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**CHA & KABOOM TEAM UP TO BUILD PLAYGROUND FOR OVER
200 CHILDREN AT RANDOLPH TOWER**

A bang, a lift - and a KaBoom! That's how you build a playground
August 23, 2002

At 10am, Saturday, August 24, 2002, media are invited to attend a playground "Build Day" at Randolph Tower, 6217 S. Calumet, part of CHA's Washington Park housing development. This project is part of CHA's promise to transform the lives of children growing up in public housing.

In a distinctive approach that uses full community participation, Randolph Tower residents and their children, along with some 250 volunteers from Illinois Institute of Technology, Americorps, Chicago Cares, local fraternities and CHA will work side-by-side to create a new play space for the children.

"The old playground is decades old and badly needs to be replaced," said Mary Wiggins, president of the Local Advisory Committee at Washington Park and president of the Central Advisory Council (CAC), a resident leadership group. "We're very excited that kids here will have a new safe place to play."

Half of the 439 residents at Randolph Tower are under the age of 13.

"Watching children play is like watching freedom in motion," said CHA CEO Terry Peterson. "This new playground is an investment in their development."

So far, KaBoom! has built six playgrounds at CHA developments, in conjunction with CHA residents, corporate partners and the respective surrounding communities. This particular "build day" will be a day-long, fun-filled festival that lets the children face paint, create banners, and participate in games -- including a double-dutch contest - while their new playground is being installed.

Funding for the project comes from the CHA and the Randolph Tower Resident Management Corporation. This playground will be dedicated to the memory of Artensa Randolph, former LAC president and CHA resident.

About KaBoom!

KaBoom! is a national non-profit organization that has rallied volunteers to build nearly 350 safe, much needed and accessible playgrounds, including 70 in the Chicagoland area. The KaBoom! process of planning for and building playgrounds, sparks communal pride and responsibility for new playspaces.

For more information about KaBoom! and photographs from other CHA playground projects, visit www.kaboom.org

Note: Interviews with residents, volunteers and attending local officials are available.