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A History of Philanthropy Made Green-certified Legend Homes an Easy Choice for *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*

Corvallis, Ore. (July 11, 2007) – The Oregon premiere shooting of *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*, July 7 – July 14, will give Jenessa Nichole Byers and her family the home of their dreams. And so when *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*, which has won back-to-back Emmy Awards, was looking for an Oregon home builder to head the project, Legend Homes was recommended repeatedly by civic and community leaders of Linn and Benton Counties. It's the ethic of volunteerism and year-round philanthropy that is a Legend Homes/Matrix Development tradition. Giving and volunteerism has been integrated into the corporate culture since the company's inception.

The Corvallis family, Rob and Rachel Byers, had to give up their idea of fixing up their home in 2006 when their daughter Jenessa, nicknamed "Boey" or "little warrior princess," 8, was diagnosed with a very rare, aggressive childhood cancer called Rhabdomyosarcoma. In addition, son Joe, 12, has Asperger Syndrome (a form of autism), has already suffered from asthma attacks triggered by the home's toxins. Son Chris, 13, rounds out the family. The Byers are a close-knit family and after starting chemotherapy and radiation, Boey decided that she would become proactive and outspoken about combating cancer. Her family helped and supported her efforts. During and after her treatments, she visited other children with cancer, created UTube videos

about cancer and started a foundation to help fund research for childhood cancer.

Unfortunately Boey's cancer has returned.

Though the Byer family is united in rallying around Boey and advocating for progress in pediatric cancer treatment, her past medical bills have left them beyond broke. Legend Homes/Matrix Development President Jim Chapman says that building homes is only part of building a community. He hopes that the visibility of the Extreme Makeover project will raise funds to help this deserving family. To make a donation directly benefiting the Byers family visit www.legendhomes.com and click on the Extreme logo.

In 2006 the Legend Homes made cash donations to 65 nonprofit organizations totaling close to \$300,000; a complete list is at www.legendhomes.com. A Legend Homes program in Linn and Benton Counties, now in its fifth year, not only gives small grants to nonprofits in the Corvallis and Albany regions but also offers free workshops to help Linn and Benton County nonprofits with fundraising and to help build donations. In addition, employees annually conduct food drives in Legend Communities. Last year employees picked up food donations from approximately 1,300 homeowners.

Legend Homes also encourages their contractors and subcontractors to become involved in volunteering. In May 2005, Legend Homes co-chaired the Home Builder's Association of Portland Home Builder's Foundation (HBF) Haven House, assigning a Legend staff member to act as a building site supervisor and donating hundreds of hours of staff time to coordinate dozens of volunteer home building professionals. Haven House, is a four unit townhome shelter program and for pregnant and teenage mothers.

“Business isn’t about wearing suits or making as much money as you can, it’s about being true to yourself, your ideas and focusing on the essentials,” say Jim Chapman, president, Legend Homes/Matrix Development. “It’s all about doing the right thing.”

Founded in Portland, Oregon in 1965, Legend Homes is the award-winning builder of more than 12,000 home sites, homes, town homes and condominiums in planned communities throughout Portland and Corvallis. Their high-quality, green-built homes are crafted with premium materials to ensure structure strength, better air quality and energy efficiency. With more than 10 communities throughout the region, there are new homes designed to fit the needs of almost any prospective homebuyer. For more information, visit www.legendhomes.com.

"Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," which has won back-to-back Emmy Awards as Best Reality Program (non-competitive), is entering its 5th season on ABC. The program is produced by Endemol USA, a division of Endemol Holding. Denise Cramsey is the executive producer; and David Goldberg is the president of Endemol USA.

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NOTE TO EDITORS/REPORTERS: On Saturday July 14th (reveal day) the streets will be closed at 11 am and no traffic will be permitted. Shuttles will stop running and all spectators will be allowed to walk to the site. No open toed shoes are allowed on the building site. No wireless transmission is allowed by ABC. All live coverage must be cleared by one of the information contacts below before admission to the Byers family building site in Corvallis, Ore.

For more information, contact:

Mara Woloshin
Legend Homes PR Counsel
Woloshin Communications
mara@woloshin.com
Cell: 503.310.4504

Krista Boyd
Legend Homes Director of Marketing & Communications
kboyd@legendhomes.com
503.620.8080 X219

Nicki Hurley
Legend Homes Corvallis Communities Marketing Coordinator
nhurley@legendhomes.com
541.754.2102 X123

Lisa Hildebrandt
Legend Homes PR Counsel
Woloshin Communications
lisa@woloshin.com
503.241.3834

Mozell Miley
ABC Publicist
212.456.6444
mozell.i.miley@abc.com

Jonathan Hogan
ABC Publicist
Office: 818.460.7016
Cell: 310.254.4416
Jonathan.Hogan@abc.com