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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ADVISORY

**REBUILDING TOGETHER BALTIMORE'S HUGE NEW PROJECT WILL MAKE
A PARK HEIGHTS SENIOR'S HOME ACCESSIBLE AND SAFE**

***Volunteer day will highlight Senior Accessibility Demonstration Project
made possible by US Administration on Aging –
kicks off at 10AM Wednesday, July 28 in Park Heights***

WHAT: Rebuilding Together Baltimore will provide extensive accessibility modifications for the home of Ms. R, who cares for her 72 year-old mother who has a disability and uses a wheelchair. Modifications to her home include the widening of doorways, conversion of a powder room to a full bath with roll-in shower, accessibility improvements to the kitchen, and the installation of a wheelchair lift, among others.

Ms. R is also the guardian for her two young grandchildren – the overgrown yard and nearby derelict playground will also be cleaned and beautified for use by the children.

WHEN: **Wednesday, July 28, 2010**
10AM – Remarks by elected officials including City Councilwoman Sharon Middleton, Delegate Barbara Robinson, Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of Disabilities Dr. Nollie Wood, representative from Senator Cardin's office, others.

**Work will continue all day*

WHERE: **3800 block of Greenspring Avenue in Park Heights**
Exact address to be provided upon request

WHY: **People are living longer - and living longer with disabilities:**

- Thirty-three million Americans have a severe disability
- There are more people age 85 and older now than in any time in the collective history of our country
- Approximately 80% of Americans age 50 and older own their own homes and 92% want to age in place
- Among older adults, falls are the leading cause of injury deaths. Home safety repairs that prevent falls can save lives!

- The number of families with chronic housing issues rose to 14.4 million between 1998 and 2001

WHO: Volunteers from the Park Heights community will work alongside a team from Rebuilding Together Baltimore, volunteers and skilled workers

SPONSORS: This project is made possible by a demonstration grant from the U.S. Administration on Aging with support from Congressman Steny Hoyer, D. MD

About Rebuilding Together Baltimore

Since 1989, Rebuilding Together Baltimore has repaired over 1,000 homes and community spaces in more than 30 neighborhoods. Rebuilding Together Baltimore works in partnership with volunteers and communities to make homes warmer, safer, and drier for low-income homeowners who are seniors, people with disabilities or families with children. In its more than 20-year history, Rebuilding Together Baltimore's work represents over \$7 million in value to the community. In 2008, Rebuilding Together Baltimore was chosen by HGTV (Home & Garden TV) as one of five cities in the US for their inaugural "Change the World. Start at Home" initiative. Rebuilding Together Baltimore is an affiliate of Rebuilding Together, Inc., a national organization with 200 affiliates across the country.

For the first time, Rebuilding Together Baltimore is now able to provide home repairs all year-round for eligible homeowners throughout Baltimore City and/or County. As always, energy efficiency is a priority for Rebuilding Together Baltimore—the organization works with communities and homeowners on energy efficiency, providing energy efficiency education to community members and energy efficiency-related repairs for homeowners. Rebuilding Together Baltimore will assist up to 60 homeowners with critical home repairs in 2010. For more information on Rebuilding Together Baltimore: 410-889-2710 or www.RTBaltimore.org

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