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Times staff photo by ALEXANDER ALEMAN

IN MOTION: About a dozen construction workers of the Armadillo Team worked together to construct the left side roof of a Habitat for Humanity home in the time lapse photo. The Armadillo Team, made up of more than 500 contractors and employees, began the construction at 6 a.m. and finished the new home just 12 hours later.

Construction team builds house for family in 12 hours

BY DIANA DE LA GARZA
Times staff writer

In a rapid 12-hours, Armadillo Construction built a Habitat for Humanity house for Mr. and Mrs. Ernesto and Erika Leal and their family Friday.

Construction for the house began at 6 a.m. and was completed by 6 p.m.

"It was like an army of ants when the construction began," Habitat for Humanity President Carol Sherwood said. "We simply had to get out of the way."

The home, which was built as a project for "Make a Difference Weekend" was constructed by the Armadillo Team, which is made up of

more than 500 contractors and employees, and by more than 100 members of the community, as well as the owners themselves.

As part of the Habitat for Humanity project, the homeowners are required to contribute 400 hours of labor, which are counted as their equity payment.

According to Sherwood, the family has put in more than 100 hours of labor and will contribute the remaining 300 in the construction of the new Habitat Home.

"This is a great project," Sherwood said. "Not only are we giving people the opportunity of home ownership, but we are helping them achieve goals for themselves too."
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*House

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Sherwood said.

A goal for the Leal family was to enroll in school. Sherwood added that Erika and her 18-month-old baby will enroll in the "Even Start Program," in which Erika will attend school

while her baby is at day care.

"We are so grateful for our new house," she said. "We thank the community for all their help and, most of all, we thank God for taking care of us."

Construction for the next Habitat for Humanity House

will begin next week. The four local Rotary clubs will sponsor the construction for this house. It will be built next to the Leal's home.

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