



Desley Brooks **Councilmember District 6**

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COMMUNITY NEWS *from the* *Offices of Oakland City Councilmember Desley Brooks*

MEDIA RELEASE

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OAKLAND'S VERSION OF EXTREME MAKEOVER COMES TO RAINBOW RECREATION CENTER

*Councilmember Desley Brooks Partners with PG&E and Rebuilding Together Oakland
For Rainbow Recreation Center's Transformation*

(Oakland, CA – March 30, 2006) A dedicated team of volunteers will completely transform east Oakland's favorite Rainbow Recreation Center in Oakland's own version of "Extreme Makeover Home Edition" on Saturday, April 29th, the day that communities throughout the United States annually observe as National Rebuilding Day.

East Oakland's Rainbow Recreation Center is a cornerstone of the Seminary and International Blvd. community. "It has been a home away from home for many neighborhood children, youth and families who come for meetings, events, and many after-school and summer programs and other activities", says Councilperson Desley Brooks. "Over the years, severe wear and tear has deteriorated the interior and exterior structures and grounds so this makeover will have a tremendous impact on the look, feel and usability of the Center".

Thanks to a community collaboration organized by Brooks, partnering with PG&E and Rebuilding Together Oakland (RTO), District 6 will benefit from the Rainbow Recreation Community Center's brand new look and feel from a much needed makeover. As lead community sponsor, PG&E organizes repairs that in this project include electrical, painting, flooring, debris removal, yard work and general clean-up. The actual work is accomplished with the help of many dedicated volunteers

"We are delighted to have PG&E and Councilperson Brooks as our key Oakland partners for this year's April Rebuilding Day," says John Caner, RTO Executive Director. Rebuilding Together (formerly Christmas in April) is the nation's largest volunteer organization preserving and revitalizing low income homes and communities in America. Since being established in 1994, RTO has renovated 266 homes of low-income elderly and disabled persons and 33 community facilities throughout the City of Oakland. This was done with the help of over 13,000 volunteers, creating almost \$6,000,000 in project value.

Volunteers are needed for Saturday, April 29th. Interested volunteers can contact the offices of Councilperson Desley Brooks at 510.238.7006 or Tom Guarino of PG&E at 510.437.2552.

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