## Tips on Maximizing New Homes Month

New Homes Month in April is the perfect opportunity to highlight the benefits of purchasing a new home. Here are some ideas on how to bring attention to the new homes available in your community.

- Coordinate with current activities. Many local associations are hosting home shows or parades of homes, and the material in the New Homes toolkit can complement your activities or help you create a new event to reach consumers. Use these resources to create a special section in your local paper in April.
- Embrace social media. By incorporating Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram you will reach a new audience and supplement your current marketing pieces for practically free. Sample social media posts and social media images are available in the New Homes Month toolkit.
- Host a housing event. For example, sponsoring a Housing Forum gives public and industry leaders
  an opportunity to examine and discuss the state of housing in your area. You'll have the chance to
  show a unity of purpose and a strong base of support for housing from people who live and work
  in your community. Invite representatives from local Realtors, mortgage loan officers or an
  economist from a college or university to speak and invite the media.
- You could also help organize and sponsor a New Home Buyer Consumer Fair that brings together
  community resources including banks, mortgage lenders, insurance representatives and service
  providers as well as builders.
- Reinforce your message with data. Research the economic data you can get from NAHB, including
  the Local Economic Impact Model that provides reports on the net benefit of housing, giving local
  associations the data, you need to demonstrate that housing pays for itself. You can also use the
  local economic and polling data from the NAHB Housing Portal to help tell your local story.
- Contribute to your community. Work with community partners to build and sell, auction, or
  donate a new home for a charitable cause. If you are looking for a smaller project, consider
  sponsoring an event to build and sell/auction new playhouses or a project that involves kids
  building new dog houses if you are looking for a way to work with community schools as well as a
  charity.
- Count down the benefits of new homes. Develop your own "Top 10 List" of reasons to buy a new home in your community and use it as a theme throughout April, releasing one for each of the first 10 days of the month to news media in a release that includes local data and quotes that reinforce your message.

