

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SIAS builds for Africa at HomeStyles 2009

Students and instructors frame house to raise funds for Ethiopia project

March 19, 2009 – SIAS Carpentry applied certificate students and instructors will spend this weekend framing a 1,300-square-foot house in the hope that their efforts will help bring much-needed medical equipment and supplies to Ethiopia.

In the Career Centre at the HomeStyles Homeshow, 17 SIAS students, along with instructors Dale Schaan and Gene Porter, will frame the interior of the house. Once the show is over, the students will break down the walls, transport sections to Martensville, and reassemble the walls onto a floor system. The house will then be turned over to Saskatoon and area contractors who will finish the project.

Canadian Food for the Hungry International will direct profits from the sale of this house to its International Medical Equipment Distribution (IMED) program to purchase and transport refurbished medical equipment and supplies to clinics in Ethiopia.

“This is a great project for us,” said Mic Macdonald, continuing education consultant with SIAS’s Industrial Training Division. “Our students gain valuable experience, while at the same time their expertise and effort will contribute to making a difference to people’s lives in Ethiopia.”

SIAST has also arranged hands-on demonstrations in masonry and styrofoam foundation forms that the public can participate in.

Canadian Food for the Hungry International (CFHI) is a non-profit, charitable, Christian relief and development organization, which is committed to working with the poorest of the poor in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe. Through its IMED Program CFHI sends medicines and refurbished hospital equipment from excess supplies in Canada to needy health care facilities overseas.

SIAST is Saskatchewan's primary public institution for post-secondary technical education and skills training, recognized nationally and internationally for its expertise and innovation. More than 13,000 students are registered in SIAST programs, which touch every sector of the economy; additionally, the organization draws almost 32,000 individual course registrations. It operates campuses in Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina and Saskatoon, and provides a number of courses and programs through distance education.

Date: March 20-21, 2009
Time: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Location: 2009 HomeStyles Homeshow – Career Centre
Hall C, Prairieland Park Wheatland Building
503 Ruth Street West, Saskatoon SK

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Information about SIAST can be found at www.goSIAST.com.