

WHITE HOUSE
FAITH-BASED
AND
COMMUNITY
INITIATIVES

COMPASSION
IN ACTION

ROUNDTABLE

*Partnerships in Emergency
Preparedness, Response
and Recovery: The Role of
Faith-Based and Community
Organizations in Building
Resilient Communities*



May 19, 2008

INTRODUCTION

In January 2007, the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (OFBCI) launched a series of monthly Compassion in Action Roundtable meetings to highlight organizations, programs and policies addressing critical social needs. The roundtables convene and facilitate discussion between policymakers, government officials, philanthropists, and faith-based and community service providers around targeted issues.

Ultimately, these events are designed to advance a broad-based reform agenda that regards frontline nonprofit organizations as vital players in addressing the great human needs of our day. The events highlight and explore innovative models and promising practices for government partnership with faith-based and other community organizations to solve real-world problems.

Effective disaster preparation, response and recovery are increasingly defined by cross-sector collaboration that draws upon the complementary strengths of the public, private and non-profit sectors. Faith-based and community organizations (FBCOs), in particular, add much to these partnerships through their established role in the community, existing infrastructure, unique ability to mobilize resources and human capital, and other capabilities complementary to those of government.

As effective disaster recovery models transition from government-centered delivery of services to innovative community-based partnerships, the role of FBCOs will remain vital to ensuring that communities are equipped to respond effectively to both the short- and long-term impact of disasters.

The President's Faith-Based and Community Initiative is built from the conviction that the most effective way to address our communities' needs is to draw upon the unique strengths of every willing community and faith-based partner. By expanding partnerships with grassroots nonprofit organizations and strengthening their ongoing work, Federal, state and local government innovators are making America a safer and more resilient nation.

PARTNERSHIPS IN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE AND RECOVERY: THE ROLE OF FAITH- BASED AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS IN BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

May 19, 2008 1:00 pm – 3:15 pm

1:00 pm

Welcome and Introduction

Jay Hein, Deputy Assistant to the President and Director
White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

1:10 pm

The Role of FBCOs in Emergency Preparedness

Moderator: Erin Streeter, Director, Ready Campaign,
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Panelist: Jennifer Posten, Manager, Ready Houston!,
Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston

Panelist: Kary Kingsland, U.S. Director, *Convoy of Hope*

Panelist: Mary Marr, Founder and Chairman, *Christian Emergency Network*

Panelist: Paul Goldenberg, National Director, *Secure Community Network*

2:00

Keynote Remarks

Secretary Michael Chertoff
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

2:10

Heralding Unheard Voices: The Value of FBCOs During Disaster

Pete Hull, Task Lead, *Homeland Security Institute*

2:20

Technology as an Engine for Community Solutions in Times of Disaster

Governor Scott McCallum, President & CEO, *Aidmatrix Foundation*

2:30

The Vital Role of FBCOs in Disaster Response and Recovery

Moderator: Berl Jones, Deputy Director, Individual Assistance Division,
Disaster Assistance Directorate, *Federal Emergency Management Agency*

Panelist: Wendy Spencer, CEO, *Volunteer Florida, Governor's Commission on
Volunteerism and Community Service*

Panelist: Penny Dendy, Executive Director, *Volunteer Mobile, Inc., Alabama*

Panelist: Don Gann, Assistant Director of Disaster Relief, *Mississippi Baptist
Convention Board*

Panelist: John Hope Bryant, Founder and Chairman, *Operation HOPE*

3:15

Adjourn

FBCI SNAPSHOTS: FEATURED PRIVATE EFFORTS IN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

Aidmatrix Foundation

Imagine a world of balance between those who have and those in need, created by a network of aid solutions offering give and take to mobilize product, human and financial resources. Aidmatrix strives to develop and leverage a global aid network built on a partnership of innovative technology and powerful opportunity. Aidmatrix delivers powerful solution tools to connect those who have, with those in need. Deploying supply-chain technology, Aidmatrix leverages public-and private-sector resources with charitable organizations in relief services—creating opportunity and orchestrating the Right Aid to the Right People at the Right Time™. Aidmatrix mobilizes more than \$1.5 billion in aid annually, working with more than 35,000 nonprofits, companies and government agencies worldwide. The international 501(c)(3) organization activates product, human and financial resources impacting the lives of more than 65 million.

Christian Emergency Network

In October 2001, following the attacks of 9/11, President George W. Bush called the nation to unite and work together cooperatively to provide urgent care and to share Hope neighbor to neighbor. Christian Emergency Network (CEN) was formed by many Christian leaders inspired by that vision. After accessing the need for greater collaboration and communication within the Christian community related to responding to disasters of all kinds these leaders met together regularly for four years. The collaboration started with ten leading national ministries, media, public and private sector agencies which recognized the need to work better together. Each understood the unique contribution they could make to this vision, and began the journey together to address the outstanding needs.

The Christian Emergency Network is an unprecedented Christian collaboration and communication disaster-focused network with over 7,000 organizations,

45,000 local churches, 1200 radio outlets, national SAT TV feeds, a website which engages the greater church daily through automated e-news (which has serviced over 20 million hits in one day during activation), using CEN's 250 local reporters spread nationwide who offer expertise and critical information. Grippled by the need for those in disaster CEN rallies the greater church to "Be Aware" with timely accurate information, to "Be Ready" physically, emotionally and spiritually, and then, to "Be There" serving those in need with Hope.

Convoy of Hope

Convoy of Hope, a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, serves in the United States and around the world providing disaster relief, building supply lines and coordinating outreaches to provide long-term help to the poor and hurting. Convoy of Hope does this by bringing together government, business, civic groups, and churches of different faiths. Convoy of Hope has been very active in large-scale disaster response. Recent projects include the tsunami in southeast Asia, where it provided hundreds of thousands of pounds of relief supplies to help victims with immediate disaster relief and teams that assisted with long-term response efforts. After hurricane Katrina, Convoy of Hope delivered more than 800 tractor-trailer loads of food, water, ice, and other supplies to the storm's victims. In addition, the organization supplied countless teams to rebuild homes and churches. Convoy of Hope is a member of the National VOAD organization, and has partnerships with several state and local governments.

For more than a decade, Convoy of Hope has been transforming communities through compassion and to date has touched more than 20 million lives. Through job training, clean water, agriculture, nutrition programs, and more, Convoy of Hope works with local partners to create sustainable programs that break the cycle of poverty and give hope. Through corporate partnerships Convoy of Hope is able to convert each

donated dollar into five to eight dollars of actual relief product that reaches people in need.

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief (SBDR) is a partnership ministry of the State Baptist conventions and the North American Mission Board (NAMB) of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The purpose of SBDR is to provide physical, emotional, and spiritual help to victims of natural and man-made disasters, including floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, fires, and terrorist attacks, in North America and overseas. Formed in 1967, disaster relief units are owned and staffed by Southern Baptist churches, regional Baptist associations, and state Baptist conventions. Approximately, 1,500 mobile units, staffed by more than 80,000 trained volunteers, can respond to disasters within their own state and can work cooperatively with other states to respond to larger emergencies.

Operation HOPE

Operation HOPE, Inc. (OHI) is a non-profit, public benefit organization, founded immediately following the civil unrest of April 29, 1992 in Los Angeles. Through a series of public/private partnerships and strategic alliances, OHI has developed and implemented programs focused on connecting the minority community with mainstream, private sector resources, and empowering under-served communities. While OHI is actively and directly involved in the communities it serves, the long range programmatic objective of OHI is to literally "drive itself out of business." OHI desires to slowly transition out of direct program management, in areas such as lending, replacing OHI with private sector providers. Further, OHI desires to increase its direct support and involvement with community based non-profit organizations. OHI brings together, under one organizational umbrella, some of the most talented, experienced and successful individuals

that America has to offer, both from the minority and mainstream community. Operation HOPE seeks to make the development and "privatization of inner-city and under-served communities" a top priority; serving as a bridge and facilitator between mainstream and minority communities. The mission of OHI, through (1) partnership, (2) investment, (3) lending, (4) practical education, (5) technical assistance, (6) advocacy and outreach, is to "bridge the gap."

Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston

Interfaith Ministries (IM) believes that most religions share beliefs that can bind us together to build a more harmonious world. Too often today, strife in our world is along religious lines. IM is working to dispel prejudices and build acceptance and respect among faith traditions through education, open dialogue, consultation, and promotion of interfaith activity. In all that we do, IM looks for opportunities to partner and collaborate with others in our community to effectively meet basic needs. We bring together hundreds of congregations, organizations and institutes to further the goal of serving those in need to build a more just community.

All faith traditions share a call to compassion and service, infused with a spirit to those who have the least and need the most. The Strength of Shared Beliefs motivates us to provide direct service on behalf of our faith communities. Through our service to seniors and refugees, we call upon shared beliefs of many faith traditions to feed the hungry and welcome the stranger. Though our work in disaster preparedness, we equip people of faith to be ready to respond to the call to service in a time of crisis. Currently we reach and serve more than 6,000 individuals daily.

Secure Community Network

The Secure Community Network is the central address serving the Jewish community concerning matters of communal safety, security, and all-hazards preparedness

and response. Created by the Conference of Presidents, United Jewish Communities and the American Jewish Committee, the organized Jewish community has established a coordinated approach for community wide notifications, crisis management and security measures emphasizing common standards for enabling Jewish communities throughout North America to embrace and evidence a culture of security awareness, preparedness and disaster recovery and resiliency.

SCN has become a trusted partner and advisor for the Jewish community, law enforcement and government agencies across the country, providing countless consultations, distributing important, timely, and credible communications, and assisting dozens of communities and organizations in preparing and mobilizing their constituents. SCN serves the American Jewish community as an advisor, advocate, and resource for raising community awareness, capacity building across public and private sectors, and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned.

Volunteer Florida: The Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service

The Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service, Volunteer Florida, was established in 1994 by the Florida Legislature to administer grants under the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993. The Commission grants funds to Florida AmeriCorps and National Service programs, encourages volunteerism for everyone from youths to seniors to people with disabilities; coordinates volunteerism in emergency management and preparedness; supports the Governor's priorities through creating innovative volunteer programs; and helps to strengthen and expand Volunteer Centers in Florida. Commissioners drive the mission of Volunteer Florida and are involved actively in volunteer and service activities. They are a diverse, bipartisan group of citizens appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate.

As a member of the State Emergency Response Team, Volunteer Florida plays the lead role in coordinating volunteers and donations during times of disaster. Along with partner organizations, faith-based organizations, and countless volunteers, Volunteer Florida helps Floridians recover when disaster strikes.

Volunteer Mobile, Inc.

Volunteer Mobile, Inc. is a nonprofit, community-based organization affiliated with the Points of Light Foundation and Hands On Network and the United Way of Southwest Alabama. Volunteer Mobile is the agency identified in Mobile County's Emergency Operations Plan to coordinate volunteers in disasters and serve as the single point of contact for voluntary organizations in a disaster. As a member of the Mass Care Committee of the Mobile County Emergency Management Agency, Volunteer Mobile is responsible for managing the Special Needs Registry for those in the community who cannot leave their homes without governmental assistance in an evacuation. Developed in coordination with EMA and The Independent Living Center, the on-line registry identifies those who need special assistance in case of an evacuation and notifies them of impending situations.

Following the disaster, Volunteer Mobile is responsible for coordinating spontaneous individual and group volunteers in the response and recovery efforts. Most recently, Volunteer Mobile worked with Hands On Atlanta to open a VRC following the tornado that struck the downtown neighborhoods. In addition, Volunteer Mobile coordinates the South Alabama AmeriCorps Emergency Response Team, a group of trained AmeriCorps members who can be deployed throughout the United States to assist with emergency response and recovery. The team has most recently been deployed to Missouri, Arkansas and other areas of Alabama.

RESEARCH SUMMARY

COMPASSION IN ACTION ROUNDTABLE

Heralding Unheard Voices: The Value of Faith-Based Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations During Disaster

In response to disasters, faith-based organizations (FBOs) and secular non-governmental organizations (NGOs) undertake a surprisingly large, varied and demanding set of activities with extraordinary effectiveness. Within government, these organizations are, for the most part, unheralded; the roles of FBOs and NGOs, and how they fit into the tapestry of resource providers, are not well understood.

Following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Homeland Security Institute (HSI) researchers analyzed the performance of FBOs and NGOs in the wake of that disaster. The institute's team contacted 1,082 FBOs and NGOs, conducted 252 phone interviews and 46 in-person in-depth interviews. The team surveyed 694 organizations and convened a conference in Baton

Rouge (233 attendees) to validate initial findings.

"Heralding Unheard Voices: The Role of Faith-Based and Non-Governmental Organizations During Disaster" presents the findings of that research.

Researchers found that FBOs and NGOs provided significant services in ten areas: shelter, food, medical, hygiene, mental health and spiritual care, physical reconstruction, logistics management, transportation, children's care, and case management. The FBOs' and NGOs' successes in providing these services are a stark contrast to the many chronicled deficiencies and failures of government during the 2005 hurricane season.

In the midst of all the horrible things that went wrong in Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, theirs is an untold story that exemplifies the best of America. Perhaps even more important, the keys to their success point the way to improvements in disaster response.

Source: The report is available online at HomelandSecurity.org

FEDERAL EFFORTS IN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY

Corporation for National and Community Service

Since August 2005, the Corporation for National and Community Service has provided more than \$130 million worth of resources to Gulf Coast states recovering from the devastating series of hurricanes. Working in cooperation with the Red Cross, FEMA, and local and state authorities, nearly 92,000 national service volunteers have contributed more than 3.5 million hours to the relief, recovery and rebuilding effort. They also have coordinated an additional 260,000 community volunteers. Activities have included supporting shelter operations and housing placement; establishing call centers and warehousing sites; assisting with case work and benefits coordination; setting up school and youth programs; blue roofing, debris removal, mucking out homes, and construction of new homes for low-income families. As a result of its experience with hurricane relief and recovery, the Corporation has established a number of new procedures to provide more effective and timely response to disasters under authority of FEMA mission assignments. As of August 2007, trained AmeriCorps teams have been deployed under mission assignments to declared major disasters to respond to winter ice storms, tornados, and flooding and to assist in the recovery efforts. The Corporation continues to shift its resources where possible to support a variety of disaster preparedness and response activities.

Strategic Initiative on Disasters: In June 2007, the Corporation's Board of Directors charged the agency's CEO to work with the Office of Management and Budget to add a new strategic initiative on disaster preparedness and relief to the plan that guides the agency through 2010.

Senior Corps: More than 17,000 Senior Corps volunteers have served in disaster relief efforts, providing food and shelter, coordinating the distribution of donated goods, managing community volunteers, and more.

AmeriCorps State and National: More than 85 grantee programs of AmeriCorps State and National, collectively representing 6,400 AmeriCorps members have provided nearly one million hours of hurricane relief and recovery assistance in the Gulf region, many through FEMA mission assignments. The Corporation also provided more than \$66.5 million in additional funds to bring thousands of additional members to the Gulf region through fiscal year 2009.

AmeriCorps NCCC: More than 2,900 AmeriCorps NCCC members have served on more than 500 separate disaster services projects in the Gulf Coast region since September 2005, in coordination with such groups as the Salvation Army, Red Cross, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the various state service commissions. In all NCCC members have contributed more than 1.4 million hours of service, valued at \$26.4 million. They have assisted 2.9 million people, trained and supervised more than 185,000 community volunteers, completed nearly 13,000 damage assessments, refurbished more than 6,500, served 1.3 million meals, and distributed more than 2,200 tons of food.

AmeriCorps VISTA: More than 420 full-time AmeriCorps VISTA members have served in the Gulf Coast region, building the capacity of nonprofit organizations helping low-income people out of poverty. In addition, through its Summer Associate program, VISTA sent 125 members to the New Orleans area to staff free or low-cost summer camps for thousands of children that are operated by community organizations still recovering from Hurricane Katrina.

Learn and Serve America: Tens of thousands of students supported by Learn and Serve America raise funds and items needed for hurricane relief, assembled and distributed disaster relief kits, and traveled to the Gulf region to help in the recovery effort.

Challenge Grant Program: The Corporation revised its 2005 Challenge Grant competition to focus on disaster relief, resulting in the approval of four million in six

multi-state projects to recruit 72,000 volunteers, with an emphasis on baby boomers.

“Skilled Service in the Gulf” Grants: In June 2007, the Corporation announced that Habitat for Humanity, Xavier University in Louisiana, and Rebuilding Together were selected to receive awards totaling \$900,000 to engage skilled volunteers in providing disaster recovery assistance to the Gulf States. The skilled construction volunteers lead lesser-skilled volunteers and handle the most challenging aspects of rebuilding.

National Response Plan: The Corporation continues to work with the Department of Homeland Security and FEMA on their redrafting of the National Response Plan, noting how national service programs can provide additional value in the areas of volunteer management, mass care and infrastructure support.

Ties To Disaster Organizations: In January 2007, the Corporation signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the national Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster to enable smarter, faster cooperation between the Corporation and the group’s members, including Catholic Charities, Salvation Army, Volunteers of America and the American Red Cross.

Disaster Institute: In May 2007, the Corporation hosted a national Disaster Institute to help state service commissions and AmeriCorps grantees become more active in state preparedness and response.

About the Corporation: The Corporation for National and Community Service improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. Each year, the Corporation provides opportunities for two million Americans of all ages and backgrounds to serve their communities and country through Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and Learn and Serve America. Together with the USA Freedom Corps, the Corporation is working to build a culture of citizenship, service and responsibility in America.

For general information about the Corporation for national and Community Service and its programs, visit www.nationalservice.gov

U.S. Small Business Administration

When a disaster strikes, the U.S. Small Business Administration makes disaster loans to homeowners, renters, non-farm businesses of all sizes, and nonprofit organizations. By providing disaster assistance in the form of loans that are repaid to the U.S. Treasury, SBA’s disaster loan program helps reduce Federal disaster costs compared to other forms of assistance such as grants.

Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma in 2005 were SBA’s largest disasters; we approved more than 160,000 disaster loans totaling almost eleven billion. In these catastrophic events we made disaster loans to 873 non-profit organizations totaling over \$357 million, which included loan approvals to: (1) 228 religious organizations totaling over \$64.6 million, (2) 47 private schools (primary & secondary education) totaling over \$26 million, and (3) 9 private colleges and universities totaling over \$9.4 million.

SBA can lend up to \$1.5 million to non-profit organizations for their uncompensated disaster-related losses generally at an interest rate of 4% or less and the loan term can be for up to 30-years. Loans can be used to repair or replace real estate, inventory, equipment, leasehold improvements, etc. We may also be able to provide funds for such things as code required upgrades, mitigation measures, relocation, and refinancing of existing liens.

Whenever a disaster is declared SBA deploys personnel to the impacted community and works directly with victims to assist them with the application and loan closing process. Our outreach efforts also include direct communications with community organizations in the impacted communities. We participate in forums and community meetings, many of which are

held by faith-based organizations, in an effort to assure that these organizations as well as their members are aware of the assistance SBA provides to disaster victims.

For the latest information on SBA's Disaster Assistance program, visit the website at <http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance/index.html>

USA Freedom Corps

The newly revised National Response Framework recognizes the critical nature of managing volunteers and donations in disaster response. USA Freedom Corps has mobilized a disaster working group that has provided policy guidance for strengthening and improving a multi-sector response. This advice was included in the National Response Framework (NRF), which is the blueprint for how our nation responds in times of disaster. The NRF incorporates the important role volunteers play in responding to a disaster and how to utilize volunteers to create a unified and coordinated response in times of disaster.

Following the Gulf Coast hurricanes, over 1.5 million Americans volunteered in the Gulf, and millions of dollars and in-kind services flooded the region. The impact of continued preparedness training and building community level partnerships cannot be understated. From support of first responders, to providing hands-on help to survivors and evacuees, to building capacity to enable more volunteers to serve in the region, USA Freedom Corps is at the center of these conversations, and has the partner capacity through www.volunteer.gov, Citizen Corps and the Corporation for National and Community Service to play a key role in managing the flow of volunteers and donations in times of disaster, both domestic and internationally.

At www.volunteer.gov, volunteers can tailor a volunteer activity to their strengths and interests. During a disaster, USA Freedom Corps provides a central point of information where people can donate money to disaster relief organizations and find ways to help in

the relief and recovery, for both domestic and international disasters. USA Freedom Corps also works with leading volunteer organizations, including the Red Cross and National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters, to best address the immediate needs of those who were affected by disaster.

USA Freedom Corps is an office of the White House created by President Bush to strengthen the spirit of volunteering and civic engagement in America. For more information about answering the President's Call to Service, visit www.volunteer.gov

U.S. Agency for International Development

The U.S. Agency for International Development is the primary arm of the U.S. Government for providing assistance and responding to disasters that occur outside of the United States. The Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) is the office within USAID responsible for facilitating and coordinating U.S. Government emergency assistance overseas.

USAID is a signatory agency to the National Response Plan (NRP) and was called upon to respond to the Gulf Coast and Hurricane Katrina because of their high level of expertise in disaster response. The USAID Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) coordinated targeted response in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama to respond to Katrina.

Those involved in disaster response represent the very best examples of compassion, courage, and professionalism. In 2006, USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance responded to over 74 disasters affecting more than 173 million people in 55 countries. In every response, OFDA strives to promote local and national self-sufficiency in disaster preparedness and management. Whenever possible, OFDA builds upon and strengthens the capacity of established national and regional disaster management institutions, many of which have the ability to meet most emergency needs.

Disaster Relief

At the time of a disaster, USAID is equipped to immediately respond providing food, water and other supplies in coordination with other world donors. In response to Cyclone Nargis in Burma, the U.S. Government provided more than \$16.3 million of assistance within a few days. A USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) coordinated USG assistance from Thailand until they receive approval from the Government of Burma to enter the country. On May 12, the first airlift of USAID commodities was allowed to land in Burma.

OFDA welcomes concept papers and/or proposals from interested NGOs that prioritize the following sectors: emergency provision of water, sanitation and hygiene, emergency health interventions, temporary shelter and other non-food items, and quick impact income generation activities. OFDA will prioritize its support to NGOs based on their ability to make an immediate impact to affected communities in Burma.

For more information, please see: http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/countries/burma/template/guidance_submission_proposals.html

International Food Crisis

In the past year, global food prices have increased an average of 43 percent, according to the International Monetary Fund. Since March 2007, wheat, soybean, corn, and rice prices have increased by 146 percent, 71 percent, 41 percent, and 29 percent, respectively, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Approximately 1 billion people—or one sixth of the world's population—subsist on less than one per day. Of this population, 162 million survive on less than fifty cents per day. At the household level, increasing food prices have the greatest effect on poor and food-insecure populations, who spend 50 or 60 percent or more of their income on food, according to the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).

Overall, increased food prices particularly affect developing countries, and the poorest people within those countries, where populations spend a larger proportional share of income on basic food commodities.

The United States is the world's largest food aid donor and provides approximately half of all food aid to populations throughout the world. In recent years, the USG has provided approximately one dallor billion through the U.N. World Food Program (WFP), or approximately 40 percent of all contributions to the organization. The USG contributes significant international food aid through nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). The USG also looks to other donors to provide food aid to populations in need.

Administered by USAID, the P.L. 480 Title II program is the largest U.S. food aid program. In FY 2007, the USG provided more than 2.1 million metric tons (MT) of P.L. 480 Title II commodities, worth \$1.54 billion. Food assistance provided under this program reached an estimated 32 million beneficiaries throughout the world. In FY 2007, 54 percent of the USAID Food for Peace Program funding went to FBOs.

On April 14, President George W. Bush directed the Secretary of Agriculture to draw down on the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust to meet emergency food aid needs. With this action, the USG made available an estimated \$200 million in emergency food aid through USAID. President Bush requested \$770 million in additional funding to fund short-term humanitarian assistance programs to preserve price parity in existing food aid programs, provide funds for local purchase of food aid, and support voucher programs in urban areas or help smallholder farmers to obtain fertilizers and seeds in order to plant crops.

The USG is committed to working with other donor countries and international organizations to leverage U.S. funding to combat global food insecurity and price increases. The USG plans to work with WFP, international financial institutions, other G8 members,

and NGOs. Other donors are already making contributions to support urgent humanitarian and development needs.

In addition, the USAID Global Development Alliance (GDA) Office works to facilitate public-private partnerships that unite the unique skills and resources of each partner and apply them to development challenges for sustainable solutions. Since 2001, the GDA has cultivated over 680 alliances with more than 1,700 individual partners. Disaster preparedness and response partnerships are one of the high priority areas for the GDA and USAID works to facilitate these alliances involving faith and community-based NGOs as effective business models.

For more information, visit www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_partnerships/fbci

U.S. Department of Agriculture

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) recognizes the important role that faith-based and community organizations play in helping us to better serve those in need. These organizations are valuable partners in delivering USDA's food and housing programs, and are especially critical to these efforts during times of disaster.

USDA Food and Nutrition Service

Agencies of USDA help in many ways in a disaster, but perhaps the most immediate is to ensure that people have enough to eat. Through its Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), USDA assists in three ways: (1) Provides commodity foods for shelters and other mass feeding sites, (2) Distributes commodity food packages directly to households in need, and (3) Issues emergency food stamps.

As part of the Federal Emergency Response Plan, FNS's Food Distribution Division has the primary responsibility of supplying food to disaster relief organizations such as the Red Cross and the Salvation Army for mass

feeding or household distribution. Disaster organizations request food assistance through State agencies that run USDA's nutrition assistance programs. State agencies notify USDA of the types and quantities of food that relief organizations need for emergency feeding operations.

For more information on USDA emergency food assistance, please visit <http://www.fns.usda.gov/disasters/response/faq.htm>.

USDA Rural Development

In rural areas affected by natural disasters, USDA's Rural Development (RD) agency offers financial assistance (loans, grants, etc.) to individuals, businesses, and communities in order to help minimize financial hardship. *Natural Disaster Loans and Grants* are available to help families whose Rural Development-financed homes were damaged or destroyed. *Loan servicing options* are available to help families who experience financial problems after the disaster, as well as borrowers from other RD programs. Many RD *business programs* can help provide financial relief to small businesses as a result of natural disasters, including funding for repairs, emerging businesses, and economic development

For more information on USDA emergency assistance in rural areas, please visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rd/disasters/disassistance.html>

U.S. Department of Commerce

The U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) is committed to investing resources in communities recovering from disasters to help rebuild local regions and ensure a stronger future for residents. When responding to the needs of communities with sudden and severe economic distress, DOC's Economic Development Administration (EDA) has focused on assisting state and local interests in designing and implementing strategies to adjust and rebuild the economic infrastructure. EDA stresses that planning and implementation should take place and be driven at the local level where needs are best analyzed and met.

EDA has a long history of responding to disasters. For example, EDA has responded with financial and human resources to the Gulf Coast hurricanes, the Klamath fisheries disaster, the Eastern Market fire in the District of Columbia, the Greensburg, Kansas tornadoes, the California wild fires and, most recently, the Oregon floods.

Further Details about EDA's Disaster Recovery Investments

- EDA has awarded 56 investments totaling over \$32.636 million to the Gulf Coast region since Hurricane Katrina. EDA and its partners estimate that these investments will generate more than \$854 million in private capital investment and will create over 3,171 jobs.
- EDA has awarded four faith-based and community investments totaling \$3.9 million to the Gulf Coast region since Hurricane Katrina. EDA and its partners estimate that these investments will generate more than \$52 million in private capital investment and will create over 80 jobs.
- In response to the May 2007 tornado that hit Greensburg, Kansas, EDA completed a Rapid Report of Community Economic Impact to assess Greensburg's recovery and redevelopment needs. EDA subsequently invested \$50,000 to create a redevelopment plan, providing short and long term strategies for community redevelopment, including building code upgrades to "green" construction requirements. In May 2008, EDA announced an economic adjustment investment of over \$2.3 million for the rebuilding of the City of Greensburg's main street.

For more information, visit www.commerce.gov/OS/CFBCI

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is the U.S. Government's principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services, especially for those who are

least able to help themselves. Each year, HHS administers more grant dollars than all other Federal agencies combined—distributing 60 percent of all Federal dollars awarded. With programs covering a wide spectrum of activities, there are many opportunities for faith-based and community organizations (FBCOs) to partner with HHS.

For more information on HHS, visit www.hhs.gov/fbci

Emergency Support Function – Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing, and Human Services

HHS is a Support Agency to FEMA for Emergency Support Function (ESF-6), and provides assistance to address the non-housing needs of individuals and families including:

Crisis Counseling and Training—Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: This program provides immediate, short-term crisis counseling services. The program helps relieve grieving, stress, or mental health problems caused or aggravated by a disaster or its aftermath. Assistance provided is short term and is at no cost to the disaster victim.

Disaster Case Management: ESF #6 provides case management services, including financial assistance, through government agencies or qualified nonprofits to eligible individuals. Case management ensures that a sequence of delivery is followed to streamline assistance, prevent duplication of benefits, and provide an efficient referral system. It also ensures continuity of services to beneficiaries, such as Medicaid, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, and Child Care.

Emergency Support Function – Public Health and Medical Services

HHS is the lead Federal agency for ESF-8, and provides the mechanism for coordinated Federal assistance to supplement State, tribal, and local resources in response to a public health and medical disasters, potential or actual incidents requiring a coordinated

Federal response, and/or during a developing potential health and medical emergency. Public Health and Medical Services include responding to medical needs associated with mental health, behavioral health, and substance abuse considerations of incident victims and response workers. This response is coordinated through the Secretary's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response.

For more information, visit <http://www.hhs.gov/aspr/>

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Due to the efforts of DHS Center for Faith Based and Community Initiatives (CFBCI) the National Response Framework (NRF) is now more open to engaging faith based and community organizations (FBCOs) than it was prior to its recent revision. In The White House document: *The Federal Response to Hurricane Katrina: Lessons Learned* it was advised that DHS revise the NRF to designate more responsibility to many FBCO's for their response and DHS CFBCI was involved in making sure those changes were incorporated. This now enables DHS to partner with many FBCOs around the country to respond effectively to disasters.

DHS CFBCI has completed workshops in Tampa, Charleston (SC), Miami, Denver, and Houston. Future workshops will be held in Washington, D.C., Chicago, Los Angeles, New York City, Columbus, Ohio and San Juan, Puerto Rico. These events seek to help many local FBCOs around the country to integrate themselves into the local, state and county emergency management operations, which then enable them to be connected to DHS and FEMA Federal disaster preparedness and response operations.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

FEMA had direct involvement with Katrina Aid Today and DHS CFBCI has supported those efforts. Katrina Aid Today, which ended in March 2008, was a consortium of ten social service and voluntary organizations, led by UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) dedicated to helping survivors navigate the

system to recover from the disastrous effects of Hurricane Katrina. Katrina Aid Today is sponsored by FEMA using donations from the international community. Katrina Aid Today was a successful public-private partnership and saw success in the following areas: (1) Long Term Recovery Committees assisted with unmet needs of individuals (applied to all affected states), (2) FEMA funding of Katrina Aid Today Case Management Program was \$66M from international donations, (3) Katrina Aid Today trained managers that helped approximately 100,000 families identify sources of support, develop personal recovery plans, acquire access to services and take appropriate actions to rebuild their lives, (4) Public Assistance funding was directed to rebuild after significant losses to schools, universities and other nonprofit entities, and (5) FEMA had strong partnerships with FBCOs and nonprofits to work toward the depopulation of FEMA Transitional Housing Sites and the partnerships with FBC's working to assist Special Need applicants such as the elderly, disabled and single parents with small children has made a tremendous impact on the lives of these people.

Ready Campaign

Launched in February 2003, *Ready* is a national public service advertising campaign designed to educate and empower Americans to prepare for and respond to emergencies including natural disasters and potential terrorist attacks. The goal of the campaign is to get the public involved and ultimately to increase the level of basic preparedness across the Nation.

- *Ready* and its Spanish language version *Listo* ask individuals to do three key things: get an emergency supply kit, make a family emergency plan, and be informed about the different types of emergencies that could occur and their appropriate responses.
- The campaign's messages have been distributed through: television, radio, print, outdoor and Internet public service advertisements (PSAs) developed and produced by the Advertising Council; brochures;

www.ready.gov and *www.listo.gov* Web sites; toll-free phone lines 1-800-BE-READY and 1-888-SE-LISTO; and partnerships with a wide variety of public and private sector organizations.

- The Ad Council has declared *Ready* one of the most successful campaigns in its more than 60-year history. Since its launch, the campaign has generated more than \$703.2 million in donated media support. As of March 31, 2008, the Web site has received more than 2.1 billion hits and 28.9 million unique visitors; the toll-free numbers have received more than 333,000 calls; and more than 23.4 million *Ready* materials have been requested or downloaded from the Web site.
- A national survey conducted by The Ad Council in August 2007 found that although there is still a long way to go before all Americans are prepared for emergencies, there have been indications of progress. The percentage of respondents that said it is "very important" for all Americans to be prepared increased from 60 percent in 2006 to 66 percent in 2007. From 2005 to 2007, the proportion of Americans who have taken *any* steps to prepare rose 9 points, from 45 percent to 54 percent.
- In 2004, Homeland Security launched *Ready Business*, an extension of the *Ready* Campaign that focuses on business preparedness. *Ready Business* helps owners and managers of small-to medium-sized businesses prepare their employees, operations and assets in the event of an emergency. The campaign's messages are being delivered through a Web site (*www.ready.gov*), brochures, radio, print and internet PSAs and key partnerships.
- In 2006, the Department launched *Ready Kids*, a tool to help parents and teachers educate children ages 8–12 about emergencies and how they can help get their family prepared. The program includes a family-friendly Web site (*www.ready.gov*) and in-school materials developed by Scholastic Inc.
- Homeland Security has also developed tailored preparedness information for specific Americans. The Department, American Kennel Club, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, American Veterinary Medical Association, and The Humane Society of the United States created materials that highlight the key steps pet owners should take to prepare themselves and their animals. Homeland Security, AARP, the American Red Cross, the National Organization on Disability and the National Fire Protection Association also created emergency information for seniors and Americans with disabilities and special needs. Materials developed for these specific Americans include brochures and instructional videos available at *www.ready.gov*.
- The Department highlights public emergency preparedness through National Preparedness Month, a nationwide effort held each September to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools. In 2007, 1,800 national, regional, state and local organizations participated in National Preparedness Month by distributing information, hosting events and sponsoring activities across the country to promote emergency preparedness. National Preparedness Month 2007 consisted of four themed weeks that focused on different areas of emergency preparedness, including: back-to-school (*Ready Kids*); business preparedness (*Ready Business*); multicultural preparedness (*Listo Campaign*); and home and family preparedness, including pets, older Americans and those individuals with disabilities and special needs (*Ready America*).

For more information, visit www.dhs.gov/fbci

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) can provide critical housing and community development resources to aid disaster

relief and recovery. HUD's Disaster Recovery Teams are located in offices throughout the country to help disaster victims find housing and to assist communities as they rebuild.

Community Development and Housing Assistance through Cities, Counties, and States

Grantees (metropolitan cities, urban counties, and states) may request that awarding of annual Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds be expedited or that program year start dates be moved up. Grantees may also reprogram funds for disaster recovery activities.

HUD may also provide statutory or regulatory waivers in the CDBG or HOME programs to increase the flexibility and effectiveness of using funds in Presidentially declared disasters.

In response to disasters, Congress may also appropriate additional funding for the CDBG and HOME programs as Disaster Recovery grants to rebuild the affected areas and provide crucial money to start the recovery process. Since CDBG Disaster Recovery assistance may fund a broad range of recovery activities, HUD can help communities and neighborhoods that otherwise might not recover due to limited resources.

Mortgage Assistance from HUD's Federal Housing Administration (FHA)

For Presidentially declared disasters, FHA activates a Mortgage Letter, "Single Family Loan Production and Servicing-Special Program, Underwriting, and Servicing Policies to Assist Victims of Presidentially-Declared Major Disaster Areas." This letter makes available mortgage insurance for disaster victims, makes available Section 203(K) rehabilitation mortgages regardless of the age of the property, allows mortgagers whose homes are completely destroyed to qualify for a new FHA-insure mortgage loan without consideration of the existing mortgage payments allowing the home owner to begin the mortgage application process while insurance settlements are

being processes (the mortgager must satisfy existing debt prior to approval of any new mortgage debt), extends the time for lenders on submission of closed loans from 60 to 90 days after the date of closing, and places a 90-day moratorium on foreclosures for properties directly affect by the disaster.

Assistance from the Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA or Ginnie Mae)

For a Presidentially declared disaster, Ginnie Mae issues an All Participant Memorandum, "Forbearance and Buyout Authorization for Loans in Areas Declared a Disaster by President..." This memorandum encourages all single-family, manufactured housing, and multifamily Ginnie Mae issuers to provide as much forbearance as possible to mortgagers in areas receiving a Presidential disaster declaration. In addition, it authorizes issuers of Ginnie Mae pools containing loans on properties damaged by the Presidentially declared disaster to buy loans out of the pools for the remaining principal balance of each loan, regardless of whether the loans are delinquent before the repurchase. This new authority should assist homeowners, whose homes have been directly damaged by the storms and tornados, avoid becoming delinquent on their loan payment which can lead to default and foreclosure. Issues must request written permission to buy such loans out of existing pools.

Disaster Housing Assistant Program-Rental Housing Assistance and Case Management Services

In 2007, HUD took over the long-term rental assistance program for approximately 45,000 eligible families displaced by Hurricanes Karina and Rita from FEMA through a program called the Disaster Housing Assistance Program (DHAP). DHAP is a central program in helping families have the opportunity to return home and rebuild their lives. Through its extensive network of Public Housing Agencies, HUD works to provide housing assistance and case management services to eligible families.

Hurricane Toolkit: Recovery After the Storm

Immediately after Hurricane Katrina, HUD's Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (CFBCI) produced and released 47,000 copies of a disaster relief toolkit that was also disseminated through the CFBCI website. The toolkit provides information on Federal programs that assist disaster victims as well as contact information for non-profits who assist victims. This toolkit has recently been updated and continues to be available on the Center's website, <http://www.hud.gov/offices/fbci/hurricanetoolkit.pdf>.

For more information on these and other HUD disaster assistance programs please visit, <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/communitydevelopment/programs/dri/>

U.S. Department of Justice

Helping Victims of Domestic Violence

On August 28, 2007, the Office of Violence Against Women announced the opening of the 16th Federally funded Family Justice Center in New Orleans (and dedicated up to \$3 million to support its development and implementation). This is a public-private partnership modeled after the President's Family Justice Center Initiative and helps victims of domestic violence find comprehensive services in one central location ("one-stop domestic violence assistance shop"). Services include law enforcement assistance, victim advocacy and counseling services, prosecution services, faith-based services, social services, employment assistance, vouchers for emergency housing and referrals to medical care. Catholic Charities of New Orleans is the primary partner under the award and is serving as the lead implementing agency on this project. So far 139 people have been helped and 464 services have been provided.

Helping victims of crime

The Office for Victims of Crime is supporting two victim specialist positions in the U.S. Attorneys Office in the Eastern District of Louisiana to work with victims of crime and homicide and help coordinate victim service efforts in New Orleans. Among other things,

these specialists will organize and assist in conducting trainings at both public and parochial schools, universities, local community centers, and faith-based organizations regarding available victim services, the roles of the United States Attorneys Office and local law enforcement, and how the Federal and local criminal justice systems operate.

Helping at-risk youth

With a \$950,000 grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Greater New Orleans Afterschool Partnership is working to restore afterschool programs serving at-risk youth to the level necessary for recovery in New Orleans. While prior to Hurricane Katrina there were over 200 afterschool programs serving at-risk youth, after it the number plummeted to just 42 programs serving only 25 percent of the target population. The Greater New Orleans Afterschool Partnership is working closely with the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Louisiana, the Orleans Parish Juvenile Court, the New Orleans Police Department and community and faith-based organizations in this endeavor to provide more afterschool programming options to at-risk youth in an effort to address juvenile crime concerns.

With funding from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (\$493,614), the Café Reconcile New Orleans' Youth Workforce Development Program is providing at-risk youth with on-the-job training in the culinary arts and construction trades. Between August 2005 and December 31, 2007, 82 percent of enrolled youth (94/115) successfully graduated from the Culinary and Construction Programs.

The New Orleans Police and Justice Foundation, a DOJ Weed and Seed subgrantee, hosted two camps for at-risk youth in New Orleans. The camps provided youth in the area with enrichment activities and field trips and employment-related activities for teens focusing on how to search and apply for a job, how to prepare a resume, how to conduct oneself in a job interview, and core employment-related skills necessary for most jobs. In addition, one of the camps was designed

to divert at-risk youth from delinquent behavior and to support youth and families coping with the post-Katrina adjustments.

For more information, visit www.usdoj.gov/fbci

U.S. Department of Labor

The Department of Labor (DOL) has awarded more than \$283.7 million in National Emergency Grants to support the creation of temporary jobs for individuals in cleanup and recovery work in the Gulf Coast, and to provide impacted workers, including Hurricane Katrina evacuees, with education and training for new career opportunities.

DOL awarded an additional \$174.8 million to the Gulf Coast for:

- training workers for jobs critical to the economic recovery of the Gulf Coast region under the President's High Growth Job Training Initiative;
- grants to 35 community colleges in affected states throughout the southeast under the President's Community College Initiative;
- launching the Department's "Pathways to Employment Initiative" in areas with high concentrations of evacuees;
- expanding the National Urban League's Urban Youth Empowerment Program and to establish the Gulf Coast Employment Initiative;
- upgrading the performance and capacity of state unemployment insurance systems; and
- many other employment-related activities, including job training to support economic revitalization, health and safety training, and services that help veterans find work.

In addition, DOL has increased the number of Occupational Safety and Health Administration and Wage and Hour Division personnel in the Gulf Coast to improve workplace safety and protect workers' wages;

partnered with the Internal Revenue Service to guard employees' health benefits and pensions, and invested \$38 million to rebuild, improve, and expand Job Corps Centers and resources for at-risk youth.

In July 2007, the DOL Employment and Training Administration awarded a \$15 million National Emergency Grant to the Louisiana Department of Labor to continue rebuilding efforts and catalyze implementation of critical youth talent development strategies. That project involves numerous national, state, and local partners, including faith-based and community organizations.

DOL Faith-Based and Community Initiatives in the Gulf Coast Region

- Since July 2005, DOL has awarded \$55.9 million in competitive grants to 101 faith-based and community organizations in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Texas, and Florida. These nonprofits are partnering with DOL to provide a wide range of employment-related and supportive services to jobseekers, at-risk youth, ex-prisoners, homeless veterans, and many more in the Gulf Coast region.
- In November 2007, the DOL Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives trained staff at the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES) on how to create "Access Points" to One-Stop Career Center resources at local faith-based and community organizations in communities that lack access to a One-Stop Center. Over the next several years, the MDES will be working with the public workforce system and local faith-based and community organizations to expand "Access Points" statewide.

For more information, visit www.dol.gov/fbci

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) operates the Nation's largest integrated health care system with more than 1,400 sites of care, including 153 medical

centers, 731 community-based outpatient clinics, 135 nursing homes, 209 readjustment counseling centers (Vet Centers), and 47 domiciliaries.

VA restores the capability of veterans with disabilities to the greatest extent possible and improves the quality of their lives and their families; ensures a smooth transition for veterans from active military service to civilian life, and honors and serves veterans in life, and memorializes them in death for their sacrifices on behalf of the Nation.

VA also provides emergency management support to Federal, state, local, relief agencies, nonprofits and community organizations during crisis situations; responds to the Nation's National Response Plan, and supports the VA/DOD Contingency Hospital System.

Gulf Coast Response

After Katrina, VA developed new emergency procedures for veterans whose benefits were affected by the Hurricane to ensure that veterans residing in Gulf Coast states, including homeless veterans, disabled veterans and Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom (OEF/OIF), had access to healthcare services and received their benefits.

The New Orleans VA Medical Center suffered extensive damage during Hurricane Katrina. VA is fully committed to rebuilding its medical center with a state-of-the-art medical facility.

Building Partnerships

Dedicated to providing world class medical care to veterans living in New Orleans and surrounding communities, VA has signed an agreement with Louisiana State University to create a partnership and has made arrangements with Tulane University Hospital to provide medical care for veterans.

VA also has entered into a cooperative agreement with the Louisiana Public Health Institute, which has received a Federal grant. The purpose of this initiative is to identify and refer veterans in Louisiana particularly those displaced by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Helping Homeless Veterans

In 2007, VA's Homeless Grant and Per Diem programs provided grants to five organizations to create 136 new transitional housing beds for homeless veterans in four Louisiana cities. At least two or three of the organizations were faith-based organizations. The five grantees will start their operations in FY 2008.

The VA National Cemetery Administration honors veterans with final resting places in national shrines and with lasting tributes that commemorate their service to our Nation. The Forgotten Heroes Program, a network of active duty services members, veterans' service organizations (VSOs) and individuals, provides unaccompanied veterans with a final memorial service. VA's National Cemetery Service sends out an e-mail invitation when a burial service is scheduled at the VA National Cemetery in Biloxi, Mississippi, for example. A chaplain from the VA Medical Center and one from one of the nearby military bases provide military honors.

BIOGRAPHIES

■ JOHN HOPE BRYANT

Founder and Chairman

Operation HOPE

John Hope Bryant is a philanthropic entrepreneur and businessman. On January 22nd, 2008, Mr. Bryant was appointed vice-chairman of the President's Council on Financial Literacy by President George W. Bush.

Mr. Bryant is the founder, chairman and chief executive officer of Operation HOPE, America's first non-profit social investment banking organization, now operating in 51 U.S. communities and South Africa, having raised more than \$400 million from the private sector to empower the poor. Former U.S. President Bill Clinton described Mr. Bryant in his recent bestselling book *GIVING* saying, "*John Bryant is a 41 year-old whirlwind of ideas and action. Lean, intense, focused, and completely positive in his belief in the potential of poor people to prosper, with 'a hand up and not a hand out.'*"

A national community leader cited by the past four sitting U.S. presidents for his work to empower low-wealth communities across America, and an active advisor to the past two U.S. presidents, John Hope Bryant is one of the most authoritative and compelling advocates for poverty eradication in America today.

As a co-founder of Global Dignity, John Hope Bryant has conducted *Dignity Day* teaching sessions with youth and leaders in Canada, Turkey, India, Switzerland, Finland, South Africa and Amman, Jordan with Her Majesty Queen Rania and HRH Crown Prince Haakon of Norway, amongst other countries.

John Hope Bryant is also a businessman, he has served on several corporate boards, is author of *BANKING ON OUR FUTURE*, a book on youth and family financial literacy, is a former goodwill ambassador to the U.S. for the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, a partner with former U.S. President Clinton and his foundation in teaching financial literacy and promoting the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), a

member of the Forum of Young Global Leader for the World Economic Forum, and working with HOPE global spokesman Ambassador Andrew Young, is also a leader for a new movement bridging civil rights to silver rights.

■ SECRETARY MICHAEL CHERTOFF

U.S. Department of Homeland Secretary

On February 15, 2005, Judge Michael Chertoff was unanimously confirmed by the Senate and sworn in as the second Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. He formerly served as United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, after his June 2003 Senate confirmation.

Secretary Chertoff was previously confirmed by the Senate in 2001 to serve as Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division at the Department of Justice. As Assistant Attorney General, he oversaw the investigation of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. He also formed the Enron Task Force, which produced more than 20 convictions, including those of CEOs Jeffrey Skilling and Ken Lay.

Before joining the George W. Bush Administration, Chertoff was a Partner in the law firm of Latham & Watkins. From 1995 to 1996, he served as Special Counsel for the U.S. Senate Whitewater Committee.

Prior to that, Chertoff spent more than a decade as a Federal prosecutor, including service as U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey, First Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey, and Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York. As a Federal prosecutor, Chertoff investigated and personally prosecuted significant cases of political corruption, organized crime, and corporate fraud. Among them was the "Mafia Commission" case, in which the leaders of La Cosa Nostra were all convicted and sentenced to 100 years in prison for directing the criminal activities of the American Mafia.

Chertoff graduated magna cum laude from Harvard College in 1975 and magna cum laude from Harvard Law School in 1978. From 1979-1980 he served as a clerk to Supreme Court Justice William Brennan, Jr.

■ **PENNY DENDY**

Executive Director

Volunteer Mobile, Inc.

As Executive Director of Volunteer Mobile, Inc, Penny Dendy has been a leader in emergency response and recovery in Mobile, Alabama. Serving as director of the coordinating agency for the Long Term Recovery in Mobile County, Alabama for Hurricanes Ivan and Katrina, she has overseen the restoration of more than 1500 homes for hurricane victims in the last four years.

Working with more than 75 local, national and international faith-based organizations, she developed a Long Term Recovery organization that is a national model for community and family recovery.

Ms. Dendy began her work with disaster response in 1993 when the Sunset Limited, an Amtrak passenger train, derailed in Mobile County killing 47 people and injuring countless more. As director of Volunteer Mobile, Dendy assumed the role of coordinating the volunteer response and providing assistance to those passengers who did not need admission to a hospital. As a result of her work, Volunteer Mobile was identified in the Mobile County Emergency Operations Plan to coordinate spontaneous volunteers in disasters and serve as the single point of contact for volunteer response to disasters.

Between 1999 and 2001, Ms. Dendy served as a consultant for the U.S. State Department, providing extensive training to governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations in Romania on utilization of volunteers and service organizations in disaster response. As a result of her work, the Romanian Parliament passed ground-breaking legislation to allow

volunteer and nongovernment involvement in public safety and emergency management. In June 2002, Ms. Dendy was recognized by the Romanian Government for her work and presented a copy of the legislation by Antonie Iorgovan, the "Father of the Romanian Constitution".

■ **DON GANN**

Assistant Director of Disaster Relief

Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

Don was born in Goldsboro, North Carolina, and raised in Vicksburg, Mississippi. He graduated from Warren Central High in 1978. He then attended Mississippi State University and graduated in 1982 with bachelor of arts degree in political science. In 1986 he received a master of divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Don has served as the Baptist Student Union director at East Central Community College in Decatur, Mississippi, and Mississippi College in Clinton, Mississippi. From 1996 until 2003 he served as pastor of Wynndale Baptist Church in Byram, Mississippi.

Presently Don serves as a consultant for the Men's Ministry Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. He is also the Assistant Director of the Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief task force.

He and his wife, Melinda, have two children: Kelli, a junior at Louisiana State University, and Michael, a sophomore at Clinton High School.

■ **PAUL GOLDENBERG**

National Director

Secure Community Network

Paul G. Goldenberg has built a distinguished career as a highly decorated criminal justice executive with extensive and broad-based experience in a wide variety

of high profile and politically sensitive government and corporate environments. He is well known for his record of resolving numerous high profile and confidential matters for governments, businesses and other organizations around the world and establishing the first state-wide law enforcement office in the United States for hate crime prevention and intervention on behalf of the New Jersey State Attorney Generals office in the early 1990s.

In October 2004, the management committee of the Secure Community Network representing 56 of the nation's largest Jewish umbrella organizations selected Mr. Goldenberg as National Director, the first person ever to hold such a post within the organized Jewish community. In 2003 Mr. Goldenberg was selected by the United States Helsinki Commission to act as Special Adviser to the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights within the OSCE (Office for Security and Cooperation in Europe) the world's largest government security and conflict resolution agency. Mr. Goldenberg has consulted with senior level officials responsible for overseeing internal security, human rights and law enforcement services for the governments of Spain, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Hungary, Serbia, Croatia, Germany, Poland, Romania, France, Canada, Kosovo, Israel and many others.

Following the 1993 World Trade Center bombings Mr. Goldenberg was chosen by New Jersey's Governor to develop and oversee New Jersey's specialized counter-terror and SWAT training for all 21 county SWAT teams. Mr. Goldenberg led numerous missions to Israel where he arranged the first ever Nation/State Counter Terror Joint Training exercise conducted in Ft. Dix, New Jersey. Mr. Goldenberg has been called upon to train hundreds of domestic and international law enforcement agencies. After serving as an undercover agent for five years in south Florida as part of elite task force during the 1980s, Paul was honored as South Florida's Law Enforcement Officer of the Year for his undercover achievements that resulted in

hundreds of arrests of individuals engaged in organized criminal activities.

■ **PETE HULL**

Task Lead

Homeland Security Institute

Pete Hull is a principal analyst at the Homeland Security Institute. He is a recognized expert in the field of emergency preparedness. Pete is the lead author of "Heralding Unheard Voices: The Role of Faith-based Organizations (FBOs) and Nongovernmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disasters." This report, for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, provided an in-depth analysis of the role of faith-based organizations during and after disasters.

He is the former Executive Manager for Emergency Preparedness of the United States Senate Sergeant at Arms (SAA). There, he worked closely with U.S. Senators and their staffs to ensure their safety and security. While at the Senate, he provided advice to senior leaders on a wide range of emergency preparedness issues and represented the U.S. Senate SAA in various national level forums. Prior to the Senate, Pete served as a naval intelligence officer and retired with 23 years of service.

He is the founder of Skills That Serve Institute, a not-for-profit public charity that provides vocational skills training useful in disasters. He is a member of McLean Bible Church and has served in several lay ministry positions there.

■ BERL JONES

*Deputy Director, Individual Assistance Division
Disaster Assistance Directorate, Federal Emergency
Management Agency*

Berl D. Jones Jr. has more than 25 years experience in emergency management and volunteer coordination at the local, state, Federal and voluntary agency levels. Before joining FEMA in 2002, he was a Senior Program Manager for America Online. Prior to that, he was the American National Red Cross' Liaison to FEMA Region II and a Disaster Specialist for the American Red Cross in Greater New York. Berl brings extensive national disaster experience to his position in FEMA. He has worked numerous presidential disaster declarations, including hurricanes Hugo, Andrew, Marilyn, Katrina and Rita, the Midwest Floods, the 1993 World Trade Center Bombing, the TWA Flight 800 explosion and the aftermath of September 11.

Berl began his career in emergency management in 1981. While attending Southern Illinois University, he joined a group of students on a mission to sandbag levees on the Kaskaskia River to protect local homes. After graduation in 1986, Berl returned home to take a full-time supervisory position with the American Red Cross in Greater New York Chapter in charge of mass care and disaster operations through 1990. He supervised a 24-hour, 7-day disaster response system comprised of more than 80 paid and volunteer staff serving the five boroughs and surrounding counties of New York City, where incidents averaged more than 3,000 per year. In 1987, he was assigned to the Central American Refugee Camp mass care operation in Brownsville, Texas, where he served as a shelter manager for refugees crossing into the United States from Mexico.

Berl left the local Red Cross Chapter in 1990 to take a position with the American National Red Cross as the Special Representative to FEMA Region II, where his primary duties were to work with voluntary agencies at

the local, state and national levels in the areas of preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery, and to help establish local and state-based Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD). Berl was instrumental in establishing VOADs in New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands and revitalizing the New York VOAD. After responding to disasters steadily for more than five years, Berl accepted a position with America Online (AOL) in the private sector and moved with his family from New York to Dulles, Virginia. At AOL he was in charge of the online volunteer and remote employee program administration. In 2002 Berl left AOL to join the Individual Assistance team at FEMA Headquarters, and has been with the agency ever since.

■ KARY KINGSLAND

*U.S. Director
Convoy of Hope*

Kary Kingsland is a nationally-recognized leader in the field of disaster response. He and his team have effectively trained and mobilized thousands of volunteers to meet human need across the United States.

A gifted lecturer and strategist, Kingsland has worked with government agencies, civic groups, corporations and churches to respond to disasters in the United States. In the wake of Katrina, he led a massive response that rebuilt and restored 3,000 homes and distributed 35 million lbs. of food and supplies. He is the national representative for Convoy of Hope to NVOAD.

He formerly served as a pastor of a thriving California church, where he developed a compassion outreach that served as a model for congregations in the region. He joined the Convoy of Hope team in 1999 as a national outreach director, where he equipped and mobilized communities to help the poor and suffering. Kingsland

also helped launch Convoy of Hope–Europe, which has expanded to numerous countries.

In 2008, under his leadership, H.O.P.E. Begins Here (HBH) *Helping Others Prepare for Emergencies*, was launched. HBH is a disaster preparedness initiative that prepares businesses, churches and families for disaster, and equips the faith-based community to take an active role alongside local emergency management.

■ **MARY MARR**

Founder and Chairman

Christian Emergency Network

Mary Marr, Founder and Chairman of Christian Emergency Network (CEN), was called into ministry in 1978 after a successful career in public education both as a teacher and career education administrator. During her public education tenure she wrote the State of Michigan guidelines for Career Education. After completing theology education Mary served on the staff of a mega-church in Michigan, where she was approached to host a one-hour radio program. This program later became the foundation for the syndicated daily radio program *Outreach Alert* heard on over 1000 radio outlets nationwide. Mary is a conference speaker and the author of *Lighting the Way*. As a radio broadcaster, she uses her voice to rally and inspire the greater church nationwide in a Biblical readiness and response to disasters of all kinds. She has been interviewed on National Public Radio, Janet Parschell's *America*, and all Christian networks.

In 2001, in collaboration with ten leading national ministries, public and private sector agencies, Mary founded the Christian Emergency Network (CEN) an unprecedented Christian collaboration and disaster-focused communication organization. She currently serves as the Chairman of CEN with over 7,000 organizations, 45,000 local churches, 1200 radio outlets, national SAT TV feeds, a website which

engages the greater church daily through automated e-news (served over 20 million hits in one day during activation), and with CEN's 250 local reporters spread nationwide who offer expertise and critical information. Grippled by the need for those in disaster, Mary leads the charge as CEN rallies the greater church to "Be Aware" with timely accurate information, to "Be Ready" physically, emotionally and spiritually, and then, to "Be There" serving those in need with Hope.

In addition to being an active member of Mission America Coalition and the National Religious Broadcasters, Mary has worked cooperatively with the Department of Homeland Security National Preparedness Campaign and contributed to the DHSI report which evaluated best practices in the faith-based community related to Katrina. Through her networking leadership CEN has also helped to respond during disasters with critical information for volunteers, churches, media, and organizations. CEN success stories inspire volunteers to continue to work tirelessly through the stages of recovery long after secular media lights have gone out. As needed, CEN also works with the Center for Disease Control in distributing timely vital public information.

■ **GOVERNOR SCOTT MCCALLUM**

President & CEO

Aidmatrix Foundation

Governor Scott McCallum has over 30 years of executive experience leading strategic and operations planning, media, marketing, and government relations. He served as Wisconsin Governor, and is a nationally recognized author, speaker, and consultant.

McCallum is the President and CEO of the Aidmatrix Foundation. Aidmatrix Foundation is an international nonprofit organization sponsored by some of the world's leading technology corporations that leverage world-class solutions from the business world and

apply them to the NGO world. Aidmatrix goal is to get the right aid to the right people at the right time. Aidmatrix functions as a bridge, a linking pin between the for-profit and nonprofit worlds—with systems that open lines of communication between donors, nonprofits, their partners, volunteers, and people in need. Through partners and technology, Aidmatrix processes over \$1.5 billion in aid annually, with over 35,000 users worldwide. Aidmatrix offers multi-lingual solutions, serving the Americas, Asia, Africa and Europe.

Governor McCallum is a Senior Fellow with the Discovery Institute, a think tank based in Seattle, Washington. He has taught at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and has been an Executive-in-Residence at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. He also teaches Executive M.B.A. marketing classes at Sun Yat Sen and Harbin Universities in the Peoples Republic of China.

McCallum earned his B.A. from Macalester College and a M.A. from Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

He sits on several boards of directors. He has served on numerous Presidential Commissions.

■ JENNIFER POSTEN

Manager, Ready Houston!

Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston

Jennifer Posten is a specialist in the areas of disaster preparedness and recovery, and has provided extensive training and information to faith-based groups both locally and nationally. Ms. Posten was actively involved in recruiting over 60,000 faith-based volunteers for Operation Compassion in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. She sits on the City of Houston Special Needs Transportation Committee, which focuses on the registration of Houston's special needs populations in the event of a major disaster. She also

serves as Chair for the Texas Gulf Coast Region Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (TGCR VOAD) and is the convener of the Houston Interfaith Disaster Response Alliance (HIDRA). She also sits on the Harris County Citizens Corps Council. Ms. Posten is liaison to both Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management and City of Houston Office of Emergency Management. Ms. Posten has successfully completed the Community Emergency Response Team and American Red Cross training and has completed National Incident Management System, and the National Response Framework training curricula. Since 2005, she has managed the Ready Houston! Program at Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston. Ms. Posten has her B.B.A. in marketing from the Cox School of Business at SMU and is a fifth generation Texan.

■ WENDY SPENCER

Chief Executive Officer

*Volunteer Florida: Governor's Commission on
Volunteerism and Community Service*

Wendy M. Spencer is Chief Executive Officer of the Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service, commonly called Volunteer Florida. Volunteer Florida administers Florida's AmeriCorps Programs; coordinates volunteers and donations statewide during times of disaster; and assists in developing Florida's network of volunteer centers. As CEO of Volunteer Florida, Wendy manages more than \$18 million a year in Federal, state, and local grants that engage citizens in volunteer activities. Wendy's 24-year career includes serving as Director of the Florida State Park Service, where she managed 1,700 full and part-time employees and more than 5,000 volunteers for 158 award-winning state parks. She also served as Resource Development Director for the United Way of the Big Bend from 1991–2001. Wendy

has raised more than \$35 million to benefit communities and has volunteered on countless boards of charitable organizations. She currently serves on the boards of the Florida Association of Voluntary Agencies for Caribbean Action and the Association of State Service Commissions. She also is a graduate of the XXIV Class of Leadership Florida, an organization that develops a strong, diverse statewide network of leaders with a shared commitment to make Florida a better place to live. Wendy was appointed in early 2006 by President Bush to serve on the President's Council for Service and Civic Participation. Wendy is married to Ron Spencer and has two sons, Parker and Boyd.

■ **ERIN STREETER**

Director, Ready Campaign

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Erin Streeter is the Director of *Ready*, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's national public service advertising campaign designed to educate and

empower Americans to prepare for and respond to emergencies including natural disasters and potential terrorist attacks. In this position, Ms. Streeter leads the operations and outreach strategy of the campaign which includes *Ready America*, *Ready Business*, *Ready Kids*, *Listo*, the Spanish version of the campaign, and the National Preparedness Month initiative. In addition, she serves as the *Ready* campaign spokesperson.

Ms. Streeter joined Homeland Security in July of 2006, as Director of Communications of the Preparedness Directorate. In this position, she oversaw the communications for Homeland Security grants to state and locals, infrastructure protection, cybersecurity and telecommunications, the National Capitol Region Office and the state and local office.

Before joining Homeland Security she was the Director of Communications at the YMCA of the U.S.A. where she helped lead the YMCA's national health and wellness campaign, *Activate America*. Ms. Streeter has also worked as a television reporter and producer but started her career in Washington, D.C. as Deputy Press Secretary to Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA).

