

From: Housing Partnership Development Corporation

**450 Seventh Avenue** 

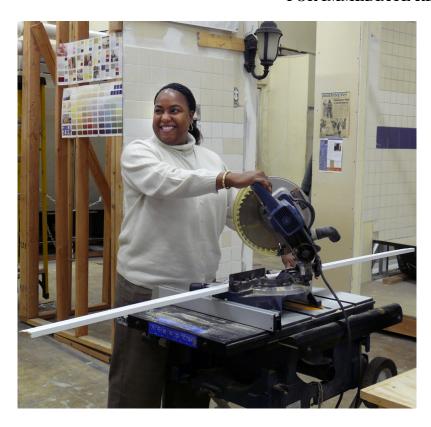
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## **EM'POWER'ING FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS**

New York, March 20, 2007 – Student Erica Johnson confidently demonstrates how to safely operate a power saw, a skill she learned in the 8-week Home Maintenance Workshop. Created by the Housing Partnership Development Corporation, one of the nation's largest nonprofit producers of affordable housing, and the Margert Community Corp, the Home Maintenance Workshop graduated its fifth class on Wednesday, March 19. First-time homebuyers personally demonstrated their new "do-it-yourself" skills to major financial supporters of the program, including Senator Malcolm Smith, Long Island Board of Realtors, and The Hudson Companies, Inc. The next free 8-session Home Maintenance Training and Repair Course will begin on March 26. To sign up for the course, please contact Stephanie Lawes or Julissa Arias of the Margert Community Corp at (718) 471-3724 or go to <a href="https://www.margert.org">www.margert.org</a> and click on "register for a class".