

## New Executive Director Named



Fuller Center of Webster has selected Derek Melancon to become the new executive director of the local housing ministry.

Melancon, who brings to the position 24 years of service to Springhill Medical Center, has extensive experience in human resources, media and communications, information technology, insurance programs, credit and finance, and a variety of other skills which will prove invaluable to the progress of Fuller Center of Webster.

“We are very pleased that Derek will be joining our housing ministry,” stated Rev. Ben Martin, president of Fuller Center of Webster. “Our board of directors was impressed with his experience and his excitement for joining our organization. We look forward to a very good future under his leadership.”

“This opportunity came at the perfect time in the life of my family,” Melancon stated. “I believe completely in what The Fuller Center for Housing is all about, and I feel that God led me to put in my application for the position when we found out that Charlie was going to retire.”

Melancon will be replacing Charlie Park, who is the only executive director Fuller Center of Webster has ever had.

Coming on board in 1999, Park led the ministry (then known as Webster Habitat for Humanity) from building one house every two years to the point that almost three families per year have been assisted in building new houses for themselves.

Dr. Charles Payne, founder of the local affiliate in 1991, said “We are really excited that Derek is coming on board with us. Charlie and I both know Derek very well, and we believe he is well-suited to take over the operational reins of our housing ministry. We all know that God is in control of our work, and we believe Derek will be quite responsive to the leading of the Holy Spirit and the guidance of the board of directors.”

Park, who will stay on for a short while to assist Melancon through the transition, expressed his complete confidence in Melancon. “Derek is a professional who will bring a lot of ability and great deal of integrity to the position of executive director. I have great faith in what Fuller Center of Webster will be able to accomplish under his leadership.

Melancon’s wife, Jeri, is a retired educator who spent over 30 years in the classrooms of Caddo and Webster Parishes as a teacher, counselor, and principal. She is currently working as a real estate agent with James M. Brown Real Estate. Derek and Jeri have three children – Aubrey who lives in Florida, Jerrod who lives in Benton, and Seth who is a freshman at LSUS in Shreveport.

## Construction Report

### Houses 49 & 50 Almost Complete

After 21 years of existence, Fuller Center of Webster (formerly Webster Habitat for Humanity) is about to complete the construction of our 50<sup>th</sup> house.

House #49 is located in Minden. It will be the home of Vernecia Peters. House #50 is located about 6 miles south of Cotton Valley. This will be the home of Nancy Windham.

During the first 8 years of our existence, we built three new houses and rehabilitated one. During the next 13 years, we have been blessed to be able to help 46 families realize their dream of a new house. In addition, our ministry has assisted 17 families with rehabilitation to their homes.

House #50 has been dubbed the “Golden Blitz Build” in honor of that magic number of “50.” The Windham house has been built with fantastic assistance from some great volunteers from Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church. The house will be finished after about 2 ½ months of labor. This represents quite a rapid building pace for our ministry.



Our Goal 25 Houses in 5 Years!

**Plan Your Tax Savings**  
**Help A Family**  
*All Donations Are Tax Deductible*



# From The Executive Director

Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

The last line of the Jaycee Creed says, "Service to Humanity is the **Best Work of Life**". As a former Jaycee, I can remember reciting the creed many times holding hands. When we got to the last four words we would all raise our voices and hands to signal our belief that Service to Humanity is the Best Work of Life. This is how I feel being chosen to be the Executive Director of the Fuller Center of Webster Parish.

Taking on this position, I know that I will have big shoes to fill. Charlie has done a tremendous job bringing the ministry this far. I feel that the Lord has chosen me to move it to the next level. Having met with the Board of Directors, it is clear that a very challenging goal has been set. We plan to construct 25 houses in the next 5 years. Currently, we have six families selected for homes, with one alternate. Three families reside in Minden and three families are from Springhill. With each home costing roughly \$50,000 to construct, **we need your help.**

You may be thinking, **how can I help?** Of course, the most obvious support is through financial gifts, but there are many more ways to help, as shown below.

My first month will be a busy one, with students coming from Cincinnati, Ohio to help complete the last two houses of 2012, and help move stored supplies from Camp Minden and Legacy Acres to a new location that will not cost any monthly rent, allowing us to bring our building supplies and tools to one central location.

One of my goals is to take this newsletter from a printed and mailed one to one that is sent via email or viewed on our website, thus saving funds that can be used to fulfill our goal of 25 houses. Please email your email address to me at **melanconde@yahoo.com**. I can be reached at **(318) 465-5991**. I look forward to hearing from you.

In closing I would like to wish a **Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year** for you and your family.

God Bless

*Derek*

## Did You Know It Costs?

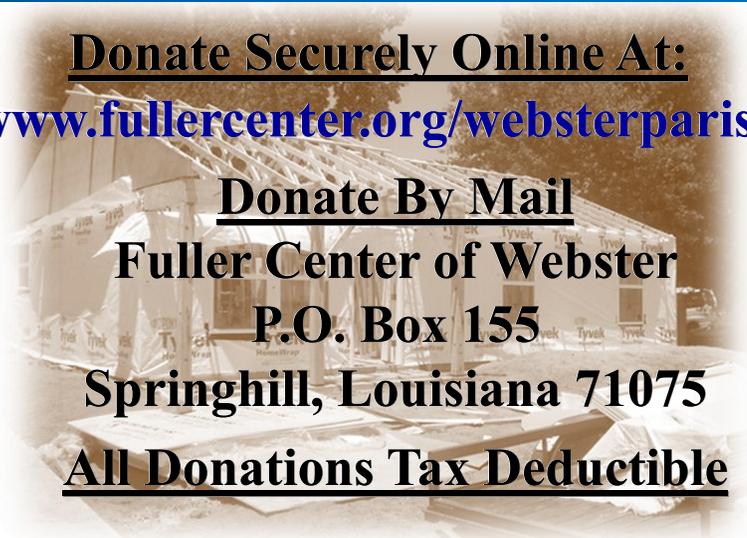
\$15.00 .....	A Box of Nails
\$25.00 .....	A Gallon of Paint
\$75.00 .....	A Low Flow Toilet
\$100.00 .....	Window or Kitchen Sink
\$150.00.....	Front Door
\$250.00.....	25 Sheets of Sheetrock
\$500.00.....	15 Planks of Cement Board Siding
\$1,000.00.....	Vinyl Flooring
\$2,000.00.....	Kitchen Cabinets
\$50,000.00.....	Whole House

# How Can I Help The Mission of the Fuller Center of Webster?

## Ways to Help

- General Donation
- Donation in Memory/Honor
- Monthly Giving
- Planned Giving
- Donate Property
- Donate Time
- Get Your Church Involved

Donate Securely Online At:  
[www.fullercenter.org/websterparish](http://www.fullercenter.org/websterparish)



Donate By Mail  
**Fuller Center of Webster**  
**P.O. Box 155**

**Springhill, Louisiana 71075**  
**All Donations Tax Deductible**

 **The Fuller Center**  
for Housing  
Webster Parish  
P.O. Box 155  
Springhill, Louisiana 71075  
[www.fullercenterwebster.org](http://www.fullercenterwebster.org)