



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **The Home Depot comes through for Loganville, Ga. Family**

*A grant from The Home Depot Foundation funds a home improvement project for a medically fragile young boy.*

Snellville, Ga. (November 6, 2009) – Dream House for Medically Fragile Children announces that a grant award from The Home Depot Foundation will benefit a Loganville family with a home improvement project. Team Depot volunteers, The Home Depot's volunteer arm, from the Loganville Home Depot store will begin the project Friday, November 6. This renovation is a result of the Dream House *Family for Keeps*<sup>™</sup> Bridging the Gap program that connects families caring for their medically fragile children at home with others in their communities.

Team Depot has five projects at the Beesley home. Along with a hanging a new back door, the family bathroom will get a new toilet, sink and a floor to replace the one damaged by water. In Dillon Beesley's bedroom, laminate flooring will replace carpet, to create a more hypoallergenic environment for this child who has very complex health issues.

In June of this year, Loganville Team Depot Captain Michelle Mobley contacted Dream House to explore opportunities for a volunteer project to help a family in the Loganville area. After a site visit, Dream House submitted a grant request to The Home Depot Foundation. On October 13, Dream House received word the grant request had been approved and Team Depot set a project schedule. Dream House Volunteer Manager René Patterson accompanied Dillon's mother, Debbie, on a shopping spree at the Loganville Home Depot to purchase with the grant award, the products and supplies needed for the renovation project. Dillon's older brother, 11-year-old Corbin got to tag along saying, "It's gonna be awesome!"

"The Home Depot Foundation generously supported this project and the local Team Depot group has the skills to perform the renovation," commented Mrs. Patterson. "The Beesley family has a great need for repairs in their home. Being able to connect the two is a wonderful part of my job."

The initial contact from Team Depot set into motion a series of events for the Beesley family at a critical point in their lives. In addition to these much-needed renovation projects, Dream House learned the home's HVAC system was on its last gasp, forcing Debbie Beesley to begin exploring alternative housing to protect Dillon's very fragile health. In September, a volunteer

crew from Gwinnett-based Paulson Cheek Mechanical installed a new HVAC system the company purchased for the Beesleys in combination with donations raised by four middle school students who, instead of receiving birthday presents this year, asked for money to help Dream House kids.

### ***About Dream House for Medically Fragile Children, Inc.***

Based in Snellville, Ga., Dream House is a 501(c)3 statewide organization devoted to children with complex health issues and supported solely by private donations. Heroic medical efforts save sick and injured children, leaving some medically fragile – fully dependent upon medications, equipment and therapies. Visit [www.DreamHouseForKids.org](http://www.DreamHouseForKids.org) for more details.

A critical first step for these children (biological, adopted or foster), and their families, is access to the Dream House *Family for Keeps™* Transition Care Program. In August, Dream House became the first and only recipient in the nation of the newly created *Children's Transition Care Centers* licensure. Via its innovative care-delivery model, Dream House offers wrap-around, hospital-to-home programs that provide a pathway for Georgia's medically fragile children to get out of institutional care into stable, single-family homes.

Empowering families and communities to care for these children at home, Dream House has served nearly 1,000 medically fragile children in 42 Georgia counties since 2001.

The 2009 Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce *Pinnacle Small Business Non-Profit* winner and named a *Best in America Local Independent Charity*, by the Independent Charities of America, Dream House supporters invest in a mission that uses more than 80 cents of every dollar donated to directly benefit medically fragile children and their families.

### ***About The Home Depot Foundation***

The Home Depot Foundation was created in 2002 to further the community building goals of The Home Depot. The Home Depot Foundation is dedicated to building affordable homes for working families that are healthy to live in and affordable to own. To make homes healthy and affordable, the Foundation encourages developers to incorporate responsible design and use durable and quality materials to ensure that homes are more energy and water efficient, have good indoor air quality, and provide a safe and healthy space to live. Since its formation, The Home Depot Foundation has granted \$120 million to nonprofit organizations and supported the development of more than 65,000 affordable, healthy homes. For more information, visit <http://www.homedepotfoundation.org>.

## **Dream House for Medically Fragile Children, Inc.**

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