

Press Release

Contact: Diane White

Phone: 918-770-3905

Email: Diane@DianeWhitePR.com

“The sponsors went way above and beyond.
This would not be our house. It’s amazing.”

--Steven Ambers, homeowner



Out of the Ashes – Family who lost everything in fire to move into safe Eco Bungalow Home rebuilt with donations from businesses to be healthy, energy efficient

LOS ANGELES – When fire burned through the walls and smoke smoldered in the ceiling of Steven Ambers’ home on Christmas day, he never imagined it could be the beginning of a new, healthy way of life for him and his family. But two years later, they are about to become the first on the west coast to live in a bungalow built from the ground up to be safe from fire, high-energy costs and toxic pollutants.

Steven, his wife and three children will be moving into a new high-design ‘Eco Bungalow’ at the end of the month where their old home used to stand on the west side of Los Angeles in Beverlywood. ***Media tours are available January 28 and the public can tour the home on January 30 by registering at Ecobungalow-la.com.***

The Eco Bungalow was built mostly with donations and discounts from builders, architects, designers and other tradesmen with eco-friendly materials and sustainable design. They pitched in to help at the request of family friend, New York-based designer Robin Wilson.

“I had to help. I needed to make sure they had a happy home and could put their lives back together.” Wilson, owner of Robin Wilson Home, said. “We should all pay it forward because this was an accident that could happen to anyone.”

The Ambers’ house went up in flames Christmas day and the sixth night of Hanukkah in 2011. One of the boys brought home a menorah he made in preschool. They lit the candle in the kitchen then went into the family room to open presents. They didn’t realize the candle had fallen over and caught the table on fire. Steven and his wife Cindy grabbed the kids, their grandmother and the family pets and escaped seconds before the kitchen exploded.

When Wilson heard the news, she asked her colleagues in the eco-friendly building and design industry to be donors and the Sustainable Furnishings Council to be the charitable partner for the Eco Bungalow Project. The businesses wanted to help because it was a chance to “rebuild it the right way” from the foundation to the furniture that is high design and affordable for budget-conscious consumers.

Among other things, Robin Wilson Home designed a multi-generational house which includes wider doorways and first floor living space for their grandparent. Robin Wilson Home is also donating hypoallergenic bedding that's sold at [Bed Bath & Beyond.com](http://BedBathBeyond.com).

Other donations and discounts include:

- [Kohler](#) – providing all the faucets, tubs, sinks, toilets which are WaterSense certified and ensures that less water is used in the daily routine of the busy family.
- [Cosentino](#) – a family-owned company is providing Silestone natural quartz surfaces that fights bacteria, mold and mildew growth, for the kitchen and the bathroom. “The Cosentino family is committed to participating in projects that educate consumers of the value and importance of using products that meet their lifestyle needs.”
- [Mitchell Gold & Bob Williams](#) – Providing stylish furniture created in America with respect for the environment.
- [FLOR Carpet Design](#) – Providing the flooring for the children’s bedrooms. “We were so excited to be able to help this deserving family rebuild their home in a chic, smart and affordable way.”
- [NovosBed.com](#) – Providing an all natural, latex foam mattress for the grandmother. “Not only were we moved by this family’s story, but we wanted to be part of a project that emphasizes fire safety and eco-friendliness.”
- [First Alert](#) – Providing all of the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors as well as security cameras. “This family’s story is a tragic reminder that home fires can happen to anyone.”
- [Aronel](#) – The design studio is providing the wall covering for the stairwell “The tragedy experienced by this family has created an opportunity for us to give back.”
- [Salamander Design](#) – The furniture designer and manufacturer is providing night stands in the master bedroom. “The Eco Bungalow project is an excellent opportunity to work with other environmentally conscience manufacturers to educate consumers about all of the green choices available to them.”
- [Verengo Solar](#) – Installing a solar power system on the family’s new home will help them save money on electric costs each month while providing clean, affordable, renewable energy from the sun. “We are honored to be a part of the rebuilding of their new eco-friendly and energy efficient home.”
- [Progress Lighting](#) – They also wanted to help this family and are supplying all ceiling fans for our home.
- [Hinkley Lighting](#) – Giving back by donating all lighting fixtures for the Amber’s Eco Bungalow.

The Ambers’ old home was 1,700 square feet. The rebuilt home will include more space with a second story. At least \$250,000 in labor, services and products have been donated or discounted to the Eco Bungalow. The goal of this project is to show how eco-friendly design can be affordable and available to all families. Find out more at EcoBungalow-la.com.

INTERVIEWS AND PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES

- ***Media Tour Day with Steve & Cindy Ambers and Robin Wilson Home*** – January 28
- ***Celebrity & Sponsor Event*** – private event, interested media should contact Diane@DianeWhitePr.com – January 29
- ***Public Tour: architects, designers, builders and interested members of the general public*** - January 30

For interviews, please call or email Diane White at 918.770.3905 and Diane@DianeWhitePR.com.