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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Appalachia Service Project Awarded \$100,000 from Homes for West Virginia to Support Flood Recovery Efforts in Rainelle**

*Homes for West Virginia is a local program of SBP, a leading national long-term disaster recovery organization*

RAINELLE, W.Va. (November 11, 2016)—Appalachia Service Project announced today an award of \$100,000 from Homes for West Virginia, the long-term disaster recovery program working to rebuild homes across West Virginia following this summer's devastating flooding.

Appalachia Service Project (ASP), launched "Rebuilding Rainelle" in July to aid in long-term recovery efforts in the community of Rainelle. Homes for West Virginia partnered with ASP when ASP broke ground on the first home on August 17. Up to 50 new homes will be built for the families devastated by the flooding, thanks to the support and assistance from city officials, community leaders, and many local and regional partners. Homes for West Virginia has committed to an initial contribution of \$200,000 to ASP to build new homes. ASP dedicated the first home on October 14.

The award—the first half the \$200,000 total—will supplement the cost of construction for new homes in Rainelle currently underway by Appalachia Service Project. In addition to funding, Homes for West Virginia's parent organization, SBP, a national long-term disaster recovery nonprofit headquartered in New Orleans is sharing its best practices on efficient, cost-effective construction based on a decade of experience rebuilding across seven states following disaster.

"It means a great deal both to our organization and our clients, to know that Homes for West Virginia views Appalachia Service Project as an effective partner which will deliver for the people of Rainelle," said Appalachia Service Project CEO, Walter Crouch. "We are looking forward to November 22nd when we'll present keys to five additional families we've built for", he added.

Reese May, SBP's National Director of Recovery said of the award, "Appalachia Service Project has made a clear commitment to build homes for the people of Rainelle following June's terrible flooding. Homes for West Virginia and SBP are proud to support this fantastic organization and help their team achieve the results that Rainelle's residents deserve."

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## **ABOUT APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT**

Appalachia Service Project (ASP), is a Christian ministry, open to all people, that inspires hope and service through volunteer home repair in Central Appalachia. Our vision is that substandard housing will be eradicated and everyone who comes into contact with this ministry will be transformed.

Since 1969, ASP volunteers have been making homes warmer, safer and drier for families in need in Central Appalachia and providing life-transforming experiences for everyone involved. In recent years ASP has expanded its outreach to include building new homes for low-income families whose homes were destroyed by flooding and others whose homes are beyond repair.

## **ABOUT REBUILDING RAINELLE**

Rebuilding Rainelle is the name of the long-term recovery effort being led by Appalachia Service Project (ASP). It is a collaborative partnership which brings together the strength and resources of the non-profit and for-profit sectors to work alongside of and in cooperation with local and state government to build new homes and perform major rehab on homes that are repairable. For more information, or to make a cash or in-kind gift to support these efforts, please visit [www.ASPHome.org/donate](http://www.ASPHome.org/donate) or call David Kelley at (423) 607-1156.

## **About SBP**

SBP's mission is to shrink time between disaster and recovery. Since its founding in 2006 in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana following the devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina, SBP has rebuilt homes for more than 1,170 families with the help of 150,000 volunteers in New Orleans; Joplin, MO; Staten Island, NY; Rockaway, NY; Monmouth and Ocean Counties, NJ; San Marcos, TX; Columbia, SC; White Sulphur Springs, WV and Baton Rouge, LA.

SBP's model is enhanced by AmeriCorps, which provides 180 members annually to manage worksites and clients, and train the organization's volunteers nationally.

Through its Disaster Resilience and Recovery Lab (DRRL), SBP works to share lessons

learned, prevent common barriers to recovery and help communities utilize SBP's standardized, repeatable and proven-effective model.

SBP shrinks time between disaster and recovery via five interventions:

1. Build innovatively, driving efficiency
2. Share SBP's proven effective model with other organizations to increase efficacy across the disaster rebuilding sector
3. Train home and business owners in resilience and risk mitigation prior to disaster
4. Advise local and state government officials so they can deploy federal dollars sooner, and in a way that empowers an efficient recovery
5. Advocate so that what is measured is what matters – a complete recovery

To learn more, visit [www.SBPUSA.org](http://www.SBPUSA.org) and like/follow on Facebook & Twitter @SBPUSA