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REALTORS® get first look at renovated home they're sponsoring as part of the Super Bowl Housing Legacy Project

INDIANAPOLIS (Sept. 21, 2010) — As part of the 2012 Super Bowl Housing Legacy Project on the Near Eastside, area REALTORS® will provide 32 residences that will become homes for homeless families.

Project leaders and REALTORS® gathered today at one of the homes to get a firsthand look at how their funding is being put to work. Participants included Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard; Mark Miles, chairman of the 2012 Super Bowl Host Committee; Regina Jones, REALTOR® Foundation president; and James Taylor, chief executive officer of the John H. Boner Community Center.

The event was held at 822 N. Tacoma Avenue, the site of a formerly abandoned duplex, which is being gutted and renovated, and later this year will be home to two homeless families. The first family is expected to move into the residence later this fall.

The REALTOR® Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the Metropolitan Indianapolis Board of REALTORS® (MIBOR), has pledged \$500,000 to help revive the St. Clair Place neighborhood, where about 40 percent of the homes and lots are vacant or abandoned, many of those due to foreclosure.

The REALTORS®' financial support helped the John H. Boner Community Center and Indy-east Asset Development (I-AD) purchase homes and lots, which will include the projected renovation of 21 residences and the construction of 11 homes. All will be rented to homeless families or families at-risk of being homeless. They all will receive support services coordinated by the nearby Boner Center to help them become self-sufficient.

"Our goal is to give homeless families a second lease on life by not only providing affordable housing, but ensuring they have services they need to become successful and provide for their families," said Jones, a Carpenter REALTOR®.

"The REALTOR® Foundation's commitment to funding the renovation and construction of 32 properties on the Near-Eastside will make a tremendous impact on the lives of families who will soon call these residences home," said Mayor Greg Ballard. "The 2012 Super Bowl Housing Legacy Project is moving forward on a path of revitalizing the St. Clair Place neighborhood and beyond to improve the quality of life for our citizens and create a vibrant place for families to become stable, to grow and to secure a successful future."

The REALTORS®' effort to provide homes for the homeless is part of the larger Super Bowl Housing Legacy Project, which aspires to build, repair, or renovate 150 to 200 homes and units of affordable housing on the Near Eastside.

For more information on the project and about the REALTOR® Foundation, go to www.RealtorFoundation.org.