

Arizona Daily Star

SERVING TUCSON SINCE 1877 • SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2006

Business

New HabiStore expected to bolster charity's home-building efforts

Building-supply bargain-hunters can help build a house without lifting a finger.

The grand opening for Habitat for Humanity Tucson's first HabiStore Home Improvement Center, which sells surplus and donated building materials to the public with proceeds going to Habitat housing projects, was set for this morning at 9 a.m.

The 18,000-square-foot store will sell building materials, appliances and furniture to the public at below-cost prices. Organizers say the proceeds will help build up to 10 homes over the next three years.

The store was launched with a \$200,000 donation from the Long Realty Cares Foundation.

The store will not only benefit Habitat participants but will also get "affordable building materials into the hands of everyone," said Pat Jessup, the foundation's board president and a Long real estate agent.

Tucson's store is modeled after 300 HabiStores across the country. To make donations, which may be tax deductible, call 889-7200.

—Joseph Barrios

If you go

What: Grand opening of Habitat for Humanity's HabiStore

When: 9 a.m. today

Where: 3840 S. Palo Verde Road, at the corner of East Ajo Way.

