

Dream Doghouses for Charity

Denver home builders design luxury doghouses for charity auction.

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Seven home builders in Denver have built dream doghouses in an effort to raise funds for the Home Builders Foundation of Metro Denver. The foundation, in turn, will use the funds to renovate homes and otherwise improve houses for individuals and families facing long-term disabilities.

The seven members of the Homes Builders Association of Metro Denver created some innovative looks and features for doghouses, with at least two of the houses envisioning multiple dogs using the shelter.

Other features incorporated pull-out food and water bowls, hideaway storage bins and luxury dog beds.

Builder Motivational Systems created a "green" doghouse, designed to handle Denver's array of weather. Features included skylights and insulation to provide warmth in the winter and a detachable wind screen and raised ceilings to provide ventilation in the summer.

Additional housing themes included a nautical doghouse, a replica of a turn-of-the-century firehouse, a contemporary design using traditional Colorado materials, a Wild West saloon, and a traditional doghouse.

Another builder opted to turn one of its most popular floor plans into a doghouse.

The seven doghouses will be raffled off Sept. 3 to attendees of the 2007 Little Houses of Parade, sponsored by Allstate, held in conjunction with the Annual Parade of Homes at Southshore in Aurora, Colo.

The group is also raising funds by auctioning off fantasy playhouses and architectural renderings of the doghouses.

For more information, visit www.littlehousesonparade.com