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**Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley in Washington, DC, to oppose proposed federal cuts that would exacerbate affordable housing crisis in Washtenaw County**

Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley joins over 340 Habitat leaders, homeowners and volunteers in Washington, D.C., to encourage members of Congress to support affordable housing

**Ann Arbor, Mich., Feb. 14, 2018 -** Representatives of Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley (Habitat Huron Valley) are in Washington, DC, this week, warning that proposed federal cuts will worsen the affordable housing crisis facing Washtenaw County and other communities across the United States.

The budget proposed by the White House this week would drastically cut—and in some cases entirely eliminate—funding that communities use to finance the development of new affordable homes. Habitat Huron Valley uses funding from the Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) to cover costs of building and renovating roughly 19 houses each year in Washtenaw County. The White House budget proposal would eliminate those funds entirely.

Habitat Huron Valley joins more than 340 Habitat leaders, volunteers and homeowners from across the country in Washington, DC, this week to advocate for affordable housing. In meetings with federal representatives, Habitat Huron Valley is calling on Congress to set aside the flawed budget proposal and instead work to prioritize solutions that will end the affordable housing crisis.

“There is no question that we are in an affordable housing crisis,” said Habitat for Humanity International CEO Jonathan Reckford. “More than 18 million families are paying more than half of their paychecks on their housing. Leaders in cities and towns across the country are sounding the alarm, because even middle-class workers like teachers can no longer find housing that fits their budgets. We will make sure those voices are heard in Washington this week as we meet with members of Congress.”

**About Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley**Established in 1989, Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley has built or renovated over 200 homes in Washtenaw County. Habitat homeowners qualify for an affordable mortgage from Habitat, make a $1,000 down payment, and put in at least 250 hours (per adult household member) of “sweat equity” building their home. Habitat has expanded to provide home improvement projects to low-income families in neighborhoods we already target, providing over 500 such projects since 2011. For more information, visit www.h4h.org.

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