



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TruWest® Credit Union and Habitat for Humanity® Central Arizona to break ground on first LEED® Platinum Certified home in Chandler, AZ.

TruWest Credit Union has spent more than a year donating \$250 from every mortgage it received to Habitat for Humanity to help an Arizona family in need achieve the American dream of owning a home. *Saturday, November 8 at 10 am, TruWest will join the Morina family for the wall raising ceremony at the site of their new home in Chandler (283 E. Kesler St.).* Joining TruWest will be members of its Board of Directors, Senior Management, Clark Howard – a nationally broadcasted radio host and strong supporter of Habitat for Humanity; as well as more than 20 TruWest member-owners. A local Girl Scouts troop will even be on hand to supply lunch for all the volunteers.

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification is established through a rating system that promotes the design and construction of high-performance "green" homes. A green home uses less energy, water and natural resources; creates less

waste; and is healthier and more comfortable for the occupants. Benefits of a LEED home include lower energy and water bills; reduced greenhouse gas emissions; and less exposure to mold, mildew and other indoor toxins. The Platinum level (the highest level awarded to homebuilders) home in Chandler will include green items such as drought-tolerant landscaping; Energy Star® rated appliances; energy efficient windows and water fixtures; as well as a solar powered water heater donated by APS.

“The partnership with TruWest allows Habitat to continue the efforts to be an environmentally friendly builder and make our homes more affordable for families,” said Roger Schwierjohn, President and CEO of Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona.

“Because of the generosity of TruWest, Habitat is once again able to progress in our mission of safe and decent housing.”

TruWest Credit Union is pleased to help the Morina family achieve their goal of owning a home and want to ensure they have a safe and efficient environment to raise their three-year-old son, Demokrats. Shemsi and Fitor Morina are from Kosovo and they currently live in a small apartment that doesn't have a safe place outside for Demokrats to play. They have been working very hard to qualify to be a Habitat Family and are looking forward to breaking ground on their new home this Saturday.

As part of the credit union philosophy of “people helping people” and TruWest's dedication to making a *TruDifference*, getting involved in the community is an integral part of TruWest's culture of caring. With the tough economic times at hand, now more than ever, it is important to give back to those in need. TruWest Credit Union is proud to sponsor this Habitat for Humanity house and looks forward to watching it develop into a home for the Morina family.

ABOUT TRUWEST CREDIT UNION

TruWest Credit Union is headquartered in Tempe, Arizona and operates as a cooperative to provide its membership with a lifetime of quality financial services. TruWest is a strong and sound financial institution with more than 69,000 members and assets totaling more than \$800 million. TruWest has 15 branches—nine in the metro-Phoenix area and six in Austin, Texas. For more information, visit truwest.org.

ABOUT HABITAT FOR HUMANITY CENTRAL ARIZONA

Serving Central Arizona since 1985, Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona (HFHCAZ) is a grassroots Christian housing organization dedicated to eliminating poverty housing by building affordable housing. Habitat helps families of low and moderate incomes become homeowners. HFHCAZ also builds community partnerships that promote spiritual values and individual responsibility.

Since its inception in 1985, the Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona affiliate is one of the most active of the Habitat affiliates and is responsible for the building of more than 698 new homes. Currently the affiliate is active in Apache Junction, Avondale, Chandler, Gilbert, Glendale, Mesa, Peoria, Phoenix and Surprise. Visit our website, <http://www.habitataz.org>.

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