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Birthing a Ministry: Harbor Church Begets Alpha House **By Jim Herrington, pastor, Harbor**



The Summary:

Harbor Church has worked for nine years to forge a spiritual beach head in the ministry-deprived Montrose community of Houston, Texas. Today we are excited to tell you that God has provided a gift that gives us more permanence in this community. On December 19, 2006, we signed all the papers necessary to receive an interest free \$309,200 loan from the Timothy and Eleanor Broe Foundation for the purchase of the house where our Alpha Ministry is located.

Alpha House is a highly successful Christian community for men who are in recovery from the destructive power of drugs and alcohol. The ministry is led by Pastors Josh and Aimee Wood. As many as eight young men can live in this community where a healthy family environment is provided in the context of Christian discipleship.

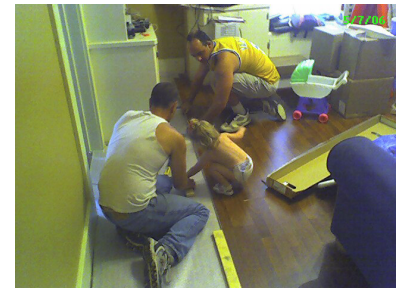
The Details:

God moved in the lives of several people working together to make this gift possible.

The gift came from the family foundation of Tim and Eleanor Broe, parents of one of our Harbor family. The Broe Family Foundation granted us a \$309,200 loan that is payable on January 10, 2012. Based on our current yearly receipts of rent paid by residents and donations to Harbor Church, we will set aside \$4,000 per month toward the payment of this loan. Based on this, we will need to raise an additional \$69,200 over the five year period to fully pay off this interest free loan.

Alpha House, a four-year-old ministry, relocated from its original Bomar address to this house on Willard in May of 2006. Two friends of Harbor, Rodney Trimble and Charles Macias, purchased the house and rented it to us for the ministry. They told us that if we could ever purchase the house, they would sell it back to us at its original purchase price. We began to pray and ask God to do for us what we did not have the resources to do for ourselves.

When we moved in, the house (built in the 1920s) had so much work that needed to be done. Omar Garcia, Minister of Missions at Kingsland Baptist Church, mobilized a team of over 70 volunteers who worked every weekend in April (this was before we owned the house). This group totally renovated the house, donating all the materials, and increased its value by more than \$50,000.



Soon after Rodney and Charles purchased the house and the Kingsland group completed the renovations, our good friends and strong

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