



**In addition to volunteer opportunities on Rebuilding Day (Saturday, April 26, 2008), Rebuilding Together Baltimore will have several volunteer opportunities with our HGTV *Change the World. Start at Home* projects.**

**More details about specific volunteer needs and workdays will be available by the end of February 2008. The information we gather about interested volunteers will help us to plan projects that will be a good experience for all involved. Your completion of the enclosed Volunteer Information Form will help us with the planning process.**

**Here are some answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about the HGTV *Change the World. Start at Home* initiative.**

**How did Rebuilding Together Baltimore get to be a part of this exciting project?**

We participated in a nationwide contest with Rebuilding Together affiliates from nine other cities. The public voted online and we were selected as one of the top five cities to receive funding and publicity from HGTV. The other four cities selected are Denver, CO; New Orleans, LA; Twin Cities, MN; and Washington, DC.

**When are the volunteer workdays?**

The majority of the work will occur during the week of Monday, April 28 – Friday, May 2. We will have volunteer opportunities each day of that week. We will also need to do significant preparation work during the months of March and April, and will need assistance from both skilled and unskilled volunteers. The workdays for that preparation work have not yet been scheduled, but we will have more details by the end of February. If you are interested in volunteering to help with prep work, please indicate that interest on the Volunteer Information Form.

**Will I get to be on TV?**

During the week of April 28 – May 2, film crews from HGTV will be at the worksites filming our volunteers in action. We have been told that at some point during the week, one or two hosts of HGTV's programs will also join our volunteers. In addition, it is likely that the local TV stations will want to film our volunteers during that week or on one of our prep work days. Obviously, we cannot guarantee that anyone will be on TV, but there is a chance that some of our volunteers will make it to the small screen.

**Do I have to be skilled in construction to help?**

There will be volunteer opportunities for both skilled and unskilled volunteers. We will have a specific need for people skilled in plumbing, electrical, carpentry, and landscaping work. If you have these skills, be sure to let us know on the Volunteer Information Form. And, if you know anyone who has specific skills, please encourage them to volunteer with us.

**What is the minimum age for volunteering?**

Our minimum age for volunteers is 14 years old. Parents of volunteers under the age of 18 will be asked to sign a waiver giving permission for their child to volunteer with us. For safety reasons, teens must have adult supervision.

### **What type of volunteer work will be available?**

There will be many different types of tasks available for volunteers. They could include the following:

- Clearing empty lots and preparing the ground for planting.
- Planting flowers, trees and shrubs.
- Demolition of decks, porches, fences, windows, or other structures.
- Plumbing, electrical, and carpentry work requiring highly skilled professionals.
- Light carpentry work.
- Interior and Exterior painting
- Clearing debris and unwanted items from basements, attics, or yards.
- Neighborhood clean-up (sweeping streets, picking up trash, cleaning graffiti).
- Assembly of furniture.

### **Can I bring a group of friends or co-workers to volunteer with me?**

Of course! Just let us know ahead of time so that we can adequately prepare.

### **What can you tell me about the projects?**

There are three projects associated with the HGTV *Change the World. Start at Home* initiative. They are all located within the 21218 zip code in the Waverly and Pen Lucy neighborhoods. See below for a little bit of information on each project:

- **Home of Ethel Gaither**—Ethel Gaither has lived in her home for 14 years. She is raising three grandchildren. Ethel was living in a small apartment when she took custody of the children, but needed more space in order to accommodate them. She was able to buy a home, but has since retired and lives on a very tight budget with only a small Social Security check each month as income. She takes great pride in her home and keeps it clean, but has had limited means to make repairs and tackle larger projects. Ethel suffers from arthritis in her knees, hands, shoulders and neck. HGTV and Rebuilding Together can help Ethel maintain the safe and loving home she is providing for her family.
- **The Community Mediation Program (CMP)**—The Community Mediation Program (CMP) is a non-profit organization that provides alternative dispute resolution and education to Baltimore residents. CMP trains community volunteers to serve as mediators at 100 community based sites throughout Baltimore City. Mediators provide a neutral process and facilitation for residents to resolve conflicts ranging from custody disputes to neighborhood issues. CMP also provides training in conflict resolution to community groups, businesses, schools and police, and serves as a venue for community meetings. The building that houses CMP is a 1920 Art Deco style building with a rich history in the community. The building's North wall is covered with one of the most prominent and frequently viewed murals in Baltimore City. With the help of HGTV and its partners, the CMP building will get a much-needed facelift.
- **Old York Road**—For several years, the residents of Pen Lucy have been working hard to reclaim the section of Old York Road that runs through their community. A revitalization has begun with derelict buildings being demolished, empty lots beautified and buildings renovated for re-use by community groups. However, more support is needed in order to complete the needed restoration. HGTV and Rebuilding Together can help the community transform vacant lots into public green spaces and add planter boxes along the street to enhance the visual atmosphere.



## Volunteer Information Form

Rebuilding Together Baltimore, Inc.  
1014 W. 36<sup>th</sup> Street  
Baltimore, MD 21211  
Phone: 410-889-2710  
Fax: 443-586-0785  
RebuildingTogetherBaltimore.org

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY/VOLUNTEER TEAM (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ Suite or Apt # \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (home): \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (work or cell): \_\_\_\_\_

Are you over 18 years old?  Yes  No Preferred communication:  Phone  E-mail

How did you hear about Rebuilding Together? \_\_\_\_\_

Prior Volunteer Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have special skills (ex. plumbing, carpentry, electrical)? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you licensed?  Yes  No

What type of volunteer activities are you most interested in? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you seeking to volunteer on: (check all that apply)

- |   |                                   |  |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Weekdays                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Weekends | <input type="checkbox"/> Evenings                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prep work days in March or April     |                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Rebuilding Day (April 26) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Week of April 28 – May 2 (HGTV week) |                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Year-Round                |

Are you interested in:  Individual volunteer experience  Organizing a group of volunteers

Name of Your Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Participants: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer applications are kept confidential and used for the purposes of Rebuilding Together only. Personally identifiable information is not sold or shared with others except as may be required by law.

When completed, please fax this form to 443-586-0785 or email to [volunteer@rtbaltimore.org](mailto:volunteer@rtbaltimore.org)