

# Safety Guidelines

We have some safety guidelines for your group to note before you come to build houses with Homes of Hope.

## Safety Commandments

- Operate only power tools you have been specifically assigned to or trained for
- Use safe lifting/carrying techniques
  - Lift with your knees, not your back
  - When carrying long or awkward objects, have a helper assist you and carry the object by the ends to avoid accidents

### Power tool safety:

- Never wear gloves, loose jewelry, clothing, or long, loose hair while operating power tools – they may get caught in the power tools and pull you into danger
- Always wear safety glasses
- Know what is on the other side of what you are cutting or drilling – if you can't see, check and assign someone to monitor the other side
  - \*Use only the “Sawsall” reciprocating cutter to cut out the windows of upright walls—the circular saw poses too much danger when used to cut out windows
- Stop using any power tool that is missing guards, is dull, or has frayed electrical parts

### Chop Saw Safety:

- TRAINED ADULTS ONLY
- Never cross your hands in front of a moving blade
- Wait until the blade comes to a stop before moving your hands or the work piece
- Support both ends of the work piece in case it unexpectedly shifts after cutting it
- Wear safety glasses
- Do not wear gloves, loose jewelry, loose hair, or loose clothing

### “Skill Saw” (Circular Saw) and “Sawsall” (Reciprocating Saw) safety:

- TRAINED ADULTS ONLY
- Never cut objects laying on the ground – saw may snag on the ground and “run away” from you
- Use only sharp blades
- Never cut something you cannot have monitored on the opposite side
- Wear safety glasses
- Do not wear gloves, loose jewelry, loose hair, or loose clothing