

NEWS



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Houston Habitat for Humanity Honors HBA With First Legacy Award

(Houston, October 31, 2017) Houston Habitat for Humanity honored the Houston Bar Association (HBA) with its inaugural Legacy Award at Habitat's 30th Anniversary Luncheon on October 25 at the Westin Galleria Houston. The award recognized the commitment of the HBA and its members in building 20 Habitat homes over the past 20 years.

"We are deeply honored to be the first recipient of this award from Houston Habitat, an organization that has helped thousands of Houstonians achieve their dream of home ownership," said Alistair Dawson, president of the HBA and a former chair of the HBA Habitat Committee. "The award reflects the commitment of our members, who have generously donated over \$1,180,000 to build 20 homes since 1997."

Over 4,430 volunteers have helped build the HBA's 20 houses that have become homes for low-income families that included 26 adults and 41 children. Habitat homeowners contribute up to 300 hours of "sweat equity" and complete home maintenance and financial training to purchase homes with affordable mortgages. In addition to building homes, the HBA members donated over \$22,000 to purchase gifts for the families, including providing appliances and stocking food pantries.

HBA member Antoinette "Toni" Jackson, a partner with the Affordable Housing and Real Estate practice of Jones Walker LLP, was the Carl Umland Award Honoree for her community service in national, state and local programs that address affordable housing. Umland was a founding member of Houston Habitat for Humanity and became its first president in 1987.

The HBA's next fund drive is scheduled for December 1, 2017-February 1, 2018. The bar association hopes to begin construction on its 21st Habitat home in the spring of 2018.

Photo cutline: Houston Habitat Executive Director, Allison Hay, presents the Legacy Award to Houston Bar Association President, Alistair Dawson. Photo credit: Third Eye Photography.

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The Houston Bar Association is an 11,200-member nonprofit professional organization for attorneys. The HBA provides professional development, education, and service programs for the legal profession and the community.