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Habitat for Humanity of York County and Floyd D. Johnson Technology Center Partner for Beloved Community Classroom Build and House Blessing on November 17

York, S.C. — November 12, 2025 – Habitat for Humanity of York County (HFHYC) and Floyd D. Johnson Technology Center (FDJTC) are excited to announce the **Beloved Community Classroom Build**, a groundbreaking partnership connecting education, workforce development, and affordable homeownership.

Kicking off in September, students enrolled in FDJTC’s Construction Technologies program began building a Habitat home from the ground up. Under the supervision of their instructors and Habitat’s construction team, students are gaining hands-on experience in every stage of residential construction, from framing to finishing. Once complete, the home will be moved to its permanent location in York, where it will be purchased by the **Simpson family**—a three-generation York Schools family deeply rooted in the community.

Future homeowner Rafette Simpson, her mother **Yvonne**, and her son **Reagan** are excited to see their dream of homeownership come to life through this collaborative effort.

“This project embodies our mission of building homes, communities, and hope,” said **Tim Veeck**, CEO of Habitat for Humanity of York County. “It allows us to not only build a safe, affordable home with a local family but also empower students with the skills and confidence needed for future careers.”

Dr. Lee C. Green, Director of Floyd D. Johnson Technology Center added, “The Beloved Community Classroom Build transforms our students’ education into real-world impact. They are not just building a house—they are helping a York family achieve the dream of affordable homeownership, while learning valuable skills that will serve them throughout their lives.”

The Beloved Community Classroom Build exemplifies how collaboration can generate long-term educational and community benefits—preparing students for success while addressing the pressing need for affordable homeownership in York County.

House Blessing Ceremony – November 17

Habitat for Humanity of York County and Floyd D. Johnson Technology Center invite the community to join them in celebrating the **Beloved Community Classroom Build** at a **House Blessing Ceremony** on **Monday, November 17, at 12:00 PM** at **Floyd D. Johnson Technology Center, York Comprehensive High School, 275 Alexander Love Hwy, York, SC 29745**.

The House Blessing Ceremony is a cherished Habitat tradition that marks the beginning of the home's construction and honors the faith, partnership, and perseverance that make each build possible. During this meaningful event, students, teachers, community partners, and volunteers will gather with the **Simpson family** to bless the home, share words of encouragement and prayer, and celebrate the start of their journey toward homeownership.

Guests will also have the opportunity to sign the frame of the home—leaving messages of hope, love, and blessing for the future homeowners—while touring the classroom build site and hearing reflections from project partners about the impact of this unique educational and community initiative.

For more information about events or to learn how you can support Habitat for Humanity of York County, please visit www.yorkcountyhabitat.org or contact **Summersby Okey** at sokey@yorkcountyhabitat.org or (803) 982-9828. For service inquiries, please call (803) 328-1728 ext. 3 or email services@yorkcountyhabitat.org.

About Habitat for Humanity of York County

Habitat for Humanity of York County is a nonprofit organization that seeks to put God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities, and hope. HFHYC is dedicated to addressing disparities and creating equitable opportunities in the housing market through constructing, rehabilitating, and preserving homes; by advocating for fair and just housing policies; and by providing financial literacy education and access to resources to ensure everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

About Floyd D Johnson Technology Center

Located on the campus of York Comprehensive High School, the Floyd D. Johnson Technology Center serves students in grades 9–12 as York School District One's hub for Career and Technical Education. FDJTC is committed to preparing students for the workforce by offering access to 27 career pathways and the opportunity to earn more than

35 industry-recognized credentials. FDJTC's mission is to cultivate a service-oriented community of learners who strive for personal growth and excellence as communicators, collaborators, creators, and critical thinkers.