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terra firma

Annual Review 2010

a unique perspective



Excerpt from the 2010 Annual Review
EverPower Human Interest Article

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IN PITTSBURGH, CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME

As part of its commitment to being a good corporate citizen, EverPower is participating in one community event a year in each city where it has an office. For the Pittsburgh office in 2010, the event was all about taking a day to help those in the community most in need. So in April, 26 EverPower employees and family members took part in the 18th annual Rebuilding Together-Pittsburgh event.

Rebuilding Together is one of the US's leading charitable organisations – it provides free rehabilitation and critical repairs to the homes and community centres of low-income Americans, helping to preserve affordable home ownerships and revitalising communities.

It is a vital support network at a time when the economic pressure on low-income families is growing steadily greater. Financial worries mean that more and more families are having to forego carrying out essential home repairs and modifications in order to provide the basic necessities for their family needs such as food and heating. The situation is particularly difficult for low-income elderly and disabled homeowners who are physically unable to do their own home repairs and are forced to live in unsafe and often unhygienic homes. The kind of problems Rebuilding Together tackles includes faulty electrical services, inadequate plumbing, broken boilers, gas leaks, crumbling walls, and damaged ceilings and roofs.

The EverPower team's project for the day was Hosanna House, a multi-purpose community centre in Allegheny County. The centre is a valuable asset in the local community and offers a wide variety of health and social services including early childhood education, healthcare, youth recreation, mentoring, technology training and employment support.



EverPower employees at work

Every year, around 35,000 people use the services of Hosanna House and the building was in urgent need of some repairs and upgrades. The list was a long one. It included both interior and exterior painting, cracks to repair, tennis courts that needed resealing plus various carpentry and plumbing projects throughout the property. By lending their time and their skills, the EverPower team helped to shorten the 'to-do' list and leave Hosanna House looking brighter and in much better shape to welcome the people who rely on it every day.