

## S. Marshall St Habitat Dedication

On December 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 am more than 100 people gathered at the final 6 homes built on South Marshall St by Habitat for Humanity. The event was especially momentous because these six new homeowners will join the 16 Habitat homeowners across the street to bring stability and a stronger sense of neighborhood to this long troubled block. There to celebrate were partners and representatives of the many organizations that brought this final project to fruition. Mayor Bronin representing the City of Hartford and Evonne Klein, CT Commissioner of the Dept. of Housing were there and both spoke at the Dedication. Also speaking were Scott Orsey, Vice Chair of Habitat and Lisa Chirichella Board Chair, as well as Karraine Moody, Executive Director of Habitat who introduced the new owners.

Also attending were Mike Marshall & Chris Montross from Aetna and Diane Cantello and Sarah Morin from The Hartford both sponsors of 161 and 181 S. Marshall respectively. The other four homes were sponsored by Travelers, Bank of America, Fairview Capital and the Women Build.

There were also lots of well-wishers including members of AHNA and members of Asylum Hill Churches. Don Shaw and Tom Trumble former Habitat Board Chairs were there of



Board Chair Lisa Chirichella presenting keys to the Crooks Family

course, and as Lisa Chirichella said in her remarks, "I've now drunk gallons of the Kool-Aid, and I'll be back volunteering on the next build as soon as my term as Chair is up". Putting people into a safe, secure home of their own is one of the best ways to insure they get on and stay on the path to economic security.

So we'd like to welcome the Crooks family, the Blake Family, the Carrion Family, the Pringle Family, the Kelensi, family and the Allen family into the Asylum Hill Neighborhood.

It's also heartening to note that progress begets progress. Several of the apartment buildings on the street have recently changed ownership and the new owners seem eager to invest in them. We couldn't ask for a better Holiday gift for the neighborhood.

Photos of the event are at : <https://photos.app.goo.gl/SS8MAA0bN0ghEl0g2>