



HISTORIC CHICAGO  
BUNGALOW ASSOCIATION

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:  
Karin Sullivan – MK Communications  
(312) 822-0505; karin@mkcpr.com

### **New Executive Director to Lead HCBA**

*Experienced nonprofit leader plans to expand educational efforts for bungalow homeowners*

CHICAGO –With its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary approaching, the Historic Chicago Bungalow Association has new leadership. Mary Ellen Guest, a life-long Chicagoan with an impressive history of growing and managing successful non-profits, including A+ Illinois and Working In The Schools (WITS), has taken the position as Executive Director.

On board for less than a month, Guest, who comes from a bungalow family, has already charted an ambitious plan for the year, which includes expanding the HCBA’s grant and loan programs to help homeowners restore and make their homes more energy efficient; increasing the number of sites offering the HCBA’s extremely popular monthly seminars for homeowners, to reach into more areas of the city’s bungalow belt; and increasing knowledge of the resources HCBA offers to members through greater outreach to the 80,000 owners of Historic Chicago Bungalows.

“Bungalows are not only a treasured part of Chicago’s history, they are a foundation for the city’s future,” says Guest. “Like any treasure, however, they need constant care and attention – and we want to ensure that every Chicago Bungalow owner knows that the HCBA is a resource for them for all their design, energy and home-improvement needs.”

Guest brings a wealth of expertise in relationship-building, a key component of her outreach plans. “In these hard economic times, partnerships are vital,” Guest said. “We want to work with aldermen, state representatives, community organizers, local chambers of commerce, realtors who sell bungalows, banks who lend in bungalow neighborhoods—all the different folks in the city who help create stable, growing neighborhoods.”

The Historic Chicago Bungalow Association is an independent, non-profit organization created in 2000 to administer Mayor Daley’s Historic Chicago Bungalow Initiative. The HCBA conducts year-round educational programming for Bungalow and other home owners; provides loans and grants for restoration and energy efficient home improvements, and is the sponsor and primary host of the Historic Chicago Bungalow and Green Home Expo.

Since the year 2000 more than 10,000 homeowners have joined the HCBA, and the organization has made more than 4,500 grants to homeowners and helped eight neighborhoods win placement on the National Register of Historic Places.

For more information about the HCBA, its seminars and the grants and loans available please visit [www.chicagobungalow.org](http://www.chicagobungalow.org).

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