

Raising Roofs Gala A Major Success

More than 350 people gathered at Nanina's In The Park to celebrate Habitat for Humanity Newark on May 15th. Seven people were honored (click here for full information on the honorees), there were bands playing and a silent auction with great sports memorabilia for the right price!

Following are some photos of the big event:



Enjoying camaraderie of the evening, as well as the NJPAC Wachovia Jazz for Teens Ensemble are John Scott (former board president), Jim and Abby Tierney (Jim is Executive Director Emeritus and board member), and Maria and Carlos Farinhas of Rock Solid Construction, an important supplier and contributor to HFHN.



By Proclamation, May 15, 2008 was "Habitat for Humanity Day in Newark." Presenting the award is Council Member Carlos M.

Gonzalez, Tracey Alexander (HFHN Board President), David Zurheide (Executive Director of HFHN) and Council Member Donald M. Payne Jr.



Co-Chairs of the event were Keena Mackay Hausmann, Partner with Latham and Watkins law firm in Newark and Stuart L. Deutsch, Dean of Rutgers Law School in Newark.



Enjoying the festivities are two key employees of Habitat Newark. Don Blaesser, deputy executive director and Jean Bell, administrative manager.



Pictured above is Lisa Nelson, one of Habitat for Humanity Newark's newest homeowners. Lisa told the audience how important it was to provide a safe, clean and decent place for her family and how HFHN helped her fulfill a life time dream.



Master of ceremonies for the big event was Brian Thompson, the New Jersey Reporter for New4 New York HD. Brian's extensive knowledge of Newark and Essex County helped everyone get a better understanding of the important role Habitat plays for so many people.



Barry and Sheila Wolfensohn are active volunteers with HFHN particularly for the Abraham House. Here they flank board president Tracey Alexander during the cocktail hour.



It was day three on the job for brand new Executive Director Dave Zurheide. Dave, who comes from the “for profit” housing industry, brings almost 19 years of experience and a strong desire to contribute to the affordable housing situation in Newark.

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