

# Brazoria County LONG TERM RECOVERY



April/May 2009

### Upcoming Events

- May 12, 2009: Social Service Agency Fair @ Bach Rehabilitation Center, Angleton.
- May 14, 2009: Mini-Seminar for Hurricane Preparedness, 6:30-8:00pm @ the Sweeny Community Center
- May 21, 2009: Hurricane Preparedness Seminar, 4:00-8:00pm @ the Lake Jackson Civic Center

**The Brazoria County Long Term Recovery Committee (BC-LTRC) is a volunteer-driven, community effort to restore the homes and lives of Brazoria County residents affected by Hurricane Ike.**

*To find out more, or to get involved, visit our website or contact Carolyn Gibbs, Community Development and Volunteer Liaison, at (800) 971-6677 or [cgibbs@uwbc.org](mailto:cgibbs@uwbc.org).*

## First house blessing marks significant milestone for BC-LTRC

On the afternoon of April 5, 2009, a handful of people gathered on the front lawn of Freeport resident Ken Woosley to offer up thanks and blessings for the completion of the first Brazoria County Long Term Recovery Committee construction project.

When construction began on Mr. Woosley's home in November, Brazoria County's newspaper, "The Facts" featured the work in a front-page article. Now, nearly six months and hundreds of volunteers later, the job is done. Mr. Woosley can return to his daily life in comfort and safety.

Led by local ministers Rev. Tom Sharon (BC-LTRC Chairperson) and Rev. Leslie Dalstra, the informal

ceremony lasted less than half an hour, and included prayer, song, and the presentation of a small gift to the homeowner.

Those in attendance represented the many aspects of BC-LTRC recovery efforts, from case management to construction to behind-the-scenes organization. Each was able to express their gratitude for being a part of Mr. Woosley's recovery.

"It may not seem like it, but it means more to those helping than it does to those receiving the help." Rev. Dalstra told the emotional homeowner, "It changes them."

As simple as the short cere-



BC-LTR Committee members gather to celebrate the completion of their first construction project.

mony was, the event marked a significant new chapter in the life of the BC-LTRC: *completion.*

The Committee currently has more than 20 other projects in various phases of construction.

## Committee sponsors Social Service Agency Fair to foster collaboration in community

On May 12, 2009, the BC-LTRC and the United Way of Brazoria County will sponsor an event intended to build networks between the many local social service organizations in Brazoria County.

Held at the BACH Rehabilitation Center on E. Hospital Drive in Angleton, the fair

is open to all agencies. Participants will be provided table space on which to showcase their agency, and are encouraged to bring displays, brochures, and other materials to share. The BC-LTRC hopes that attendees will include the four newest partners in the recovery efforts: four experi-

enced case management agencies contracted to work in Brazoria County by Lutheran Social Services Disaster Recovery.

For more information, contact Carolyn Gibbs at (800) 971-6677 or [cgibbs@uwbc.org](mailto:cgibbs@uwbc.org).