

GHBA TILE COMPANIES TEAM WITH HOMEAID HOUSTON TO ENHANCE KRAUSE CHILDREN'S CENTER

May 26, 2009 – Renovations and repairs are nearing completion on the Krause Children's Center in west Houston. HomeAid Houston, a charity established in 2003 by the Greater Houston Builders Association (GHBA), has teamed with Builder Captains Randy Bayer of Bayer Homes and Mark Welch of David Weekley Homes to enhance the Krause Center's lobby and provide post Hurricane Ike repairs. Newland Communities has generously underwritten the project. The tile and tile work have been major factors in the improvements to the lobby and reception area. The reception area serves as a check-in point for new residents and the lobby is an area for the children to socialize.

The Krause Children's Center, an on-campus living and treatment facility, has been treating abused, neglected, and troubled boys and girls from all over Texas since 1995. Treatment includes individual therapy and group therapy with an on-staff psychiatrist and therapists, spiritual care, and a full academic curriculum.

HomeAid team member Beth Avalos with **FLOORS, INC.** and Wayne Greer have also helped coordinate the Project. The entire lobby floor, exterior of the reception area, reception area backsplash and countertops for the Krause Center are part of the enhancements.

"This renovation/repair project has truly been a team effort," said Chris Hawkins, president of the HomeAid Board. "New tile was a key element in the new design. It was a tremendous effort by the Project leaders, Beth Avalos and Mark Welch to line up that many tile companies to participate. The companies' generosity speaks volumes about the integrity of GHBA members."

Gus Carrera, president of **TEXAS TILE SERVICES** was instrumental in coordinating the tile installation and materials throughout the process as well as donating the granite countertop for the reception area. His company is a direct importer of tile and granite. Texas Tile also manufactures granite countertops in house. "Being involved in the Houston community has always been a priority for us at Texas Tile Services," said Carrera. "I visited the Krause Center before we committed to working on the project. I could see the need for the enhancements to the receiving and gathering area for these kids. I wanted to help make it something warm and comfortable for kids that have been through so much. Texas Tile Services has been operating in the tile industry in Houston for 10 years. Their clients include volume builders and light commercial.

ADDITIONAL TILE VENDORS

DAL TILE donated all the floor tile, **ARIZONA TILE** provided glass inserts for the distinctive backsplash design, **CUSTOM TILE** provided the tile grout and all supplies, and as an added bonus, **MARAZZI TILE** donated floor tile for the cafeteria and special study rooms.

Additional vendors on the project include **MSF Electric, Sprint Waste Services, Wilsonart International, Boeker Countertop, Linda Willard, K. Hovnanian, Masco Environments for Living, Sherwin Williams, Pedco Roofing Inc. and Probuild.**

“HomeAid helped identify the need for enhancements to such an important area of the Children’s Center,” said Bette Moser, executive director of HomeAid Houston. “These children need a welcoming place to gather and learn to be with others. It is exciting and rewarding to see this project come together with so many helping hands.”

HomeAid Houston identifies various homeless care providers throughout the area who need additional accommodations and connects them with GHBA members. The members donate their labor and materials to help build housing and renovate existing structures that provide services for those needing a hand up.

For more information on HomeAid Houston visit www.homeaidhouston.com or call the Greater Houston Builders Association at 281-970-8970.