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For immediate release

Contact:

Christine Barnhart

VP, strategic communications, GCAAR
301.590.8764, cbarnhart@gcaar.com

Jeff Dee

OR Interim President & CEO, Habitat for Humanity
301-990-0014 ext. 20, Jeff.Dee@habitatmm.org

GCAAR announces partnership with Habitat for Humanity Metro Maryland

ROCKVILLE, Md. – The Greater Capital Area Association of REALTORS® (GCAAR), the local REALTOR® association serving Montgomery County, Md. and the District of Columbia, and the nonprofit Habitat for Humanity Metro Maryland, Inc. (HFHMM) have launched a strategic partnership focused on increasing homeownership in the region.

Habitat for Humanity's mission of building strength, stability, self-reliance and affordable housing dovetails with GCAAR's focus of fostering homeownership opportunities for everyone, especially in traditionally underserved communities.

As part of the three-year partnership, GCAAR will sponsor HFHMM's Homeowner Education programs, through which all participating families must complete at least 40 hours of homeowner training on budgeting, civic engagement, home maintenance and other topics.

GCAAR members will also have the opportunity to participate in Build Days to further give back to this important initiative.

"We are thrilled to partner with GCAAR as part of their REALTORS® Care program," explained Jeffrey Dee, interim president/CEO for HFHMM. "Our missions really align around the twin pillars of fostering homeownership opportunities and advancing housing security for traditionally underserved communities.

"We are looking forward to bringing groups from GCAAR onto our build sites to participate in the transformative nature of our work," Dee said. "It really is about providing a hand up for hard-working families who seek a better quality of life for themselves and their children."

"We are dedicated to making a difference in the communities where we live and work. Everyone benefits when families who otherwise might not have the opportunity can come within reach of owning their own homes and improving their lives," said 2022 GCAAR President Harrison Beacher.

"Habitat for Humanity and GCAAR have similar values when it comes to promoting homeownership and we couldn't be prouder to partner with an organization that makes such a difference within our community," said GCAAR Chief Executive Officer Edward Krauze.

About Habitat for Humanity Metro Maryland, Inc.

Habitat for Humanity Metro Maryland, Inc. (HFHMM) is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International that serves Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties in Maryland. Since 1982, HFHMM has partnered with income qualified families to build strength, stability, self-reliance, and affordable housing. To date, HFHMM has provided nearly 717 affordable housing solutions, served over 1400 individuals, financed over \$15 Million in zero interest mortgages, and invested \$23 Million in the local economy. HFHMM supports the notion that good, stable housing matters for neighborhoods. Better quality of living leads to stronger citizens and families. Habitat for Humanity is about changing lives, one home at a time. Visit our website at www.HabitatMM.org.

About GCAAR

The Greater Capital Area Association of REALTORS®, one of the largest local REALTOR® associations in the U.S., is the voice for REALTORS® in Washington, D.C. and Montgomery County, Maryland. Representing more than 11,000 real estate professionals in the greater capital area, GCAAR provides services vital to its members' daily business needs and works with lawmakers to ensure public policy that encourages homeownership and supports the real estate industry. For more information, visit www.GCAAR.com.

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