



**THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED**

Media Release

NGC partners with Habitat for Humanity Trinidad and Tobago to build yet another house for underprivileged family

May 29th 2013 –

Meena White, a 37-year-old wife and mother of five, long dreamed about a real home for her family. For years, Mr. and Mrs. White and their five children lived in a three bedroom board and galvanized structure which was in dire need of renovations. Termite infestation and a leaking roof were just two of the many problems the family faced on a daily basis.

In addition to housing problems, the White's youngest son Leonardo suffered from Cerebral Palsy which required constant supervision and care. Mr. White also suffered from heart problems and Mrs. White, a diabetic, did not have an easy time looking after her young son and ailing husband. Their 19-year-old son David became the sole breadwinner.

Now, the White family will no longer have to endure the inferior living conditions of their former house. On April 23rd 2013, The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago (NGC) and Habitat for Humanity Trinidad and Tobago (HFHTT) handed over a newly-built house to the Whites.

Habit for Humanity works side-by-side with volunteers (individual and corporate) to build simple, decent and affordable houses for the needy. Given their financial constraints, the Whites applied for a house through HFHTT in 2011 and succeeded. As a corporate sponsor, NGC assisted in the construction of the house by providing financial support, as well as the volunteer work of over 20 employees. NGC staff volunteered their time, sweat, and professional know-how - even their amateur skills - to help build a home for the White family that would allow them to live in comfort, security, and dignity.

NGC authorised the contribution of up to two working days for each employee, and they, in turn, gave up a Saturday and a Sunday of their own free time. Together, over the course of a few months, NGC employees hammered, nailed, pushed, pulled, washed, swept and painted, until they had achieved their goal: together, they had created the kind of house that a family as deserving as the Whites could turn into a home.

Speaking at the hand-over ceremony, NGC's Vice President - Gas Transmission and Distribution, Curtis Mohammed, said that the company is committed to contributing to the development of the community. "The house that we are handing over today is the first of its kind done under our volunteerism programme but the 10th that we have funded over a 5-year period," Mohammed said. "Whether we are focused on providing the nation with a safe and reliable

supply of natural gas, or supplying one family with a safe and comfortable home to call their own, our motives remain the same. We were created by our own people and exist to serve our own people."

Jennifer Massiah, National Director for Habitat for Humanity Trinidad and Tobago, has said the following of NGC's support: "HFHTT salutes NGC as the first corporate entity to facilitate Habitat's volunteer programme with organised days off for employees to fulfill their civic responsibility along with NGC's Corporate Care through their CSR programme."



(Left to right) Members of the White family; Curtis Mohammed, NGC Vice President - Gas Transmission and Distribution; The Honourable Ramona Ramdial, Minister of State in the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and Member of Parliament for Couva North; and Charmaine Mohamed, NGC Manager – Corporate Communications during the hand-over ceremony of the White's new house built by NGC employee volunteers and Habitat for Humanity volunteers



NGC employee volunteers and Habitat for Humanity volunteers beam with pride outside the new house for the White family which they helped to build.

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