



**American
Red Cross**

Hurricane Recovery Program



FOUNDATION
FOR THE
MID SOUTH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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News Release
NEWS RELEASE

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**COMMUNITY RESILIENCE GRANTS AWARDED TO NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATIONS IN MISSISSIPPI**

***The American Red Cross Hurricane Recovery Program awards grants to support
community emotional wellness and resilience activities***

JACKSON, MS (November 20, 2007) – The Foundation for the Mid South in partnership with the American Red Cross (ARC) Hurricane Recovery Program announces the recipients of grants from the *Building Community Resilience* program. The program is designed to support local organizations providing community-based emotional wellness and resilience activities for those directly affected by Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma.

A total of \$1.4 million in community resilience grants have been awarded to 25 nonprofit organizations in Mississippi. The recipients of this grant will identify and implement psychosocial activities that are tailored for the specific needs of the local community. Those activities include: skill building and knowledge transfer; structured community events and meetings; identification and referral to formal mental health treatment; and psychological education surrounding post-disaster effects.

The organizations that are receiving grants are:

- Child Abuse Education Council (Picayune);
- Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities of Mississippi (Jackson);
- Mississippi Center for Justice (Jackson);
- Mississippi Museum of Natural Science Foundation (Jackson);
- New Stage Theatre (Jackson);
- DeLisle/Pass Christian Shalom Community, Inc. (Pass Christian);
- East Biloxi Coordination, Relief & Redevelopment Agency (Biloxi);
- Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art (Biloxi);
- South Mississippi Taskforce (Biloxi);
- Visions of Hope, Inc. (Biloxi);
- Coastal Family Health Center (Biloxi);
- Gulf Coast Women's Center for Nonviolence, Inc. (Biloxi);
- Mercy Housing & Human Development (Gulfport);
- Mississippi Coast Interfaith Disaster Task Force (Gulfport);
- Memorial Hospital Foundation, Inc. (Gulfport);
- Mississippi Counseling Association (Gulfport);
- Lynn Meadows Discovery Center (Gulfport);
- Pinebelt Association for Families of Petal (Petal);
- Hancock County Community Development Foundation – St. Rose Outreach and Recovery (Bay St. Louis);
- Jackson County Community Service Coalition (Gautier);

- University of Southern Mississippi (Hattiesburg);
- Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Foundation, Inc. (Perkinston);
- Antioch University New England (Hattiesburg, Diamond Head, and Pass Christian);
- Children’s Health Fund (Hancock and Harrison counties); and
- Hands on Network (Pass Christian, Forrest Heights, Long Beach, and East Biloxi).

“Beyond the visible, physical destruction caused by the hurricanes, they also took a tremendous toll on the lives and mental health of our citizens,” said Necole S. Irvin, program officer at the Foundation for the Mid South. “We were pleased to partner with the American Red Cross Hurricane Recovery Program to offer support to Mississippi programs that provide the services, activities, and support to address the emotional needs of those directly affected by the storms.”

The *Building Community Resilience* program is the second of two rounds of grants supported by the Red Cross Hurricane Recovery Program. The Foundation for the Mid South previously made \$1.2 million in grants to organizations in Mississippi so that hurricane-affected youth—ages 3-16—could attend summer camps.

About The American Red Cross

The American Red Cross is especially qualified to be a partner in recovery due to its extensive experience in responding to major national disasters. The Hurricane Recovery Program (HRP) is committed to helping survivors on the road to recovery while providing careful stewardship and accountability for the resources entrusted to it by the American public.

About The Foundation for the Mid South

The Foundation for the Mid South is a regional foundation that has provided over \$10 million in grants to nonprofits, individuals and families, and other programs for hurricane relief and recovery. The Foundation strives to promote racial, social, and economic equity in the region by investing in both solutions and people committed to overcoming the core social and economic disparities in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. More information on the Foundation can be found at www.fndmidsouth.org.

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