



For Immediate Release | NOVEMBER 6, 2009

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Rebuilding Together Montgomery County Earns Seal of Excellence *RTMC passes rigorous ethics and accountability standards*

KENSINGTON, MD – Rebuilding Together Montgomery County (RTMC) has been awarded the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organization’s Seal of Excellence for successfully completing the Standards for Excellence® certification program. The Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations (Maryland Nonprofits) will recognize RTMC and other nonprofits earning this award at their 17th Annual Conference next week.

When: Tuesday, November 10th, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Where: Bethesda Marriott North Hotel and Conference Center in Bethesda, Maryland

Rebuilding Together Montgomery County opened itself up to review by a “jury of its peers”. The peer review team examined RTMC for compliance with the Maryland Nonprofits *Standards for Excellence: An Ethics and Accountability Code for the Nonprofit Sector*®.

The Standards of Excellence® are based on fundamental values such as honesty, integrity, fairness, respect, trust, responsibility, and accountability. RTMC’s programs and services, management, fundraising and financial practices were examined in depth before the certification was awarded. RTMC is one of 10 nonprofits in Montgomery County who have been awarded the Seal of Excellence.

Susan Hawfield, Executive Director of RTMC comments, “We are proud to be recognized in this way. We understand that we are stewards of the public’s generosity in donations of time and money. We hope that this will give those who support us confidence that their money is going to an effective and healthy organization. Trust is very important.”

According to Darryl A. Jones, Sr., Chief Executive Officer of Maryland Nonprofits, “Organizations that successfully complete the Standards for Excellence® certification program exemplify openness, accountability and a commitment to excellence. Maryland Nonprofits encourages nonprofits to participate in the voluntary certification program because the standards can help build their capacity, which enables them to serve their communities more effectively.” Jones added, “Nonprofit organizations must be accountable to the public. The Seal of Excellence helps our donors, policymakers, and communities be more confident that these reputable organizations that are acting ethically in their program operations, governance, human resources, financial management and fundraising practices.”

Rebuilding Together Montgomery County (RTMC) repairs and modifies homes for low-income families, allowing them to remain safe and independent within their own homes. Founded in 1990, Rebuilding Together Montgomery County is one of 205 affiliates of the national organization. RTMC has utilized over 40,000 in our 20 year history to make needed repairs on over 1,468 homes in Montgomery County. Rebuilding Together volunteers have delivered over \$13.5 million in home repairs to the community. Our goal is to preserve homeownership (the most affordable housing option) in Montgomery County while striving to provide a safe and healthy home for every family. For more information, visit www.rebuildingtogethermc.org.

The Standards of Excellence® program is the first effort of its kind in the nation and was developed by a team of volunteers from the state’s nonprofit community. For more information about the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations program and for a free copy of the *Standards for Excellence an Ethics and Accountability Code for the Nonprofit Sector*®, please call the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations at 410-727-6367 or 800-273-6367. The standards are also available at www.StandardsForExcellence.org.