

*Baton Rouge
Area Foundation*



For immediate release

Sept. 16, 2008

Contact: Mukul Verma, 225.362.9260 (c), 225.387-6126 (o)

Foundation provides grants for hurricane relief

More than \$250,000 will help nonprofits that served needs after Gustav

The Baton Rouge Area Foundation has made more than a quarter-million dollar in grants for Hurricane Gustav relief and committed \$200,000 to help the Lake Charles region and Acadiana recover after Gustav and Hurricane Ike.

Through today, The Foundation has provided \$257,000 in relief to 12 nonprofits in Baton Rouge that cared for thousands of people after Gustav. The Foundation expects to make additional grants in coming days across the Baton Rouge region.

Some of the Baton Rouge nonprofits are getting additional funding from the Foundation's partners - The Irene W. and C.B. Pennington Foundation and the Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation. Together, the partners are able to move more quickly after disasters and provide more relief by pooling resources, including sharing information about the needs of nonprofits.

After Hurricane Katrina, the Baton Rouge Area Foundation raised \$45 million from around the world for relief efforts, using the funds to pay for shelters, food and other necessities, and also for long-term projects to rebuild smarter so needs are lessened after future disasters.

The Foundation expects to raise more than \$500,000 for Gustav relief, a much smaller sum because the national media was focused on the storm missing New Orleans, which ignored damages of more than \$10 billion caused by the hurricane in other parts of the state, including Baton Rouge. The Foundation has committed \$1 million for hurricane relief and continues to raise relief and recovery funds through a new website – FoundationsforRecovery.org.

Meanwhile, the Foundation has committed \$200,000 to help in the recovery of the Lake Charles and Acadiana region through the Community Foundation of Southwest Louisiana, a sister organization. That Foundation is assessing the needs of nonprofits before making a round of grants.

About Baton Rouge Area Foundation: The Baton Rouge Area Foundation provides two essential functions for the capital region. The Foundation connects philanthropists with capable nonprofits to make sure the needs of our communities are met. And the Foundation invests in and manages pivotal

projects that can change the community. Our Plan Baton Rouge initiative spearheaded the downtown revitalization plan and now is working to revive Old South Baton Rouge. Our Interstate 10/12 corridor project is linking the economies of 12 parishes in new ways to create jobs and wealth.

**Baton Rouge Area Foundation
Hurricane Gustav Relief and Recovery Grants**

Round 1
Total: \$257,700

Bethany World Prayer Centers, pastor Larry Stockstill

Granted: \$25,000 to assist in meeting basic needs and expanding disaster relief services to 400 individuals.

Big Buddy, Gaylynne Mack, executive director

Granted: \$11,500 to support salaries, supplies, meals and additional administrative costs to serve children out of school.

City Year Louisiana, LaTonya Brown, interim executive director

Granted: \$20,000 to offset the cost of emergency response efforts.

East Baton Rouge Council on Aging Inc., Johnny Dykes, executive director

Granted: \$25,000 to support 300 meals per day for two weeks to the elderly in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Family Service of Greater Baton Rouge, Rene' Taylor – executive director

Granted: \$27,750 to continue mental health services.

Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank, Michael Manning, executive director

Granted: \$50,000 to offset the cost of emergency response efforts.

Hands On New Orleans, Kellie Bentz, executive director

Granted: \$5,000 to offset food, housing and incidental costs of emergency response efforts.

Healing Place Church, pastor Dino Rizzo

Granted: \$50,000 to continue disaster relief services

Interfaith Federation, Margaret Johnson, executive director

Granted: \$5,000 to offset costs of transporting the elderly and disabled to distribution sites to pick up ice, water and meals.

Public Action for Change in Education (PACE), Annie Morrison, executive director

Granted: \$2,250 to replace book bags and school supplies for 75 students displaced by flooding due to Hurricane Gustav.

Set Free Indeed, Tonja Myles, executive director

Granted: \$5,000 to continue to meet the disaster needs for first responders.

Youth Oasis, Alvin Smith, executive director

Granted: \$5,200 to support additional expenses that have been incurred during and after Gustav.

Baton Rouge Area Foundation Gustav Small Shelter Grants

Granted: \$25,000 (increments of \$1,000) for compassion grants and rapid assistance.