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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**EIGHT DAYS OF HOPE XVII BRINGS 1,500 VOLUNTEERS TO LAPLACE, LA TO REBUILD HOMES FOLLOWING HURRICANE IDA**

*Community members, including employees from Marathon Petroleum's Garyville Refinery, also join the volunteer efforts.*

Tupelo, MS – Eight Days of Hope's (EDOH) seventeenth rebuilding trip begins Saturday, April 9, bringing together 1,500 volunteers from across the United States to serve those in LaPlace impacted by Hurricane Ida.

"It's heartbreaking to know that almost a year after Hurricane Ida, families are still waiting – waiting for repairs, for normalcy, for hope. We wish we weren't needed, but we are humbled to help this community as they continue on the long road of recovery," says Stephen Tybor III, EDOH President and CEO.

EDOH is partnering with Marathon Petroleum Corporation (MPC) and the St. John Long Term Recovery Group (LTRG) to provide free home repairs to 150 families in the area in just eight days. These repairs, supported by a MPC grant, will range from roofing to painting to flooring and more. In addition to these projects, EDOH is excited to provide updates to Regala Park as a way of blessing the whole community.

"We are truly honored that Eight Days of Hope is bringing in over 1,000 volunteers to assist with Hurricane Ida recovery in our community," said Parish President Jaclyn Hotard. "Although our residents are resilient in their rebuilding efforts, there is still a great need, and we can't thank Eight Days of Hope enough for their generosity and love."

For MPC, supporting EDOH and the St. John LTRG is part of a much larger commitment to being a good neighbor. In November of 2021, the corporation announced \$2 million in community investments as a part a local community investments initiative they launched called "Celebrating

Resiliency and A Brighter Tomorrow.” MPC’s additional and recent funding of \$400,000 for this rebuild effort is a continuation of their commitment to the area.

“This is home for our Garyville Refinery; our employees work and live here,” said Marathon Petroleum’s Vice President of Refining Michael Henschen. “Together, we’re able to make our community stronger, and this includes us proudly, continuing to donate both grants and our time to help progress local recovery efforts from Hurricane Ida.”

For EDOH, serving LaPlace means revisiting old friends. In 2013, EDOH worked with Pastor Neil Bernard, President of the St. John LTRG, following Hurricane Isaac. During this eight-day outreach, over 2,500 volunteers served over 200 families still waiting for help months after the storm.

Beyond providing free home repairs for 150 families, EDOH invites the local community to join them on Friday, April 15, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. for a Night of Hope at 2900 US-51, Laplace, LA 70068. This event will feature food (crawfish, of course!), music and fun for all.

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### **About Eight Days of Hope**

Except for a small staff, Eight Days of Hope is an all-volunteer organization. We serve all people regardless of race, gender, religion or ethnicity. Please visit [www.eightdaysofhope.com](http://www.eightdaysofhope.com) for more information, to provide financial support, or to volunteer.

### **About Marathon Petroleum Corporation’s Garyville Refinery**

The Garyville refinery is located along the Mississippi River in southeastern Louisiana between New Orleans and Baton Rouge. It employs approximately 900 full-time employees and has a crude oil refining capacity of 578,000 barrels per calendar day (bpcd). It is configured to process a wide variety of crude oils into gasoline, distillates, fuel-grade coke, asphalt, polymer-grade propylene, propane, refinery-grade propylene, dry gas, slurry and sulfur. Products at the refinery are transported by pipeline, barge, transport truck, rail and ocean tanker. The refinery has access to the export market and multiple options to sell refined products. A major expansion project was completed in 2009 that increased Garyville’s crude oil refining capacity, making it one of the largest refineries in the U.S.

### **About Marathon Petroleum Corporation**

Marathon Petroleum Corporation (MPC) is a leading, integrated, downstream energy company headquartered in Findlay, Ohio. The company operates the

nation's largest refining system. MPC's marketing system includes branded locations across the United States, including Marathon brand retail outlets. MPC also owns the general partner and majority limited partner interest in MPLX LP, a midstream company that owns and operates gathering, processing, and fractionation assets, as well as crude oil and light product transportation and logistics infrastructure. More information is available at [www.marathonpetroleum.com](http://www.marathonpetroleum.com).