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Habitat for Humanity of Southeast Ohio, Morgan County Land Bank, and Morgan County Economic Development Partner in Historic Affordable Homeownership Investment in Morgan County.

McConnelsville, Oh: Habitat for Humanity of Southeast Ohio, The Morgan County Land Bank, and Morgan County Economic Development, along with other community members are partnering over the next two years to build and rehabilitate a record number of homes available for affordable homeownership to low-to-moderate income families in Morgan County.

This partnership, brought together to utilize money from the Welcome Home Ohio program through the Ohio Department of Development, will produce 3-4 new homes and rehabilitate one existing home. Once complete, these homes will be purchased by low-to-moderate income homeowners who will then pay a zero percent interest mortgage on the homes.

As part of the partnership, Habitat for Humanity of Southeast Ohio will build the new homes utilizing Career Center partnerships and community volunteers. “We are proud to partner with these wonderful organizations to create more opportunities for homeownership in Morgan County” said Kenneth Oehlers, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Southeast Ohio. “We are excited for these homes to start construction and hope to see many community members come volunteer with us as we build them”.

The first home is already under construction at Mid-East Career Center and will be moved to its permanent location sometime in late summer. After that, the home will be completed using local volunteers. Once complete, Habitat will begin construction on the next home immediately. Locations for the homes are currently being vetted but will be located within Morgan County.

"The Morgan County Land Bank is thrilled to partner with Habitat for Humanity, among others, in this venture. Increasing housing stock in the county is a top priority for the organization, and this is just one example of how the Land Bank can benefit our communities," said Adam Shriver, Morgan County Land Bank Board President. "We hope the organization can use this as a catalyst for additional projects by returning what was once unproductive property into new opportunities for Morgan County and its residents".

Families who are accepted for the homes will have to complete sweat equity and participate in education classes in order to purchase the homes. The application process is being handled by Habitat for Humanity of Southeast Ohio. To begin the process or learn about the requirements, families may visit habitatseo.org or call 740-592-0032 ext. 109.