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Helping the Helping Hand Mission

CONTRIBUTED REPORT FROM HBA OF
RALEIGH-WAKE COUNTY

A simple plaque hangs over the kitchen doorway at the New Bern House in downtown Raleigh that reads: "This kitchen is dedicated by the hands of the Remodelers Council of the Home Builders Association of Raleigh-Wake County who provided their time, talent and materials, to the hands of the Samaritans of the New Bern House who serve meals with consideration, love and dignity."

The plaque was presented by Harold Glazer, president and CEO of H Glazer Builder Inc., on behalf of the Remodelers Council, during a dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony on Nov. 22 that included Raleigh

Mayor Charles Meeker, and Raleigh Mayor Pro Tem Russ Stephenson and Raleigh City Councilman for District C Eugene Weeks.

The New Bern House, part of the Helping Hand Mission and an asset to the City of Raleigh, is a 9200 square foot transitional home and food shelter. On a daily basis, volunteers serve an average of 100-300 nutritional meals to residents and those hurt by economic conditions as well as deliver food baskets to others who may be handicapped or disabled. Time and years have left the kitchen with holes

To view a complete list of the companies involved in this charity project, visit www.hbwake.com.



Sylvia Wiggins, executive director of the Helping Hand Mission and Harold Glazer, president and CEO of H Glazer Builder Inc. pose in the newly remodeled New Bern House kitchen.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



The Remodelers Council of the Home Builders Association of Raleigh-Wake County provided time and materials to the Helping Hand Mission work at New Bern House in Raleigh.

in the floors and walls, minimal working appliances, limited storage, and no heating or air conditioning.

Shortly before Thanksgiving, the Remodelers Council gave the mission house a huge kitchen upgrade.

"Forget the usual style that goes into most kitchen remodels — this was all about functionality," said Glazer who oversaw the project for the council. "Throughout this holiday season from Thanksgiving to New Year's, volunteers will serve thousands of meals, so that kitchen is a vital part of the house for both residents

SEE HELP, PAGE 9D

HELP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8D

and those in Raleigh who just need a meal.”

The New Bern House provides residents with clothing assistance, counseling and a range of programs. The house reheats and serves food donations that have come from local restaurants and food organizations.

The Remodelers Council, which embraces an annual community service project, began organizing resources for the kitchen remodel last August. Glazer, along with Rick Parker of The Renovation Specialists LLC, Deveraux Hamilton of Envision Built LLC, Eddie Casanave of Distinctive Remodeling LLC and more than 20 companies dedicated three weeks for the project.

“There are now two different work spaces in the kitchen,” explained Glazer. “Residents of the house can easily use the front part of the kitchen while volunteers can prepare and serve meals in the larger, back part that functions as a working commercial kitchen.”

The remodel included an entire electrical upgrade for the house to support the addition of a HVAC system. The council brought in new cabinets and flooring, added a backsplash and repaired the walls and floors. They also donated four new oven ranges, eight gas burners, three refrigerators, and four microwaves.

Since the kitchen had limited storage, the remodelers enclosed the back porch off the kitchen to create a 200

square foot storage room. Finally, the remodelers added two commercial sinks for volunteers to efficiently wash large pots and pans.

“The Helping Hand Mission accomplishes amazing things out of that kitchen,” Glazer said. “Where we as a council might normally help one individual at a time with a charity project, this project gave us the opportunity to affect hundreds.”



Above, the remodel included an entire electrical upgrade for the house to support the addition of a HVAC system. The Remodelers Council brought in new cabinets and flooring, added a backsplash and repaired the walls and floors. They also donated four new oven ranges, eight gas burners, three refrigerators and four microwaves. At left: Raleigh Mayor Charles Meeker speaks at the podium. Behind him are (left) Raleigh City Councilman District C: Eugene Weeks and (right) Raleigh City Councilman (At-Large) Russ Stephenson; and third row is Harold Glazer, president and CEO of H Glazer Builder Inc. and a resident of the house.

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