

For Immediate Release
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Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake CEO completes Leadership Maryland development program

(Baltimore, MD) -- Michael R. Mitchell, Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake's Chief Executive Officer, recently graduated as a member of the 2010 Class of Leadership Maryland. This prestigious honor has featured college presidents, legislators, business and civic leaders and community activists.

Mitchell, a Baltimore City resident, completed the eight-month long leadership development program at the end of November.

"These are the leaders to watch, now, and in the future," said Leadership Maryland President Nancy Minieri. "Their experience confirms that the quality of leadership affects the success of the solutions. Problems are solved when committed, dynamic leaders with vision and passion are willing to take the risk to lead."

Leadership Maryland, an independent, educational leadership development organization, informs top level executives from the public and private sectors about the critical issues, challenges and opportunities facing the State of Maryland, and its regions. After participating in a broad range of experiences, these statewide leaders are prepared to address these issues and serve as important participants in the unified effort to shape Maryland's future.

"To be informed about statewide and regional issues, and having the opportunity to engage and interact with leaders who put themselves on the front line everyday, has prepared these individuals to be the catalyst for positive change in Maryland," said Leadership Maryland Board Chairwoman Sharon R. Pinder, a 1998 graduate of the program. Pinder is president and CEO, The Pinder Group, LLC, Clarksville, Maryland.

"I am humbled and honored to be a part of the Leadership Maryland 2010 class," Mitchell said. "I follow in some pretty big footsteps of people I deeply respect who have graduated from this program in the past. I believe my experience with Leadership Maryland and all I have learned through the program will help me enhance HFHC of which I am so proud to be associated with."

Mitchell has been CEO at Chesapeake Habitat for Humanity since 2003. Before that, Mitchell previously served as Executive Director and former Manager of Goodwill Industries of the Chesapeake and Project Director of the Southwest Initiative. He has been instrumental in reaching out to the less fortunate in every capacity he has served. Mitchell earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Government from the College of William and Mary. Mitchell's ample political experience includes his work as assistant for Vice President Gore and internships with U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) as well as former Senator Bob Kerrey (D-NE) and former U.S. House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt (D-MO). He has also served on numerous volunteer boards and task forces.

Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake works with people of all faiths and backgrounds to provide simple, decent, affordable homes for families in Anne Arundel County and the Baltimore region. Partner families, volunteers, and staff working together have built more than 285 houses to revitalize neighborhoods, pursuing its vision and mission to eliminate poverty housing in the region.



Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake Chief Executive Officer, Mike Mitchell, recently graduated as a member of the 2010 Class of Leadership Maryland. Here, Mitchell greets President Jimmy and Mrs. Rosalynn Carter upon their arrival at Jefferson Street in Baltimore City on Oct. 5. President and Mrs. Carter joined hundreds of HFHC volunteers to build homes on Jefferson Street during the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Work Project 2010.