

PRESS RELEASE
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Duran & Venables' Partners with Habitat for Humanity to Help Families

Milpitas, Calif.—Silicon Valley Habitat for Humanity (Habitat) celebrates its 20th anniversary this year—and it's going to be its busiest year ever. Habitat built 28 homes for local families in need during its first 19 years and currently has 16 more under construction. Among those is a unique home that involves the support and volunteer efforts of several local companies, like Duran & Venables, a grading and paving construction firm in Milpitas.

The new home at 312 Willow Street in San Jose is being built for a family with two children, one of whom is in a wheelchair. "It's the first unit we've built to accommodate a handicapped child," says David Randolph, construction project director for Habitat.

The house is the first project in the region administered by Habitat's new Women Build program, which brings together women from all social-economic conditions to address the problem of children in poverty by building homes. Women Build provides a supportive environment where women can learn home-building skills and actually do the hands-on work involved in building a home.

The Willow Street home, with an expected value of \$600,000 next year, is the latest Habitat project to bring together a caring group of companies and people throughout the area who wish to give back to the community through support, services and volunteer time.

Duran & Venables is one local company that has donated a number of volunteer hours and services over the past few years and recently to the Willow Street project. Last month, with a crew of four workers and two machines, Duran & Venables prepped the home site for a dedication ceremony and later excavated the site, built the garage pad and prepared the site for the construction phase.



Duran & Venables' team members lend a helping hand (from left): Dan Quinn, Ray Aguirre, Joe Reynolds, and Gil Jurado.

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Duran & Venables/Habitat for Humanity – 2

Duran & Venables President Sean Venables started his business 27 years ago and credits the community—and the hard work that goes along with building a business—to the company's success.

"This is one way for us to give back to a community that has been very good to us," says Venables. "Habitat for Humanity is an excellent organization that is helping so many families, while also easing the housing problem in San Jose."

The city of San Jose donated the property for the home. Eighty percent of the labor and about 10 percent of the materials are donated as well. The new owners of the home are responsible for paying the hard cost of construction—just 40 percent of its estimated value, thanks to Habitat's volunteers and donations from companies like Duran & Venables. Habitat families must also contribute 500 hours of work toward the project, according to Randolph. "No matter what the role or responsibilities of the program's participants, we all share one common desire—to help families in need and make our community a better place to live."



Duran & Venables' Ray Aguirre sweeps up.

About Habitat for Humanity

Established in 1986, the Silicon Valley affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International is one of over 2,000 affiliates worldwide. Its vision is to eliminate substandard living conditions in Santa Clara County and help low-income families build and own their own homes. To date, Silicon Valley Habitat for Humanity has provided quality, affordable homes to 28 families with 95 children.

About Duran & Venables

Duran & Venables is a leading provider of grading and paving construction services in Northern California. For more than 27 years, Duran & Venables has been providing quality service and products to its customers, while offering an excellent working environment for its employees. Winning the California Prospector Award for Excellence and the Engineering and Utilities Contractors Association's Excellence in Safety Award two years in a row reflects its long-term commitment and dedication to its customers, employees and community.