



Hurricanes 2005: Where the Money Goes

“ Everyone is important. Every stage of the recovery is important. Every donation of time and money is important. Together we provide the United Methodist response of hope and healing in the gulf and around the world.”

Kristin Sachen, Assistant General Secretary, UMCOR

UMCOR ADVANCE # 982623 Hurricanes 2005

ESTABLISHING A LONG-TERM SYSTEM OF RESPONSE

In order for the long term recovery process to work, there needs to be a good establishment of the system. UMCOR works through annual conferences in each affected area which must have a contractor, a volunteer coordinator, local recovery stations, and a process to evaluate requests for assistance and to handle them in a fair and equitable way. They need to purchase supplies and set up material depots and coordinate the release of supplies. While UMCOR is providing training, consultant support, and funding to help each annual conference provide all of these services, it still takes time to set up an effective system to respond over the long term.

UMCOR specializes in long term relief and recovery work.

In the case of Hurricane Katrina, UMCOR estimates that long term will translate to upwards of six years, particularly in hard hit areas of Louisiana and Mississippi.

Photo: Curtis Lopez displays family photos found in the debris where their home once stood, to his wife Ann, granddaughter Olivia, and daughter-in-law Bridgett. Four generations of the Lopez family now live in FEMA travel trailers, as do thousands of Mississippians displaced by Hurricane Katrina. George Armstrong/FEMA.

As of December UMCOR has received more than \$24 million in donations for hurricane relief. Your generosity has allowed UMCOR to support recovery in 12 states that have either been directly affected by this year’s hurricanes or are hosting hurricane evacuees. Still, more is required to support the long term response to this year’s horrific hurricanes, especially Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Initial Funding

The UMCOR board of directors voted at their fall board meeting to disburse funds to affected annual conferences for hurricane relief and recovery according to their expressed immediate needs. The funds released to Mississippi and Louisiana are for use in only the initial six months following the hurricane because the size of this disaster prevents us from foreseeing all of the possibilities for need. More funds will be sent to these annual conferences as these additional needs are made known.

Alabama-West Florida (12 months)	\$914,000
Mississippi (6 months)	\$1,397,289
Louisiana (6 months)	\$2,052,221

Additional Emergency Grants

This is in addition to \$10,000 emergency grants that UMCOR sent to each of the following 18 United Methodist National Mission Institutions for immediate relief work.

Location	\$10,000 Grants Disbursed to Each Grant Recipient
Alabama	1. Dumas Wesley House 2. Faith Mission Outreach
Arkansas	3. Camp Aldersgate
Georgia	4. Open Door Community House
Illinois	5. Lessie Bates David Neighborhood House
Kentucky	6. The Bennett Center of London
Louisiana	7. Dulac Community Center 8. Methodist Home for Children 9. Louisiana Methodist Children’s Home

Mississippi	10. Wood Institute 11. Wesley House 12. Bethlehem Center 13. Moore Community House
Texas	14. Huston-Tillotson University 15. Wesley House, Houston 16. Wesley Community Center 17. Good Neighbor Settlement House 18. Grace Community Services

Additional \$10,000 Emergency Grants Each to 11 Annual Conferences Serving Evacuees

Alabama–West Florida Florida	Oklahoma Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference
Kentucky	Texas
Mississippi, North Texas	Virginia
Missouri	Wisconsin
North Alabama	

Additional Funding Support

Cleanup	UMCOR purchased and disbursed \$85,543 in cleanup supplies such as mops, brooms, and buckets.
Consultants	UMCOR has placed 16 domestic disaster consultants, some full time in the field, to provide guidance to annual conferences in setting up their call service centers and long term recovery programs. The cost of their deployment as of Nov. 16 is \$126,547.
Partner Agencies	UMCOR sent \$50,000 to support Church World Service’s evacuee resettlement program.
International	This year’s storms also caused great tragedies in Central America. Thus far UMCOR has sent \$69,095 to local partner organizations in Guatemala, Mexico, and El Salvador.

This list of numbers and places UMCOR has provided funding for does not include the incalculable cost of time so many volunteers have already provided and the generous spirit of churches who have opened their doors, their treasures, and their hearts to the hurting.

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