

Habitat for Humanity – Women's build in Johannesburg, August 2011

One or two folk who have been involved in Habitat for Humanity builds previously have been asking about the possibility of a British Unit build in South Africa, around the time of the WFMUCW World Assembly there. Whilst very supportive of this in principle, we have said all along that we do not have the capacity, as unit officers, to organise this, as it is a huge commitment and would need an enthusiast from the Unit to be willing to take it on.

However, I did approach Janice Clark, before she left for Sierra Leone, and she discovered the possibility that a women's "blitz build" will take place in Jo'burg at a similar time. I know Janice has been in touch with the World President of WFMUCW, Chita Millan, about this, and was hoping that invitations to participate would go out along with the booking information for the Assembly. Indeed, this may still happen, but neither seems to be forthcoming just yet, so in order to alert you all to this possibility, I have tried below to set out the little information I have about this in a coherent way!

If you are interested in the possibility of being involved, please contact FRANCES WILLIAMS
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- There is to be a women's blitz build in Jo'burg: *"We have an annual Women's Day Build in August in line with our National Women's Day public holiday. This build is to remember and celebrate the role women played in the struggle to end apartheid. During this event we serve female headed households."*
- The tentative dates for this event would be the 1st - 6th of August or the 15th - 20th of August 2011.
- The folk in HFH Jo'burg would be happy for our women to join in with this event.
- They would not have to do the full week, but would need to fundraise to support the cost of the house they work on. (The people working on a house have to raise the cost of a house between them. This then goes into the revolving fund, providing funding for more houses. The homeowners still have to pay back the cost of the house. Estimated costs: around \$18,200 for the week per family served.)
- Teams of 10 - 15 volunteers per day for 5 days are required. They don't necessarily have to be the same volunteers every day. This allows a total of 50 - 75 volunteers to participate during a Blitz-Build of 5 days.
- H4H don't arrange accommodation and transport so separate arrangements would have to be made. You could use the same organisation that HFH Great Britain uses for the Cape Town GV Teams as they operate in Johannesburg as well.

Blessings,

Jill, Kathleen & Ann