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**McCarthy Building Companies and CHOC Children's
Help Raise \$338 Thousand by Building a Playhouse for HomeAid Orange County's Project
Playhouse® Event**

*The Playhouse for "Tweens" design was inspired by CHOC's Patient Care Tower II
Currently Under Construction*

NEWPORT BEACH, CALIF., (SEPTEMBER 22, 2010) – McCarthy Building Companies, Inc., (www.mccarthy.com), in partnership with CHOC Children's recently built a technologically advanced playhouse for HomeAid Orange County's 19th Annual Project Playhouse® fundraiser. This is the second year in a row that McCarthy and CHOC have teamed to build a playhouse for the Project Playhouse® event.

The playhouse was built with thousands of dollars worth of services and supplies donated by McCarthy Building Companies along with various subcontractors and vendors. The McCarthy and CHOC Children's playhouse is HomeAid's "opportunity drawing playhouse" which is the only playhouse that could be won by purchasing \$2 raffle tickets. Six additional playhouses were donated by other building teams and sold at a live auction party on September 10. Approximately \$338 thousand was raised for HomeAid Orange County through the Project Playhouse® event. All of the playhouses were on display in the Project Playhouse® Village from July 31 to September 10 at the Irvine Spectrum Center®. During the event, the McCarthy/CHOC playhouse received two awards given by HomeAid Orange County — The Grand Award (First Place) and Secret Garden Award (Best Landscape Design).

"Historically, Project Playhouse builder teams were residential home builders," said, Gina Scott, HomeAid Orange County, Director of Development. "McCarthy Building Companies was one of our first commercial builders, and they have done an exceptional job of adapting their talents and resources to create innovative playhouses that are popular with children and adults. We deeply appreciate McCarthy's generous support and the incredible participation from the McCarthy Heart Hats."

Named "Tween the House and the Pool," the 80-square-foot playhouse with an 8-foot high open ceiling is definitely not your little sister's or brother's playhouse. Designed by project architect Ryan Ghere with interiors by Laura Zublin of Selleck-Zublin Interior Design and Tiffani Ghere, the playhouse features a relaxed yet modern twist on a Hampton style pool house. The yellow and blue interior décor combines classic comfort with a bit of

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whimsy to please even the most fickle of tastes. Tweens can relax inside or lounge on the modular patio, with mosaic pools at the entryway.

STARYtech Audio Video & Lighting created the modern technology concepts for the “smart” playhouse including color changing LED lighting, a 32 inch flat screen TV, an Apple media player, a stereo sound system and wiring for computers. The house is framed on two sides by the innovative Nanawall® system valued at \$27,000. The glass accordion style doors fold to one side allowing the indoor and outdoor areas to become one and providing transparency for watchful parents.

This modern playhouse was inspired by CHOC’s new Patient Care Tower (Tower II) that McCarthy is currently building on the hospital’s main campus. The Tower II features leading design and safety principles as well as advanced technology. Similarly, the playhouse offers likeminded design features. For example, the new CHOC Tower’s exterior façade will transform at night, providing a playful change in appearance, and the playhouse has color-changing lighting inside and out. Like the Tower II, the playhouse design was also patient inspired. At CHOC, many of their young patients and parents use social media and networking (Facebook, blogs, etc) to keep in touch with their friends and family while undergoing treatment in the hospital, therefore the designers incorporated technology suited for this use into the playhouse.

The CHOC Tower II will also incorporate environmental health principles and sustainable building guidelines as recognized by the Green Guide for Healthcare, U.S. Green Building Council and state of California energy mandates. The landscaping and building materials used in the playhouse echo the environmentally conscious design of the tower. Some of the green features in the playhouse include reclaimed wood shingles, a living succulent wall with drought tolerant plants, energy efficient LED lighting, and abundant natural daylighting and ventilation from the transparent door/wall system and two other operable windows.

Advanced building technology was used to create the design of the CHOC Tower II as well as the playhouse. The project team for the Tower II is using computer graphics/BIM 3-D modeling to refine coordination and thereby reduce conflicts between systems during installation. Similarly, playhouse architect Ryan Ghre used Google SketchUp Pro, a 3D modeling software to create a quick and accurate interior and exterior design which enabled the playhouse to be completed in record time – exactly 2 weeks from start to finish.

The playhouse wasn’t complete without landscaping to help showcase its design while it was on display at the Irvine Spectrum Center. Kelly Rasmussen of Rasmussen Design, Inc. coordinated the landscape team and developed a simple, yet elegant Hampton inspired landscape design by intermixing natural grass and a variety of shrub massings, including Iceberg and blanket Roses as well as Hydrangeas and Lavender. Rasmussen collaborated with Daniel Lisch from Southern Exposure Landscape Management; Dan Dworman with Norman's Nurseries who supplied approximately \$5,000 in plant material; Duane Carter with Garden Art International and Jim Boike with Vista Professional Outdoor Lighting.



McCarthy's dedicated subcontractors and vendors along with other construction volunteers pitched in with various supplies and services to complete the playhouse. The project's contributors included: American Trim, Armstrong Garden, Art Manufacturing, Aspen Woodworks, Avalon Design, Azek Building Products, Inc., Bassman Blaine and Associates, BCI Framing and Drywall, Bergelectric, Bobby Taylor - Welder On Wheels, Brian Dawson, Brightgreen USA, Canyon Insulation, Capparelli/KHS&S Contractors, Cosco Fire Protection, Chuck Goodman, Custom Delux Landscape, Driptite, Emser Tile, Furniture Source, Gaf - Elk Steep - Slope Roofing Systems, Garden Art International, JB Lumber, Johnson & Turner Paint Co, John Deer Landscapes, Jose Ricardo Finishing, Kenneth McDonald, McCarthy Concrete, Michael Kochan - Studio Mak, Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams, Nanawall Systems, Pacific Architectural Millwork, Pamela Kellogg, Perry Smith, Premier Forest Products Inc., Progressive Flooring, Red Envelope Designs, Rosetree Designs, Saroyan Lumber - Saroyan Fine Wood Flooring, Schuff Steel, Seasons + Landscape Architecture, Development - Scott Hutcheon, Southern Exposure Landscape Management, STARYtech Audio Video & Lighting, Structural Materials Co., Tarantino Landscape, Inc., The Ghere Family, The Piazza Family, Unicorn Delivery, Valley Crest and Vista Professional Outdoor Lighting.

“Although this was a mini structure, it still had many of the same components of a larger scale building, and a great deal of coordination with various consultants and builders was required to complete the project in a short time period,” said McCarthy project engineer Trevor Lawton. “We are extremely grateful to all of the participants who donated their resources to turn a playhouse into a home for people in Orange County who need it most.”

The HomeAid playhouse was completed in part by McCarthy Heart Hats, a volunteer community outreach group led by the employees of McCarthy Building Companies. The McCarthy Heart Hats community involvement program is dedicated to encouraging, supporting and recognizing McCarthy employees' volunteer efforts in a variety of causes to ensure *real* needs are being met in communities where employees work, live and play. Trevor Lawton, McCarthy project engineer on the CHOC Children's Tower II project was the project manager and Heart Hat team leader for the playhouse.

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About HomeAid:

HomeAid Orange County is the founding chapter of a national non-profit organization with the mission to build dignified housing where homeless families and individuals can rebuild their lives. Founded in 1989 by the Orange County Chapter of the Building Industry Association of Southern California, HomeAid acts as the housing developer and liaison between service providers, community volunteers, builders and specialty contractors. To date the organization has completed 47 housing developments that serve victims of domestic violence, pregnant homeless women, abused and abandoned children, homeless adults living with HIV/AIDS and homeless families. www.homeaidoc.org



About CHOC Children's:

CHOC Children's is exclusively committed to the health and well-being of children through clinical expertise, advocacy, outreach and research that brings advanced treatment to pediatric patients. Affiliated with the University of California, Irvine, CHOC's regional healthcare network includes two state-of-the-art hospitals in Orange and Mission Viejo, several primary and specialty care clinics, a pediatric residency program, and four centers of excellence - The CHOC Children's Heart, Cancer, Neuroscience, and Orthopaedic Institutes. CHOC is one of only eight children's hospitals in the nation named a "2009 Leapfrog Top Hospital," and is the only children's hospital in California to earn the Silver Level CAPE Award from the California Council of Excellence. CHOC was awarded Magnet designation, the highest honor bestowed to hospitals for nursing excellence, and is the first children's hospital in the United States to earn the Beacon Award for Critical Care Excellence.

About McCarthy:

McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. is the nation's 10th largest domestic general contractor (*Engineering News-Record*, May 2010) and Orange County's largest commercial builder (*Orange County Business Journal*, June 2010). Committed to the construction of high performance buildings, the company provides general contracting, construction management, program management and design/build services for healthcare, education, parking structure, airport/transportation, entertainment, retail, laboratory, biotechnical, microelectronic, and industrial facilities; office buildings; bridges and highways. In addition to Newport Beach, McCarthy has offices in San Diego, Sacramento and San Francisco, Calif.; Phoenix; Las Vegas; Dallas; St. Louis and Atlanta. Named One of the Best Companies to Work for in Orange County, McCarthy is 100 percent employee owned. More information about the company is available online at www.mccarthy.com.

