

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **“It’s Kind of Amazing,” and so is Ruth Shaw** *Rebuilding Together Indianapolis honors 200<sup>th</sup> Homeowner*

**INDIANAPOLIS** – On April 26, Rebuilding Together Indianapolis will work to preserve and revitalize its 200<sup>th</sup> home in the Near Eastside Development neighborhood. The home belongs to an invaluable neighborhood resource and Indianapolis native, Ruth Shaw.

For 34 years, Shaw has been an active member of the Indianapolis community in the Saint Clair neighborhood she calls home. In the midst of raising her eight children and hosting Avon and Tupperware parties, Shaw started the first neighborhood block club and the first neighborhood watch association inside her home on North Eastern Ave. Her goal was to keep her neighborhood a social place where people could and wanted to look out for one another.

“I love my community and I just like to help,” said Shaw.

More recently, Shaw began volunteering and working part-time at the nearby John H. Boner Center. The center is a multi-service center that provides support to the residents in the community. There, Shaw works as the center’s liaison, helping to spearhead revitalization efforts in the neighborhood through organizations such as Rebuilding Together Indianapolis.

For nine years, Rebuilding Together Indianapolis has provided assistance to people who own their own homes but who, because of physical limitation or low income, are not able to cover the costs of home repairs. Typically, these individuals have a disability and/or are elderly.

Many of the elderly and disabled who reside in the near eastside neighborhood were skeptical about Rebuilding Together Indianapolis until Shaw convinced them otherwise. Shaw built trust in area homeowners while remaining one of the most selfless of them all.

“In my time, I’ve learned that people don’t care what you know, until they know you care,” she said.

Shaw did not originally apply for home repairs through Rebuilding Together Indianapolis, as she was more interested in helping her neighbors. She was later convinced that she deserved the program’s benefits too. Neighborhood residents echoed in their excitement, noting that Shaw is more worthy than anyone in the area.

Shaw is thankful to have Rebuilding Together Indianapolis in her community. Once the repairs are completed, Shaw looks forward to a cleaner, healthier neighborhood and a nice kitchen where she can prepare meals for her family. “It’s kind of amazing,” exclaimed Shaw when describing Rebuilding Together Indianapolis. “I am truly blessed.”

***The purpose of Rebuilding Together Indianapolis is to preserve and revitalize houses and communities, assuring that low- income homeowners, particularly those who are elderly and disabled, live in warmth, safety and independence. For more information on Rebuilding Together Indianapolis please visit [www.rebuildingtogetherindy.org](http://www.rebuildingtogetherindy.org) or call 317.767.1177.***