



**Habitat
for Humanity**[®]
Greater Providence



For Immediate Release

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Habitat for Humanity of Rhode Island-Greater Providence Becomes an Approved Building Performance Institute Testing Center

HabitatPVD is the first affiliate in the country to secure this designation and will help in the organization's efforts to build Rhode Island's volunteer and professional workforce of home performance specialists.

PROVIDENCE, RI (May 6, 2021) – Habitat for Humanity of Rhode Island-Greater Providence has been designated by the Building Performance Institute as an approved testing center. HabitatPVD is the first Habitat for Humanity affiliate in the country to secure this designation and to proctor written and field examinations on behalf of BPI. The designation aligns with HabitatPVD's efforts to establish itself as a premier home performance training organization and develop a volunteer and professional workforce prepared to improve Rhode Island's existing housing stock. Habitat knows first-hand

that a decent home provides the strength, stability, and independence that individuals need to thrive. Having trained volunteers and professionals with the skills and credentials to effectively assess and diagnose Rhode Island's older housing stock is essential.

"This collaboration will assist our efforts to develop a home performance workforce of volunteers and professionals with the knowledge, skills, and industry-recognized credentials to improve Rhode Island's aging housing stock," said Mark Kravatz, Executive Director of Habitat PVD. "BPI is the nation's premier home performance standards development and credentialing organization for residential energy auditing and upgrade work, and we could not be prouder to have secured this designation."

According to Larry Zarker, CEO of BPI, HabitatPVD is the first Habitat for Humanity affiliate in the country to secure a testing center designation.

"We look forward to building a strong working relationship with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Providence in its work to improve the comfort, health, safety, durability, and energy efficiency of Rhode Island's existing housing. We hope this can be a model for other Habitat affiliates across the country," said Zarker.

As the nation's standard-setting organization for home performance professionals, BPI develops standards, certifications, and certificate of knowledge programs for the residential retrofit industry throughout the country. The standards and certifications range from Building Analyst, Envelope, AC/Heat Pump, Heating, Manufactured Housing, and Healthy Home Evaluator. BPI has a network of test centers that use its standards to develop curricula for training and evaluating the residential retrofit workforce. Working alongside BPI trainers and proctors, HabitatPVD will be equipped with the insight and expertise needed to improve the health, safety, and energy efficiency of homes across Rhode Island under the principles of building science and retrofitting.

About Habitat for Humanity of Greater Providence

Since 1987, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Providence (HabitatPVD) has been an independently chartered affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, the largest non-profit homebuilder globally. Our mission is dedicated to building decent, affordable housing with families that live in substandard and unaffordable housing and to make the need for affordable, safe, healthy, and efficient shelter a matter of conscience and action. www.habitatpvd.org

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