



Emergency Communities

Dear Departing Volunteer,

Thank you for your hard work with Emergency Communities. We couldn't do it without you. We hope that you've been as inspired by your service here as we have.

Your power to help Emergency Communities does not end as you leave the Gulf Coast. Next, we need your help spreading the word about the good work we do. Just as our relief efforts are grassroots, so is much of our fundraising. We are not government-subsidized, and Katrina-related grants are increasingly hard to come by. This organization was built through one-on-one conversations. Don't let the circle stop with you!

What you'll find, if you really give fundraising a shot, is that people *want* to donate to an organization like ours – they just don't know that it exists. Most people are tired of donating to enormous non-profits with huge bureaucracies and massive overhead. With Emergency Communities, the vast majority of every donation goes directly to our services here on the Gulf Coast.

There are a few ways you can raise money and awareness. The best is to hold a benefit event. (See the attached how-to form.) If that seems like too much, try something as simple as mass-emailing all of your friends and family, describing the conditions down here, and letting them know what we're doing to change things. Make sure to suggest donating or volunteering, and link to our website at www.emergencycommunities.org.

Do you know someone who works in shipping, transportation, kitchen equipment production or sales, food service, or warehousing? We're always looking to make new contacts in those and other industries. In-kind donations go a long way to keeping the costs of our services down.

Those of us who have witnessed firsthand the conditions on the Gulf Coast have a great responsibility to do what we can to raise awareness and promote solutions. Again, thank you so much for everything you've done.

Sincerely,

Mark Weiner
Executive Director
Emergency Communities



United Way