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IWU Students Commit to Service, Raising Walls During Spring Break with Habitat for Humanity

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IWU Students Commit to Service, Raising Walls During Spring Break with Habitat for Humanity

March 5, 2007

BLOOMINGTON, III. – Fourteen Illinois Wesleyan University students will join fellow spring breakers from across the country to participate in Habitat for Humanity's "Collegiate Challenge."

During the week of March 17-25, fourteen IWU students will help build simple and affordable homes for families in need. The students, all with different levels of experience, are as follows: Timothy Boecher ('08 Chemistry major), Stefan Eichenauer ('07Business Administration major), Stosh Eichenauer ('09 Chemistry major), Jon Flaherty ('07 History/ IS Western European Studies major), Meghan Gembara ('08 Hispanic Studies major), Pearl Huang ('10 Physics major), Sarah Kappel ('10 Chemistry major), Scott Krabbe ('10 Chemistry major), Frank Mocerino ('07 History major), Melissa Myers ('09 Chemistry major), Jill Raabe ('07 Biology major), Drew Snodgrass ('08 Political Science/ Religion major), Stacey Tuttle ('08 Psychology major) and Alicia Vallarta ('10 English/Secondary Education major).

"Last year, students made such a difference by giving one week of their time to help people in need of housing," said Alynn Woodson, Collegiate Challenge manager for Habitat for Humanity International. "Volunteering with Habitat on their breaks also gives students a great chance to travel to new locations and spend time with their friends building a home."

More than 12,500 students have signed up to help build homes in 235 locations as part of this year's Collegiate Challenge program. The program offers high school-age and college-age students year-round opportunities to use their vacations to serve a community by volunteering to build homes.

Throughout its 18-year history, more than 139,000 students have traveled to build Habitat houses through Habitat's Collegiate Challenge program. During this time, students raised more than \$11 million through the program to pay for construction. This year alone, Collegiate Challenge students will contribute \$1.4 million to help build houses.

Habitat for Humanity International is an ecumenical Christian ministry that welcomes to its work all people dedicated to the cause of eliminating poverty housing. Since its founding in Americus, Ga., in 1976, Habitat has built more than 200,000 houses in nearly 100 countries, providing shelter for more than 1 million people. For additional information, visit http://www.habitat.org.