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Web: [www.electronicblueprint.com.au/specifications/30-MISCELLANEOUS.pdf](http://www.electronicblueprint.com.au/specifications/30-MISCELLANEOUS.pdf)

**Mission Statement:** Partner Housing Australasia (Building) Incorporated is a Christian ministry working with families, volunteers and donors to provide building services, financial assistance and nurture for the provision of affordable housing to those in need throughout Australia and beyond.

## **Mobilising Professionals for Disaster Relief and Affordable Housing in Developing Countries**

### **What is Partner Housing?**

Partner Housing Australasia (Building) Inc <sup>1</sup> has provided affordable housing since its incorporation in September 1989. Our first overseas assignment in 2005 involved major design and construction audits of tsunami reconstruction in Thailand, Indonesia, India and Sri Lanka, commissioned by a major international NGO carrying out the construction work. In Australia, we have constructed 14 houses for low income families, assisted our sister organisation in the construction of four, and are currently constructing another three.

### **Mobilising Volunteer Professionals**

As a general rule, those charitable organisations that seek to raise large quantities of money increasingly rely on paid staff to conduct professional fund-raising campaigns. However, Partner Housing has remained clearly focussed on our mission as a volunteer-based organisation, concentrating our activities on the provision of services, rather than the expenditure of major finance. There are many retired, part time and fully employed people with skills that our organisation can deploy. Our major role is matching volunteers with the right skills to specific projects associated with providing disaster relief and alleviating poverty housing in Australia and overseas.

### **Focus on “Disaster-Relief” and “Save & Build Programs” in Developing Countries**

The exciting new focus of Partner Housing’s activities is the provision of volunteer professional services for “disaster-relief” programs and affordable “save and build” housing programs in developing countries.

### **Design & Supervision Packages**

Partner Housing offers “Design & Supervision” programs to other major NGOs (non-government organisations) that are undertaking “Disaster-Relief” housing and “Save & Build” housing programs” in developing countries. We offer to fund, train and monitor building supervisors in developing countries, whilst supplying them with professionally produced design and documentation for a range of housing.

**All of these services are provided on a pro-bono basis, resulting considerable savings for client NGOs !!**

## **Contact Us Now for Further Information**

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<sup>1</sup> Until March 2005, Partner Housing Australasia (Building) Incorporated traded as Habitat for Humanity NSW Incorporated. In this report Partner Housing Australasia (Building) Inc. is referred to as Partner Housing. Our sister organisation is Partner Housing Australasia (Regional) Incorporated.

### **More Detail on the Services Offered?**

Whenever houses are constructed, whether as part of a disaster response program or as part of a normal “save and build” program, certain professional inputs are required. Partner Housing has access to professionals who are experienced in all aspects of design and construction of low technology affordable housing suitable for developing countries.

#### *Pro-bono Work Carried Out on and On-going Basis*

- Partner Housing’ engineers and regulators can advise and assist NGOs to formulate design and construction policies that reflect a sensible balance between safety, economy and local building regulations, on a country-by-country basis.
- Partner Housing can engage architects and draftsmen to prepare a range of standard drawings and specifications for affordable housing. These can be prepared well in advance of any building program, and made available to client NGOs as either CAD (Computer Assisted Drafting) files, word processor files or as “hard copy” that can be sent by post.
- Partner Housing can engage structural and civil engineers to prepare a range of standard designs, drawings and specifications of structural house components, septic systems, water storage systems, and civil infrastructure such as roads, drains, retaining walls and the like. Like the architectural products, these can be prepared well in advance of any building program, and made available to client NGOs as either computer files or as “hard copy”.
- Partner Housing can engage builders and quantity surveyors to prepare Bills of Quantities (materials lists) to assist the timely ordering of materials, and construction checklists to assist site supervisors to control construction.
- Partner Housing can engage educators, builders and graphic artists to prepare training videos and Power Point presentations, to be used in the field to train building project managers and supervisors.

#### *“Design & Supervision” Packages*

Partner Housing offers “Design & Supervision” programs to other major NGOs (non-government organisations) that are undertaking “Disaster-Relief” housing and “Save & Build” housing programs” in developing countries. Each of these programs consist of:

1. Funding (up to \$ 10,000) for the training and employment of local building supervisors for on-going “Save and Build” and/or “Disaster Response” programs.
2. Provision of pro-bono design and documentation services by Australian-based engineers and designers.

**All of these services are provided on a pro-bono basis, resulting considerable savings for client NGOs !!**

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