

Issue date: March 22, 2007

PROVIDENCE HOUSING, ROCHESTER CONSTRUCTION FIRM TO TRAVEL TO TIOGA COUNTY TO REBUILD FLOODED HOMES

Donations of money, gift cards are sought to help defray costs

Staff from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester's Providence Housing Development Corp. and LeCesse Construction Co. will travel to Owego, Nichols and Apalachin to rebuild homes damaged in flooding last summer. Although the flooding occurred many months ago, many residents still have been unable to move back home, and are living with relatives or, in some cases, in emergency housing trailers.

Providence Housing, headquartered in Rochester, and West Henrietta-based LeCesse are donating expert staff time for approximately one week to rebuild homes -- targeting up to a dozen for repair at no cost to the homeowners.

The volunteers will begin work on March 26 and continue for a week. Each day, a team of workers will head out to one of the homes in the area for repair. Work will range from installing and repairing sheetrock and drywall, masonry repair, trim work and insulating, among other needed tasks.

"We are going to work on homes that have varying levels of reconstruction needs," said Monica McCullough, executive director of Providence Housing. "As a housing development team, Providence and LeCesse are not only able to provide workers, but can provide workers skilled in construction and construction management. We anticipate about 10 Providence staffers will be working each day of the week, and approximately 10 staffers from LeCesse will be working each day, as well."

Providence is hoping to raise cash donations or obtain donated gift cards from building supply stores such as Home Depot and Lowe's, as well as sponsorships, to help defray costs. Those wishing to help out with donations should contact Providence Housing at 585-328-3210.

Contacts

- Monica McCullough, Executive Director of PHDC, 585-328-3210
- William O'Hanlon, Division Manager, LeCesse, 585-334-4490
- Angela Klopff, Director of Tioga Outreach, Catholic Charities Tompkins/Tioga, 607-565-7580

Media inquiries also can be directed to the Office of Communications, Diocese of Rochester, 585-328-3210.

About Providence Housing

Since 1994, Providence has secured greater than \$75 million in project development funding from public and private sources and has created more than 530 units of affordable housing. This housing has been developed in collaboration with Catholic Charities agencies and other Catholic institutions throughout the Diocese of Rochester.

Providence's mission throughout the 12-county Diocese of Rochester is to strengthen families and communities by creating and providing access to quality affordable housing enriched by the availability of supportive services.

About LECESSE Construction Corp.

LeCesse, which has partnered with Providence on several projects, is a large regional construction management firm based in West Henrietta, NY. The firm concentrates its business in Upstate New York, New England, the Mid-Atlantic and Mid-Western states.

LeCesse has constructed or renovated multiple public and private buildings specializing in senior housing and healthcare facilities, large multi-family housing campuses, higher education campuses and cultural centers.