

## Habitat for Humanity Brings Brush with Kindness to SCV

SANTA CLARITA, Calif., Dec. 3, 2007 -- Habitat for Humanity of the San Fernando/Santa Clarita Valleys will launch its "Brush with Kindness" program in the Santa Clarita Valley in conjunction with the SCV Disaster Coalition "to leverage available funds to ensure neighborhoods that suffered damage or destruction in the October wildfires are brought back to vitality, and working families with financial limitations are able to keep their homes," said Donna Deutchman, Habitat for Humanity, SF/SCV executive director/chief executive officer.

"A Brush with Kindness' is ideally suited to address those homes with smoke and water damage and/or external fire damage," Deutchman said. "Traditionally, this program has a scope of work that includes exterior painting, landscaping and minor repairs on homes of low-income homeowners. In the case of the recovery from the fires, we will use the 'Brush with Kindness' program to provide external repairs, inside painting, and internal smoke and water damage remediation -- replacing carpeting, flooring, and so on."

Deutchman said "A Brush with Kindness" clients will be low-to-moderate income working families -- from 50-80 percent average median income -- who have significant fire damage and whose insurance and other resources will not allow them to rehabilitate their homes sufficiently to return to them.

Deutchman added that the program will be carried out in partnership with the City of Santa Clarita and other Santa Clarita Valley Disaster Coalition members, and will be designed to augment existing funds and resources by adding Habitat grants, in-kind donations of materials, sweat equity and volunteer builders, and proven Habitat for Humanity construction methods.

For more information about Habitat for Humanity, SF/SCV, call Joyce Grair at 818-884-8808 or visit [www.HumanityCA.org](http://www.HumanityCA.org).