



## PRESS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PR/External Affairs Office of Haines & Kibblehouse, Inc.

### **H&K GROUP, BUSINESS PARTNERS AND FRIENDS LEND HELPING HAND TO “HOUSE OF HEROES”**

On Tuesday, May 15, 2007, The H&K Group, along with several business partners, presented the Western Center for Technical Studies (WCTS) with a large donation to help complete their “House of Heroes” project. The “House of Heroes” project was to build a new modular home for a Louisiana National Guardsman’s family, who had been recently ravaged by several tragedies. The house would then be shipped from WCTS’s campus in Limerick, PA to the family in Louisiana.

The home was bound for Staff Sgt. James Johnson and his family in Lake Charles, Louisiana. Staff Sgt. Johnson was deployed with the National Guard to Iraq, and while enduring an arduous, year-long recovery from an injury suffered in battle, his young wife, Heather, struggled to care for their young child alone. Only to have their four-year-old girl, Gracy, diagnosed with leukemia. Fate was not done with the Johnson family, as it dealt them another seemingly insurmountable obstacle, when Hurricanes Katrina and Rita erased most of their worldly possessions.

The students, administration, and board of WCTS raised enough monetary funding and materials donations to build the home, but when it came time to ship it off to Louisiana, they ran into a stumbling block. The project was put on hold when the National Guard, who had previously committed, was unable to transport the home due to unforeseen scheduling and administrative issues.

Upon hearing of this news, The H&K Group (Haines & Kibblehouse, Inc.), along with T.H. Properties, Giles & Ransome, Inc., Reading Equipment & Distribution, Inc., and Triad Truck Equipment, were able to pull together and jointly donate \$21,000 to supplement the transportation and subsequent installation of the home. The home departed today, and is scheduled to arrive in Louisiana within a week. The home will be accompanied by many of the WCTS students that built the home, who will then reassemble and install the home. Everyone

involved in this project is grateful to have helped begin the recuperation process for this family. For more information on the “House of Heroes” project please visit WCTS’s website at: [www.westerncenter.org/HouseOfHeroes.html](http://www.westerncenter.org/HouseOfHeroes.html)



The check for \$21,000 is presented to the WCTS with the “House of Heroes” home and student builders behind. Pictured from left to right: Dennis Runyen (G&R), Wayne Bromley (G&R), Dave Wertz (THP), Scott Haines (H&K), Frank Combaro (Triad), Joe Greb (WCTS), Gordon Whitlock (WCTS), Dr. Bradley Landis [behind] (Superintendent Pottsgrove S.D.), St. Rep. Bob Mensch, and Ammon Morgan (WCTS).



The home being loaded for transportation