

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

Contact: Tom Bolt
340-774-8331

HABITAT PRESIDENT ADDRESSES INNER WHEEL

ST. THOMAS, January 12, 2006 – Tom Bolt, Managing Attorney of Tom Bolt & Associates and President of Habitat for Humanity of the Virgin Islands spoke on behalf of Habitat for Humanity to the Inner Wheel Club of St. Thomas at their regular monthly meeting at Pilgrim's Terrace on Thursday, January, 12.

Bolt highlighted the goals and objectives of the organization, explaining that Habitat is a charitable non-profit organization that builds and restores homes locally through a partnership effort of individuals, businesses, and faith communities and is founded on the premise that every man, woman and child should have a decent, affordable place to live in dignity and safety.

Bolt emphasized the need in the Virgin Islands by informing the group that the poverty threshold in the Virgin Islands for a family of four is an annual income of \$18,267. According to the 2003 census, there were 5,119 Virgin Islands residents living below the poverty level. 75% of these families have children under the age of 18 and many more have young children under the age of 5.

At the close of the meeting, Bolt announced the Galiber family has presented a gift to Habitat of No. 4 Adele Gade in the Garden Street area of St Thomas. This will be our first Habitat home in the Virgin Islands," Bolt noted, "With revitalized homes we will begin to resuscitate our capital city, Charlotte Amalie. Together, we can!"

Bolt also informed Inner Wheel members that they could get involved in the organization by:

1. Making a monetary donation
2. Making a property donation for a future Habitat home
3. Making a donation of building materials

Habitat for Humanity will host a Kick Off Brunch and event on May 7, 2006 which will be filled with upcoming announcements regarding the organizations progress. In addition, Virgin Islanders interested in volunteering or participating in Habitat for Humanity Virgin Islands should contact Adrian Bishop, Executive Director at (340) 714-5678 or abishop@habitatvi.com or visit their offices at 5600 Royal Dane Mall on St. Thomas.