

5 QUESTIONS WITH

GL Homes president Misha Ezratti

In partnership with Cheribundi Boca Raton Bowl, almost a dozen GL Homes employees joined other local businesses to participate in a new build in Delray Beach. Joining the GL Homes' crew was their President, Misha Ezratti, and we caught up with him to find out how the build went:

1 Why was participating in this build so important to GL Homes and your employees?

GL Homes takes pride in doing the right thing, whether it be for our homeowners or the community. While we are known for the quality of our homes, we take equal pride in dedicating our resources and areas of expertise in ways that leave a positive impact on the communities in which we build. It was a privilege to join forces with other local organizations and participate in a build that we hope will make a meaningful impact on a local family.

2 GL Homes is an expert in building stunning homes, how are these Habitat for Humanity builds similar?

On a basic level a home should provide



Cheribundi Boca Raton Bowl Partner builders in action. Photo courtesy of Ron Elkman.

safety, security, and stability. Homes are the foundations upon which families and communities grow, and for many people, a home represents hope for a better future. Having a roof over one's head is a universal need that everyone, regardless of age or income level, should have met. Both GL Homes and Habitat for Humanity recognize the life-changing impact of a safe, well-built home.

3 Many of us take homeownership for granted, why is having a home so important, especially to the Habitat families?

Having a home sets families up for success, which they might not otherwise be able to achieve. It provides a place for people to grow and overcome obstacles, stability for those who are lacking it, and



More than 40 executives and employees came out from Crocker Parnters, GL Homes and Tire Kingdom to raise hammers and wield power tools to help build a new home for a Habitat Partner Family. Photo courtesy of Ron Elkman.

a place of refuge from the challenges of everyday life. Without a home, the things we take for granted like good night's sleep or a stable home life conducive to kids' success at school, are far off dreams.

4 What can other local business learn from volunteering opportunities like these?

Businesses are not insular, they are a part of the community that they serve and their success is directly tied to the success of their community. This incredible opportunity to get out on the ground floor with an organization dedicated to improving the lives of others really underscored the significance of being a part of Palm Beach County, a place where so many GL Homes employees and homeowners live, work and play. Other



businesses would also without a doubt recognize the value of being a part of something bigger.

5 The focus of GL Homes' Philanthropy is to support organizations dedicated to ending homelessness-how does this fit into your mission?

We were excited by how in line this mission was with our philanthropic goals. Sustainable community growth starts from the ground up with every individual, particularly those in need. We are always happy to dedicate our time, energy, and resources to help those without a home get back on their feet. ■