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Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Last Frame Ceremony

DJJ youth build walls for Habitat for Humanity house

WHAT: On Monday, May 13, 2013 at 10:30 a.m., the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) in partnership with the Central South Carolina Habitat for Humanity and the Friends of Juvenile Justice, will hold a press conference to celebrate the building of walls by youth for a Habitat house.

The walls for the four bedroom house have been built within the Youth Industries Building, a major construction center on DJJ's Broad River Road Complex. The framed walls will be used in a Habitat house that will be built in a Columbia neighborhood.

In 2012, youth at DJJ built a Habitat house behind the razor wire on the Department's Broad River Road complex. The house was lifted over the fence by huge cranes and later transported to a North Columbia neighborhood. The event was highly publicized and declared to be the first time that such a lift had been attempted locally. This newest construction project will not require huge cranes, yet it is exciting and has provided lasting experiences and job skills for DJJ youth. The walls for the house have been built in such a way that they can easily be removed from the interior of the Youth Industries Building. The walls will be removed from the building after the ceremony on Monday and transported to storage until construction begins on the house.

DJJ is excited to continue its collaboration with Habitat for Humanity along with support from the Friends of Juvenile Justice.

About DJJ

--- As the state agency responsible for providing rehabilitation and custodial care for the state's juveniles who are on probation, incarcerated, or on parole for a criminal or status offense, DJJ actively seeks partnerships that foster its mission. DJJ's mission is to protect the public and reclaim juveniles through prevention, community services, education, and rehabilitative services in the least restrictive environment.

About FJJ

---FJJ, a non-profit organization, collaborates with individuals and agencies within the public, private and independent sectors to provide resources, attention, and care to at-risk youth ages 12-17. Understanding the mammoth task with which the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice has been charged, FJJ serves DJJ by providing programs, advocacy and funding for prevention, rehabilitation, and reintegration programs.

About Habitat for Humanity

The Central South Carolina (CSC) Habitat for Humanity is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International that was established in 1985 with responsibility for Richland and Lexington counties. In that area of responsibility it is estimated that 1 out of every 4 families lives in poverty. Since that beginning in 1985, CSC Habitat has helped over 200 Richland and Lexington county families realize the dream of home ownership.

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