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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**LOWE'S RENOVATION ACROSS THE NATION CAMPAIGN INCLUDES AN INVESTMENT OF \$50,000 FOR THE WILBERT T. DAVIS, (BELMONT HEIGHTS) BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB!**

Tampa, FL (March 2, 2017) -- For hundreds of local youth, back to school means more than class time, it also means "club time" as they spend after school hours at the local Wilbert T. Davis Boys and Girls Club center located at Belmont Heights Estates in East Tampa.

To create the largest single initiative ever undertaken by Lowe's and the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, one club in each state around the country was selected from clubs in need of significant repair and improvements. Lowes will support a wide-range of enhancements from kitchen repairs to amenities that include the new flooring, internal painting and new furnishings at the Wilbert T. Davis Branch.

*"These funds will help us create a state-of-the-art space for our teens and will allow us to better serve this population. This grant was critical to improving the overall club environment and experience for our club members as well," said Tampa Housing Authority President/CEO Jerome D. Ryans, "Many of our members and their families realize the value of Boys and Girls Clubs in bringing hope and strength to kids and teens in need of a safe and inspiring place to go for meaningful after-school activities."*

Representatives from Lowe's and DPR Construction met with staff and club members to help imagine and create a space just for them. Working in teams of four, the youth put their skills to work and learned everything from creating a blue-print to building a 3D model of a floor plan. The groups (teens and company representatives), worked on research, design, marketing and development strategies, as well.

*"Boys and Girls Clubs drive academic success, influence positive health and wellness and build good character and citizenship," said Tampa Housing Authority Board Chairwoman Susan Johnson-Velez. We look forward to working with Lowe's to achieve the kind of Boys and Girls Club that we all can be proud of."*

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The Housing Authority of the City of Tampa promotes the development and professional management of a variety of affordable housing opportunities, facilities and supportive services that nurture neighborhoods; provide economic development and self-sufficiency activities for residents while assuring equal access to safe, quality housing for low and moderate income families throughout the community.

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