



For Immediate Release

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## **Habitat Breaks Ground on First Home in E. Missoula**

### ***Nonprofit Building New Home with Single Mother, Counselor***

Missoula, July 7, 2020 – To commemorate the organization’s first home in East Missoula, Habitat for Humanity of Missoula (Habitat) is holding a socially-distant, parade-style ceremony on Tuesday at 5:45 pm. Community members are invited to drive by and congratulate Shelley Grados and her children, Habitat’s 59<sup>th</sup> partner family and the future homeowners at 447 Speedway Avenue. Habitat builds multiple homes each year in partnership with local families; these homes are then sold to the families who helped construct them through a special mortgage program to keep payments within the family’s means.

“Despite the new developments with COVID we are still very humbled and excited to finally be moving forward, and to be given the opportunity to have a wonderful experience such as this,” says Shelley Grados. “We feel as though Habitat has become part of our family; in helping us through this process, being supportive, giving us guidance, and most of all, homeownership. We feel so blessed.”

Habitat has pivoted to a parade format in attempt to bring Missoulians together for the event while steering away from the threat of COVID-19 spread in large group gatherings.

“Habitat has been looking forward to building homes in East Missoula for some time, and we want to honor the occasion and the Grados family in a unique but mindful way,” says Habitat Executive Director, Heather Harp. “Our volunteers, families, staff and supporters love getting together to celebrate milestones, and it’s important to us to maintain this energy and connection.”

Habitat is also simultaneously building their 9<sup>th</sup> home in Franklin to the Fort (58<sup>th</sup> home in Missoula) with the Lumona family of six. For more information about Habitat or to get involved, visit [www.habitatmsla.org](http://www.habitatmsla.org).

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