

Dear Friend,

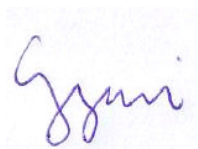
Soon, families all over Hungary are going to experience the magic of Christmas. We will sit by the Christmas tree with those who we love most and enjoy the most peaceful and warmest hours of the year. As we are preparing for the holiday season, let me remind you of the more than 100 Hungarian families who, thanks to your support, will celebrate Christmas in a better home this year.

A year ago, these families were living in overcrowded housing, unhealthy conditions or were tormented by the shortcomings of their homes. In our various programs, some of them built the simple, decent and affordable home they always wanted to provide to their children, and some of them got an opportunity to make their existing home more like the home they always dreamt of. At the time of the year which reminds us the most of the love of God and of the love of humans for each other, it is wonderful to think that your love for people in a different country who you would never have heard of, had it not been for your involvement with Habitat Hungary, made this possible.

We have told you over the year about the challenges the global crisis and policy changes in our country had created for Habitat for Humanity Hungary. I am writing this at the time of Advent. This is a time of hope, with the growing light of the Star of Bethlehem. Approaching the end of a difficult year we are thankful for all the hope and encouragement we get from the hard work of Habitat families, the dedication of our volunteers and the continuous support we so gratefully receive from a growing community of friends. Despite the hardships we experienced in 2009, we have started new initiatives and adapted the work of Habitat for Humanity Hungary to the changes in our environment in ways that ensure that our mission can reach more families in increasingly diverse and effective ways.

I wish you a joyful holiday season and a blessed new year. I hope you will all be with us in 2010 and we at Habitat for Humanity Hungary look forward to continuing work on our joint vision of a world without poverty housing.

Gratefully:



György Sümeghy (Gyuri)  
National Director



# Christmas Newsletter 2009



Dear Friend,

Welcome to our Christmas Newsletter. We are pleased to share our latest updates with you.

## A Room of One's Own



The units before the renovation

We were very happy to start a project in Budapest, the capital of Hungary this Summer. In a cooperation with Rév8, a local urban rehabilitation organization, 7 social rental units have been renovated with the help of volunteer teams.

Beside painting, creating bathrooms, and other internal renovations new rooms have been built in the attics. This way many of the children in the participating families will have a room of their own for the first time.



After the renovation



"It is such a joy for me and my husband to provide our daughter Barbi an own room at last! She has been longing for one for such a long time", Krisztina Hanisch, one of the participants of the project told us. „This is the greatest Christmas present we could give her, thank you!"

Barbi would like to have her room painted pink!

## Keys to a New Life



We at Habitat for Humanity Hungary are proud to let you know that, with the help of dedicated GV and corporate teams, the construction of 9 new homes at 2 locations, Hajdúböszörmény and Szarvas, was finished this Fall. It was a really touching experience to all of us who work with Habitat to share the families' joy with them.

# Christmas Newsletter 2009



"It is an amazing feeling to know that we finally have a home of our own! We are so happy that we could participate in this program, and we would like to thank all the volunteer teams we have worked with together!", Imre Szabó, homeowner in Hajdúböszörmény told us.



## A Safe and Warm Christmas Night

As Winter has arrived it becomes obvious how important it is to have a roof over one's head. Thus we are extremely pleased to announce that the renovation of the homeless shelter in Várpalota has been finished.



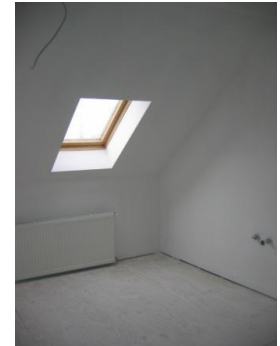
"We are grateful to Habitat and all the volunteers who have worked with us for allowing us to give shelter to 20 more homeless people.

Volunteers from the last team working at the shelter



The attic before the renovation

Now we can accommodate 100 people per day! We are very thankful for this as Winter is a critical period for these people. We couldn't have done this without Habitat.", Ági, manager of the shelter told us.



One of the new rooms

## We wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas!

With gratitude,

Your Habitat for Humanity Hungary Team

György Sümeghy (National Director), András Szekér (Donor Relations Manager), Renata Scheili (GV Coordinator), Zsuzsa Rihay (Program Coordinator), Daniel Van der Lek (Construction Manager), Tamás Bajor (Finance Manager), Zsuzsa Dávid (Accountant), Sándor Kerekes (Project Manager, Hajdúböszörmény), Pisti Fésűs (Site Manager, Hajdúböszörmény), Levi Molnár (Project Manager, Szarvas), Erika Bangócz (Project Assistant, Szarvas), Évi Tüske (Project Assistant, Csurgó)