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237 homes coming to Chapel Hill's Weavers Grove Community

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (October 21, 2021) – With a historic groundbreaking at Weavers Grove on Sunday, October 17, 2021, Chapel Hill is a step closer to having 237 more homes at affordable prices in a neighborhood where people can live close to where they work.

Weavers Grove is a first of its kind mixed-income community offering affordable homeownership to Habitat for Humanity of Orange County families and to market-rate homebuyers. Of the 237 single family homes, townhomes, duplexes, and condominiums, 101 will be Habitat homes owned by people who live or work in Orange County. The remaining market-rate homes, built by Garman Homes and White Oak Properties, will offer new opportunities for Chapel Hill homebuyers, at price ranges lower than today's median home prices.

Speakers at this outdoor event on-site at Weavers Grove included elected officials, key donors, and Habitat for Humanity Leadership. The event was live streamed for the public and is available to view on the Habitat for Humanity of Orange County YouTube Channel at www.weaversgrove.org/groundbreaking.

"This is exactly the kind of work we need to be doing everywhere in the world. In creating a mixed-income community, you are not just building homes, but building community," said Habitat for Humanity International CEO Jonathan Reckford. "We know if a child grows up in a mixed-income community, they stay healthier, have a better opportunity to be well educated and has a better opportunity to grow into all God intends for their life."

"This is the most audacious project we have ever attempted in our 37-year history," said Jennifer Player, Habitat for Humanity of Orange County CEO and President. "Our vision for Weavers Grove is to create a cohesive community where people from diverse backgrounds -- whether that is income, age, or race -- can gather and build authentic relationships amongst the community spaces of Weavers Grove."

During this event, Habitat announced the public phase of the Weavers Grove \$7.5 million Capital Campaign. The vision for affordable homeownership has inspired gifts beyond what was thought possible during the campaign quiet phase. The Campaign Steering Committee, co-chaired by volunteers Betsy Blackwell and Mimi Hock, has skillfully implemented a fundraising strategy, with more than \$4.7 million in gifts and pledges committed during the campaign quiet phase. Other funding sources to build this \$26 million community will come from government funding, sale of lots to market rate builders, and Habitat for Humanity's annual fundraising.

To inspire more community support, The Kenan Charitable Trust has issued a Matching Gift Challenge for all new gifts and new pledges to Weavers Grove, up to \$450,000 as well as contributing \$50,000 toward Habitat's annual fund. Matching donations can be made at www.weaversgrove.org/donate.

Infrastructure for Weavers Grove is currently underway with construction on these homes is set to begin in 2023 and continue through 2028.

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About Habitat for Humanity of Orange County

Habitat for Humanity of Orange County has helped 300 families build and purchase new homes and 200 families repair existing homes in Orange County. Habitat homes are built through the use of volunteer labor and donations of money and materials. Qualified homebuyers complete 275 hours of sweat equity and purchase the home from Habitat through an affordable mortgage priced at less than 30% of family income. For more information, please visit www.orangehabitat.org.

About Garman Homes

Founded by Jim Garman and Alaina Money-Garman in 2007, Garman Homes is a privately-held homebuilding company based in Cary, NC. The company operates two brands, Fresh Paint by Garman Homes and Nonfiction by Garman Homes, that builds townhomes, duplexes, and single-family detached homes throughout North Carolina. Driven by the belief that a homebuilding company can change the world by treating people with transparency and respect, empowering them to create their dream, improve their lives and make the world a better place, Garman ranked #197 in sales volume on the 2020 Builder 200 list, growing steadily year over year.

About White Oak Properties

Since the company's inception in 1982, White Oak Properties has been the creator of numerous successful upscale condominium and townhome communities throughout North Carolina's Triangle area. During its span of almost 40 years in the development industry, White Oak Properties has received significant acclaim through Community Appearance Awards for a number of its projects highlighted by a platinum Best in American Living Award from the National Association of Home Builders. Over recent years, White Oak has been a significant builder in two major Chapel Hill communities, Southern Village and Meadowmont. Further White Oak has demonstrated a lengthy relationship and commitment to affordable housing with Community Housing Trust of Chapel Hill. White Oak looks forward to Weavers Grove as another wonderful opportunity to serve a mixed income community of buyers. www.whiteoakinc.com.