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HURRICANE RECOVERY GRANTS AVAILABLE NOW TO MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Allstate Foundation Grant Application Drive Kicks Off December 6 to Support the Non-Profit Sector's Road to Recovery

JACKSON, MS (December 5, 2005) – The Allstate Foundation in partnership with The Foundation for the Mid South announced today that they are kicking off an initial ten-day application drive to help support Mississippi non-profit organizations through grants from its Hurricane Recovery Fund. Through this fund, \$300,000 has been allocated to aid non-profit organizations directly affected by Hurricane Katrina along the Mississippi Gulf Coast in their hurricane recovery efforts. These organizations are invited and encouraged to submit grant applications through a competitive grant process that begins today and will be managed by the Foundation for the Mid South in Jackson, Mississippi.

“This generous gift will help support the organizations that know best where needs exist and who are best equipped to meet those needs,” stated George Penick, president and CEO of the Foundation for the Mid South. “The Allstate Foundation recognizes the importance of trusting local people and organizations where the work has to be done.”

Non-profit organizations seeking financial assistance should visit www.fndmidsouth.org to download The Allstate Foundation Hurricane Recovery Fund application, which includes the eligibility requirements, guidelines, and grant application (go to *Allstate Foundation Hurricane Recovery Fund* from the main page); or call (601) 355-8167 to request an application. Completed grant applications must be received at the Foundation for the Mid South's office (134 East Amite Street / Jackson, MS 39201) by 5 p.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2005.

“The Foundation for the Mid South possesses the local knowledge of the non-profit community it serves to ensure that grants distributed from The Allstate Foundation Fund reach groups orchestrating work vital to the recovery effort,” said Robert Duhe, Allstate Foundation Grant Committee, Southern Region.

Exclusively available to non-profit groups located in the Mississippi Gulf Coast region, the grants are intended for a variety of purposes ranging from the re-launch of important

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community services disrupted by the hurricanes to daily operations including emergency food, clothing and shelter and community clean up. Individuals, local chapters of national disaster recovery organizations as well as organizations that restrict participation on the basis of religion, ethnicity, age and lifestyle are not eligible for funding.

The Allstate Foundation Hurricane Recovery Fund is a donor-advised fund that operates using a competitive grant process, in which The Foundation for the Mid South is responsible for reviewing and approving.

About The Allstate Foundation

Established in 1952, The Allstate Foundation is an independent, charitable organization made possible by subsidiaries of The Allstate Corporation. The Allstate Foundation supports community initiatives to promote “safe and vital communities”; “tolerance, inclusion, and diversity”; and “economic empowerment”. The Allstate Foundation believes in the financial potential of every individual and in helping America’s families achieve their American dream.

About The Greater New Orleans Foundation

The Foundation for the Mid South is a not-for-profit, regional development foundation that invests in people and strategies that build philanthropy and promote racial, social, and economic equity in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Operating since 1989, the total impact of the Foundation’s work is estimated at \$150 million in new resources for the region.

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