerism, assist local community organizations. HD Supply was the catalyst for the project; soon after their involvement, other organizations joined the effort including Gemstar Construction Inc. which is based in Houston. Other supporters include California Roofing, Criterion Block, Dworsky Companies, Fire N Ice, Gemstar HVAC, Landscape by Jim, May Recreation Equipment & Design, LP, Presto, and Western General Painting.

About National Community Renaissance (National CORE): National CORE is a nonprofit development organization dedicated to building and managing quality affordable apartment homes and dramatically transforming communities by providing attractive, safe, and affordable housing for seniors and families of all income levels.

About Hope Through Housing Foundation (Hope): Hope provides best-practice, outcome-based services with a long-term commitment to the health of vulnerable neighborhoods. While National CORE designs, develops, and builds high quality homes for low income communities, Hope works to create measurable positive change in the lives of children, adults and families living in these communities. This is a unique model for social service delivery in the affordable housing industry. It assures that social services are high quality and achieve measurable results.