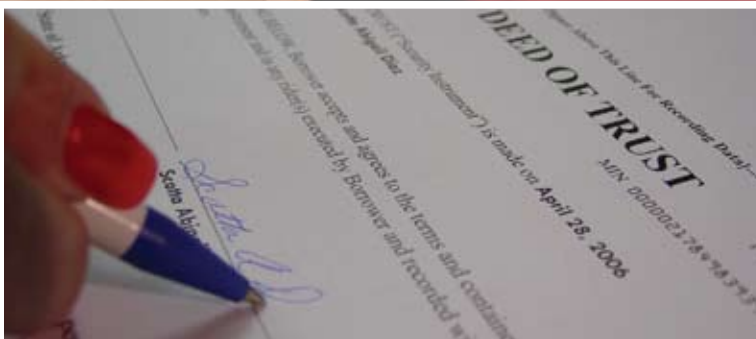


the Bridge

CONNECTING THE WORLD TO THE WORK OF THE FOUNDATION FOR THE MID SOUTH

SPRING 2006

DO IDAS HOLD
THE **KEY**
TO REACHING THE
AMERICAN DREAM?



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Without the contributions we receive from our donors, we could not make a difference in the Mid South. Thanks y'all!



IVYE L. ALLEN

NAMED PRESIDENT OF THE FOUNDATION FOR THE MID SOUTH

In February, the Foundation for the Mid South announced that Dr. Ivye L. Allen—a native of Greenville, Mississippi—accepted the position of president, effective March 13, 2006. We are extremely fortunate to have Dr. Allen, or Ivye, as she prefers, join the FMS staff with her past experience as an executive and her background in philanthropy that emphasizes economic development, community development, and systems change. The result was a smooth transition and a very comfortable fit for both parties.

Most recently, Ivye served as Chief Operating Officer for MDC, Inc. in Chapel Hill, North Carolina—a nonprofit organization that works to advance equity issues and opportunities in the American South. Her responsibilities included managing the daily operations of the organization while also working on philanthropy issues. An important, but little known fact: MDC, Inc. was involved in the formation of the Foundation for the Mid South when it originated in 1990.

“We knew that Dr. Allen’s experiences at MDC, in particular, would complement the Foundation for the Mid South’s commitment to build philanthropy that promotes racial, social, and economic equity in Arkansas, Louisiana, and

Mississippi,” said FMS Search Committee Chair and former Mississippi Governor, William Winter. “Hailing from the Mid South, she has a unique perspective of and has continued to stay involved with the issues and opportunities that exist in our region. Her service to Jackson State University as a visiting professor, to the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation as a trustee/director, and to MDC and its commitment to promoting equity and opportunity will be invaluable assets to the work of the Foundation for the Mid South.”

“I AM HONORED AND PLEASED TO JOIN SUCH A WONDERFUL ORGANIZATION, AND I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT LIE AHEAD FOR THE FOUNDATION FOR THE MID SOUTH.” Ivye L. Allen

Prior to joining MDC, Inc., Ivye was a consultant to a number of nonprofit organizations and taught graduate public policy and urban affairs courses at Hunter College and —while living in New York City—Jackson State University. Additionally, she served as director of fellowship programs for the

Rockefeller Brothers Fund in New York. Her education includes a Ph.D. in social policy from Columbia University; a M.S. in Urban Affairs from Hunter College; a M.B.A. in marketing and international business from New York University; and a bachelor’s in economics from Howard University.

The Foundation’s board of directors retained Boardwalk Consulting of Atlanta, Georgia, in early 2005 to conduct a national search to fill the president position. “It was an extensive search with a long list of blue-chip individuals as possible candidates,” said Dr. Beverly Wade Hogan, board chair. “Despite the devastation that occurred in the region mid-way through our search, we kept our standards high and did not make any compromises because of time constraints or the effects from the hurricanes. We are very fortunate to have Dr. Allen directing the Foundation during this critical time for our region.”

Dr. Allen replaced the Foundation’s founding president, Dr. George Penick, who stepped down to become the Director of RAND Corporation’s newly created RAND Gulf States Policy Institute in Jackson, Mississippi. Welcome, Ivye. And welcome back to the Mid South. ●●●

THE AMERICAN DREAM WITHIN

BUILDING WEALTH FOR LOW-INCOME AMERICANS

For Americans living from paycheck to paycheck and constantly struggling to make ends meet, it continues to be increasingly difficult to break out of the cycle of debt and poverty that is so persistent in the United States. This class of working poor is growing at an alarming rate as the gap between the ‘haves’ and the ‘have-nots’ continues to widen. For many, accumulating wealth and assets—the cornerstones of financial independence—is simply a dream deferred at a time when personal savings is at Depression-era lows, when one-third of all Americans and two-thirds of African Americans are asset-poor, and when one-fifth of all Americans do not have bank accounts.

In July 2005, savings rate percentages dropped below zero. Essentially, Americans spent all of their disposable income and dipped into savings or borrowed money. A quarter report has not been lower since the Great Depression in 1932.

source: Rex Nutting, *MarketWatch*

For decades, the government has provided opportunities for Americans to better their financial situations and to reduce their dependence on long-term government aid. The Homestead Act, IRAs, 401(k)s, GI Bill, and the home-mortgage interest deduction have helped middle-income individuals and families build assets that, in turn, build wealth and allow them to fully participate in the economic mainstream. However, these programs have not been accessible to low-income Americans, as many either do not have these benefits available through their employers or do not own their own homes. For this often overlooked and disenfranchised segment of the population, the American dream of financial security continues to be well out of reach.

Individual Development Accounts: Save Yourself

Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) are an example of a wealth-building tool that specifically helps low-income individuals and families accumulate savings to purchase an asset. Instead of focusing solely on income (and the misconception that income equals wealth), IDAs emphasize assets such as savings, equity in a home, a small business, and education. In a typical IDA program, participants open savings

accounts and make regular deposits over time to reach their financial goal. During this time, they attend economic literacy classes to learn how to budget money, spend and save wisely, avoid credit card debt, and repair credit—the biggest obstacle for participants in IDA programs to overcome. Once the goal has been met, government or private funds match the account balance at a rate determined by the IDA program.

Although IDAs are not new to the country or to the Mid South, they are beginning to gain support nationally as an innovative and proven anti-poverty strategy. The Corporation for Enterprise Development (CFED) suggests that there are over 500 IDA programs functioning in 49 states. Many of which operate through community-based or nonprofit organizations, and are funded with both private and public resources. While the size of the effort seems impressive, a greater investment is required from federal and state government and business—particularly, the country’s financial institutions—to make IDAs more widely available.

IDAs on the Hill

Approximately 50 percent of American households have less than \$1,000 in net financial assets.

A close-up photograph of a human hand, palm up, holding a single metal key. The hand is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the page, with the fingers slightly curled around the key. The key is a standard house key with a notched bit and a simple bow.

REACH

An estimated 60 percent of African American households either have no assets or are in debt with a negative figure representing their net financial assets. In an effort to promote saving and asset-building for all Americans, the federal government passed legislation that specifically supported IDA development: Congress' Assets for Independence Act legislation in 1996 that authorized IDAs, and the Senate's Charity Aid, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act in 2003 that included tax credits for financial institutions that sponsor IDAs.

With an active and growing national field of asset-building practitioners, successful programs, and federal legislation, there are still difficulties in the expansion of

While [the states of] Arkansas and Louisiana have made strides to encourage savings, promote financial literacy, and expand asset building, Mississippi has not yet shown positive movement on its support of IDAs.

IDAs at both the national and state levels. One of the largest difficulties is funding. There are many potential sources of funding including the federal government. One example of this is TANF. The federal government has allowed states to utilize the Temporary Assistance For Needy Families (TANF) block grant for the creation and funding of IDA programs, although this has not and is not without hurdles. Since the creation of TANF law, 17 states have appropriated TANF funds as a source of funding support for state-level IDA programs with Arkansas and Louisiana included in that number. TANF is not the only source of public funding.

Although President Bush's fiscal year 2007 Annual Budget includes a tax credit for 900,000 new IDA accounts, the reality of IDA programs receiving the support they need is still only a paragraph on paper. Several pieces of bi-partisan legislation have been introduced in Congress and our state and local governments around the issues of saving and asset-building. Sustaining existing programs and growing new programs, so they can impact the lives of low-income people everywhere, requires a sustained commitment from our federal and state governments. While the federal government set

the stage for IDAs, the difficulty in expanding it on both a national and a state level lies in the funding. Every state receives funding from the TANF block grant, but receiving TANF money does not necessarily equate into making IDAs available in your city or even your state. The money often goes to other state programs and other needs.

While Arkansas and Louisiana have made strides to encourage savings, promote financial literacy, and expand asset building, Mississippi has not yet shown positive movement on its support of IDAs.

Private funds have advanced the field of asset development—data, research, number of programs, and technical expertise, but they cannot carry the load alone. We must continue to remain vigilant with our local, state, and federal government to ensure that we become a citizenry of asset builders.

Banking on Financial Institutions

In Michael Sherraden's book, *Assets and the Poor* (1991), he says, "few people have ever spent their way out of poverty. Those who escape do so through saving and investing in long-term goals." Financial institutions are especially important to IDA programs—not

only by creating and holding the savings accounts—but by providing the means to help people save, build wealth, and participate in the economy.

Banks and other lending institutions often provide key in-kind or low-fee services, for instance, supporting financial education; providing credit reports on IDA participants; coaching participants on homeownership or small business development; and reviewing home or business loan applications.

BENEFITS TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS WHO HOLD IDAs

Positive Public Relations.

Helping people in the community never sounded so good. A well-publicized IDA program elevates the visibility and social-mindedness of a financial institution.

Access to new customers.

Through IDA accounts, financial institutions are working with potential customers who will require future financial services, such as mortgages loans, business loans, or lines of credit.

Access to new markets.

By working and building trust with the low-income community, financial institutions benefit from increasing a formerly untapped, under-served customer base.

Community Reinvestment Act Credit. Depending on the services and products available that banks provide in regard to IDAs, regulatory agencies agree that most IDA programs meet criteria under the investment, lending and service tests for CRA review and may be eligible to receive credit.

Allure of Matching Funds.

In addition to participants' IDA savings accounts, matching fund deposits are also attractive to financial institutions and a boost to their bottom line.

Banks are also a logical source of support for IDA programs from operating support, to training, to administration.

Banks have played a tremendous role in IDA development in the Mid South. Several local banks have established partnerships with IDA programs in the region. Over the years, FMS's Mid South IDA Initiative has received valuable financial support from AmSouth Bank, BancorpSouth, and SouthTrust Bank. Each organization recognizes the role that they play regionally in reducing poverty in the communities that they serve. In addition to its support, SouthTrust Bank is also actively involved with the Foundation's work around the formation and growth of the Mississippi IDA Partnership—one of the four statewide coalitions of IDA practitioners in the region.¹

The Mid South does not, however, have the quantity of large, national banks in which to seek support for ongoing IDA programs or expanding the availability of IDAs in the region. Until recently with the acquisition of SouthTrust Bank by Wachovia, the Mid South was home to only one Fortune 500 financial institution—Regions Financial Corporation. Weighing this knowledge with the need for people to build wealth to move out of poverty, it is increasingly important that all of the financial institutions that serve the Mid South become advocates for, active participants in, and supporters of the development of IDA programs in the region.

Good Business Sense

Another crucial ally on the IDA front is the private sector. Socially responsible businesses and organi-

zations often support or, on a larger scale, help establish IDA programs in the communities that they serve. With limited government support for these programs, it is necessary for IDA programs to raise money from local, regional, or national businesses to supplement operating costs and matching funds.

In the Mid South, Entergy Corporation—an electric service provider to nearly three million customers throughout Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and East Texas—has led the movement to expand access to IDAs in the region since 2002. Through its corporate giving program, the Entergy Charitable Foundation, Entergy has donated over \$1 million to FMS's Mid South IDA Initiative to provide grants for matching funds, training, and technical assistance to IDA programs in the region. Without Entergy's commitment, thousands of Mid Southern low-income individuals and families would not have had the opportunity to save money and, by doing so, leverage millions of dollars in matching funds to purchase assets through IDA programs.

“Leveraging funds is key to the success of this initiative,” said Patty Riddlebarger, director of corporate social responsibility for Entergy. “IDAs have the power to transform lives by helping individuals break multi-generational bonds of poverty and achieve self-sufficiency. But it is only possible with the investment and commitment from other corporate partners who realize that the economic prosperity of our region is inextricably tied to the well being of the families and individuals who live here.”

To help reduce and control costs, most, if not all, businesses in the United States hire entry-level, low-

wage employees. It has become increasingly important, in a climate where outsourcing is emphasized and where skilled labor costs are increasing, that businesses offer incentives to quality employees. Many businesses are choosing to offer IDAs to their low-wage employees—not only as a benefit, but also as a means to deepen the employer / employee relationship. An employer-based IDA program is attractive to both the business—through the development of a financially educated, motivated, and quality workforce—and the employee—through their ability to save money to build assets, acquire wealth for a secure future, and lower the stress caused by their financial situation.

BENEFITS TO ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE AN EMPLOYER-BASED IDA PROGRAM:

- Greater retention of high-quality employees.
- A workforce with a lower turnover rate.
- A motivated workforce.
- A financially literate workforce.
- A workforce with less stress caused by debt.

Long-term Implications of Asset-building

In regard to the long-term implications of asset building for you and your family, keep the following suggestions in mind:

- Start a savings account for your family. Savings would allow a family to relocate for the short or long-term in case of a

natural disaster or a man-made catastrophe; to repair or replace a significant asset; or make unexpected, necessary purchases.

- Start a savings account for your children. Saving at a young age will help your children build assets and acquire wealth as adults.
- Advocate for the inclusion of financial education in your child's curriculum. A financially educated person is much more attractive to prospective employers than one who is not.

The benefits from wealth-building programs and strategies are far-reaching and long lasting in their impact on the financial well being of all Americans—regardless of geography, race, or social status. Specifically through IDAs, people of limited means and low income can begin to break the cycle of poverty in this country, especially in the Mid South.



¹ For more information on IDA programs in your state or to learn more about asset building policy please contact your state IDA coalition:

Texas Asset Building Coalition
<<http://www.covenantcapital.org/html/publicpolicy/idanetwork.html>>

Arkansas Asset Coalition
www.southerngoodfaithfund.org
<http://www.southerngoodfaithfund.org/programs/programs_ab.html>

Mississippi IDA Partnership (MIDAP)
P.O. Box 3782
Jackson, MS 39207-3782

IDA Collaborative of Louisiana
www.idacola.tulane.edu

The Foundation also encourages anyone interested in IDAs to learn about your local, state, and congressional officials' stance on IDAs and other asset-building tools.

SPOTLIGHT ON IDAS



Healthy Connections, Inc.

404 Seventh Street
Mena, AR 71953-3201
PH 479.243.0279
FX 479.243.0285

The Healthy Connections IDA Program started July 2001 in Mena, Arkansas, and serves four counties including Polk, Montgomery, Scott, and Sevier. By design, Healthy Connections, Inc. serves mostly small towns and rural areas.

“We have an IDA program in order to help the low to moderate income people of our counties build their assets,” said Carla J. Moore, IDA program manager. “To date, we have had 57 graduates and have 41 currently enrolled in the program. The main asset goal in all of our counties—so far—has been home improvements.”

While home improvement seems to be the foremost need, the program is noticing more interest in home purchases and education with newly enrolled participants.

Healthy Connections, Inc. IDA program since 2001

Total saved by all IDA participants:
\$52,976.00.

Total of matching funds:
\$158,928.00 (from Arkansas Dept. of Human Services).

Number of homes that have been bought and improved:
48.



SUNK DALE DIAZ'S VOLUNTEER-BASED ORGANIZATION USED TO WORK OUT OF THIS ROOM IN HIS CHURCH—BEFORE IT WAS SUBMERGED.

8 LONG MONTHS

REALITIES THAT FUNDERS MUST FACE ON THE GULF COAST

Since August 29, much has been analyzed and written about the after-effects of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita on the Mid South. Every aspect of life for the people of the Gulf Coast from East Texas to West Alabama, including those living over 100 miles inland, has been stretched to its breaking point and their nerves laid bare. Like a proud fighter late in the twelfth round, these people have not only endured the trauma from the loss of their property and livelihoods, many are still having to stand toe-to-toe with their insurance companies, FEMA,

the SBA, and a slew of other organizations to find assistance to help get their lives back to some sense of normalcy. Throughout this ordeal, many have lost something more than a home or a paycheck; many have lost their dignity and their faith in the systems and people who they trusted to protect and help them.

On a positive note, the response from individuals and also the charitable and philanthropic sectors has been overwhelming. As soon as the storms hit, the philanthropic

sector mobilized to meet the needs of the region and acquired unprecedented amounts of resources to do so. And after eight months, a sense of the initial and mid-term philanthropic response has begun to emerge. In the midst of these crises, there have been failures and successes; selfless acts; *a-ha's* and *uh-oh's*; and thoughtful efforts and intentions. But the truth is that the need is unfathomable and, although the debris is disappearing, difficult work still lies ahead.

Reality Check

At this point in time—eight months after the hurricanes decimated an estimated \$100 billion of property and lost business and took over 1,200 lives—philanthropy needs to plant its footprint even deeper into the rebuilding efforts of the Gulf Coast. Much of the recovery that remains—and will remain for decades, if not forever—cannot be conducted solely by the government. Recovery is not limited to the construction of buildings, but also includes attention to the social issues that can exclude segments of the population from participating in efforts to rebuild. The Mid South can benefit greatly from what philanthropy offers: a field of experts whose focus is on bettering communities and the lives of people, the ability to effect change in public policy, the ability to raise public and private awareness and action on social issues such as race and equity, and the ability to mobilize resources to address unmet needs. If the Gulf Coast—or any community, city, county, or parish similarly distressed in future disasters—does not rebuild with these tools in hand that philanthropy can provide, the health, vitality, and the potential of these communities are at risk.



STILL DISPLACED

AS LATE AS MARCH, PEOPLE WERE STILL LIVING IN TENT COMMUNITIES LIKE THIS ONE IN D'IBERVILLE, MISSISSIPPI.

Mind the Mission, but Meet the Need

Within days of Katrina's landfall, the staff and board of the Foundation for the Mid South wrestled with various grantmaking strategies that would both be most effective in meeting the needs of our region and in-line with our mission to build philanthropy that promotes racial, social, and economic equity. The guidelines that resulted from these discussions were:

- rebuilding the capacity of the nonprofit sector in the affected areas;
- supporting nonprofits that focus on issues of race and equity, serve large numbers of low-income or vulnerable populations, or advocate for policy reform or the creation of new policy;
- reviewing other funding efforts and looking for any gaps where FMS could best assist;
- seeking advice and information from our existing network of partners, funders, and grantees;
- advising donors, based on suggestions from the affected communities, as to how their funds could best be used in and for the region; and
- not simply re-establishing pre-hurricane conditions, but supporting efforts that will [re]build better, stronger, and more inclusive communities in order to improve the quality of life for all Mid South citizens.

Over a period of several weeks, we realized that the funds that were coming to us for hurricane recovery—from concerned individuals,

philanthropists, corporations, and foundations—would continue over time. In an effort to construct an effort that would meet the needs of nonprofits at crucial periods, we tailored our response to occur in three phases: the **relief phase**—emergency relief for the short-term; the **recovery phase**—operating support for the intermediate-term; and the **rebuilding phase**—operating and program support and policy work for the long-term.

Be Open to Suggestions

At the time the Bridge went to press, the Foundation had granted over \$2 million dollars in the second phase of its Hurricane Recovery and Restoration Fund² to provide operating support to nonprofits in the region. Many of the applicants who received grants had never applied to the Foundation before. As we work to include the suggestions and experiences from those most involved and in touch with the needs of their communities into our strategies and plans, we hope that our contributions to the recovery effort will be both helpful and appropriate.



OFF THE SHELF

JACKSON-GEORGE REGIONAL LIBRARY, AN FMS GRANTEE, PREPARES TO RE-SHELF ITS BOOKS ONCE THE SHEETROCK WALLS ARE COMPLETED.

In March, several of our recent grantees took time out of their busy day to speak with the Foundation's communications director. In addition to specific obstacles that communities are currently facing such as the lack of affordable housing, access to mental health services, and strengthening their disaster preparedness measures, four reoccurring themes emerged from these conversations that we believe are important to share with the larger philanthropic sector.

Capacity

Every conversation began with a list of the three d's: damage, disruption, and displacement. After the storms hit and for months following, most nonprofits were either completely out of commission or limping along with a skeleton crew of staff and board. In reality, it wasn't until January and February—when new locations were established and staff and board were able to return home—that the capacity of the communities' nonprofits started to increase.

"Our space was ten feet under water," said Dale Diaz, board member of the Sacred Heart St. Vincent de Paul Society, during a parking lot interview. "Our entire organization is strictly volunteer-based, so we were working out of the few board member's homes that remained, and we drove into the neighborhoods of the folks that we serve to seek them out since they couldn't reach us. That's how we're managing because we won't have a space to work out of until our trailer is delivered."

Think local

Nonprofit organizations serving the affected communities before the storms are uniquely suited to communicate to funders how their

resources can be used in the most effective, inclusive, and strategic ways. They know their community, including its inner-workings, and can accurately convey the reality of their community's situation and needs, identify the people and networks that can assist locally, and dissuade the duplication of ongoing efforts.

As these organizations attempted to re-establish their services following the disasters, they met an unlikely obstacle: help. Organizations from around the country poured into the region to help in the devastated areas. While assistance was desperately needed, it did—in some cases—affect the ability of some vital nonprofits to bounce back after the disasters.

Martha Milner, RSM, board member of Mercy Housing and Human Development, Inc., spoke about the need for supporting indigenous, local nonprofits. "Before the storm, we were working with 64 families to repair their credit, budget their finances, and save for a down payment to purchase their first home. As families return, our priority is to follow-up and get them back on track in the program. How could a group that wasn't established in our community know to do this or that this infrastructure even existed?" She continued, "After the smoke clears, I hope that the capacity of our local nonprofits will grow as a result and that there is a better understanding and appreciation of the region and the work being done here."

The 'new' poor

It has been well documented that those who lived in poverty before the storms suffered, and continue to suffer, heavily in their aftermath. Unable to recoup their losses and

receiving only a stipend for assistance, the poor literally lost everything. As insurance and other assistance is available mostly to homeowners, those across the board who could not afford to own their own home and rented shared similar fates.

"After six months, some things have gotten worse not better," said Sue Reed, executive director of the Boys and Girls Club of the Gulf Coast. "There is a brand new poor now. People who were not considered poor before the storms are continuing to pay mortgages on slabs. The lack of temporary and affordable housing is one example of an issue that is affecting thousands of people's ability to return home or to make ends meet because available, sound housing is at a premium."

Organizations first

The interviews revealed two interesting details about the nonprofits' ability to recover and operate: (1) following the disasters, opportunities to apply for operating support to re-establish services were few and far between, and (2) it took many months for those operating now just to recover their staff and board and to begin to provide services at basic levels.

"We received support for medical supplies, equipment, and pharmaceuticals, but not for operating support," said Cathy Dumal, special projects director for the Coastal Family Health Center. "It seems like in the scheme of things in the funding world, operations is the low-man in terms of importance. But while we were working to become operational again, we had to pay for salaries, benefits, the replacement of basic equipment, utilities, and communications.

The Foundation for the Mid South [Bridge Grants] was one of very few organizations that allowed donations to be used for operations.”

Building Better: the Clock is Ticking

As hurricane season approaches bringing with it the fear that we might expect more, intense hurricanes, the Mid South is raw and extremely vulnerable. Communities are still planning how to rebuild, and the local nonprofits are stretched thin attempting to serve greater numbers of people in need. Even though it has been eight months since Katrina made landfall, the recovery effort is still young and requires the continued support of the philanthropic sector to help these communities recover with their citizens’ best interests in mind. “It seems as if those who are disenfranchised or disadvantaged can’t get things done as quickly as they need to be,” said Charles Lee, interim director of the Gulf Coast Fair Housing Center. “We have to be mindful not to move back to the status quo in regard to race and equity; we must strive to become more inclusive as we rebuild.”

With every tick of the clock, communities along the Gulf Coast are getting closer to determining how they will rebuild and who will be included—and essentially excluded—in the process. Whether it is government money or philanthropic resources, plans are quickly being formalized. But it still remains to be seen what the future will hold for those who suffered and lost so much during these disasters. But by listening, by working outside of our comfort zones, and with deliberate and thoughtful action, the philanthropic sector can help not only the Gulf Coast, but the

Mid South transform in a way that will dissolve the bonds of racism, inequality, and inequity that have held the region back from meeting its full potential and greatness.



² Foundation for the Mid South Recovery and Restoration Fund Grants.

FMS Bridge Grants (phase 2):

Nonprofit organization grants strictly for operating support funded through the FMS hurricane general fund, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, The Ahmanson Foundation, Weingart Foundation, GAR Foundation, and other major contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations: \$2,000,000.

Acadian Heritage & Culture Foundation, Inc
Backstreet Cultural Museum
Bay Area Food Bank, Inc
Boy Scouts of America, Pine Burr Area Council
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast
Brother’s Keeper Ministries
Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans Program
Center for Fair Housing
Center Stage Theatre, Inc
Chamber Foundation Southwest Louisiana
Child Abuse Education Council
Child Advocacy Services (CAS)
Claiborne County Hospital
Coastal Family Health Center
Community Care Outreach Center
Deep South Center for Environmental Justice Inc
Desire Street Ministries
Divine Care Services
Educational and Treatment Council, Inc
Efforts of Grace, Inc/ Ashe’ Cultural Arts Center
Family Resources of New Orleans
Girl Scout Council of Southeast Louisiana
Good Work Network
Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Louisiana Inc
Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center
Gulf Coast Fair Housing Center
Gulf Coast Women’s Center for Nonviolence, Inc
Habitat for Humanity/ Metro Jackson, Inc
Hope Center, Inc
Jackson-George Regional Library System
Jefferson Dollars for Scholars
Kids In Crisis Project, Inc
Lovetouch Ministries
Mercy Housing & Human Development
Mississippi Association of Cooperatives
Mississippi Center for Legal Services
Mobile United
Moore Community House
MS State Conference of Branches of the NAAACP
Neighborhood Development Foundation
New Orleans Ballet Association/ NOBA
New Orleans Oral School
New Orleans Outreach
Ohr-O’Keefe Museum of Art
Operation REACH, Inc
Pinebelt Association for Families
Raintree Services, Inc dba Raintree Children and Family Services
Reconcile New Orleans
REJOICE, Inc
Ruach, Inc
Sacred Heart St. Vincent de Paul Society
Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans & Acadiana
Serenity Care, Inc
Southeast Mississippi Rural Health Initiative, Inc
Southern Mutual Help Association Inc
St. Charles Community Health Center
St. Tammany Association for Retarded Citizens, Inc.

Start The Adventure in Reading
The Blood Center
The Eyes Have It! Inc
The Good Shepherd Nativity Mission School
The Treme Cultural Heritage Foundation
The Youth Empowerment Project
Trinity Christian Community
Turning Point Partners
Ujamaa Community Development Corporation
United Cerebral Palsy of Greater New Orleans
UNITY of Greater New Orleans
Vietnamese Initiatives In Economic Training
Visions of Hope, Inc
Volunteers of America Southeast
WRBH Radio for the Blind and Print Handicapped
Young Audiences of Louisiana
Youth Service Bureau of St. Tammany
YouthTruth, Inc.
YWCA of Greater Baton Rouge

FMS Immediate Relief Grants to nonprofits and faith-based organizations serving hurricane victims and evacuees (phase 1):

Nonprofit organization grants funded through a donation from the Walton Family Foundation: \$575,505.

Beacons & Bridges
Booker T. Community Outreach Inc.
Chicot Housing Assistance Corporation
Daughters of Charity Services of Arkansas
Delta Housing Development Corporation
Delta Research Education and Development Foundation
Foundation for Education & Economic Development, Inc.
Mississippi County Arkansas EOC, Inc.
Morehouse Council on Aging, Inc.
Neighbor to Neighbor, Inc.
New Hope Missionary Baptist Church: The Vision Center
Northeast Louisiana Delta Community Development
Quitman County Development Organization
Southern Financial Partners
St. Francis County Community Development Corporation
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
United Way of West Central Mississippi

Faith-based organization grants funded through a donation from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: \$275,000.

Calling All Christians
Capital Missionary Baptist Church
Christian Worship Church
Church on the Rock
Desire Street Ministries
Emmanuel M.B. Church
Faith Bible Church
Faith Covenant Ministries
Faith in Community Ministries
Family of Faith Christian Church
Forrest Heights M.B. Church
Gloryland Baptist Church
Greater Fairview Community Development Corporation
Greater St. Mary Baptist Church
Green Pastures Christian Ministries
Handsboro United Methodist Church
Joy of Deliverance Ministries
Korean Baptist Church of Baton Rouge
Lemoyne Boulevard Baptist Church
Manna from Heaven Ministries
Merrill Chapel United Methodist Church
Mount Zion United Methodist Church
Nazerene Baptist Church
New Beginnings Holy Deliverance Ministries
New Birth Fellowship M.B. Church
New Dimensions Ministries
New Hope M.B. Church

New Light Baptist Church
 New Mount Olive Baptist Church
 New Testament Full Gospel Ministries
 One Way Deliverance
 Pearl River County Families First Resource Center
 Pelican Inn Haven Shelter
 PHGOPE
 Piney Grove Baptist Church
 Powerhouse of Deliverance Ministries, Inc.
 REJOICE, Inc.
 Resurrection Life Church
 Ruach, Inc.
 Soldiers of Compassion Outreach Ministries, Inc.
 St. James Baptist Church
 St. James United Methodist Church
 St. Luke M.B. Church
 St. Mark Baptist Church
 St. Paul United Methodist Church
 Stone of Help Ministries
 Tabernacle of Faith Ministries
 The Refuge A/G - KidCare America
 True Deliverance Evangelistic Outreach Ministry
 Truevine Deliverance Ministries
 Union Baptist Church
 Walker's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church

West Northside Drive Church of Christ

Advised Fund Grants managed by FMS:

Entergy's Power of Hope Fund:

\$4.26 million

\$613,500 to nonprofit organizations:

Akula Foundation
 All Congregations Together (ACT)
 American Red Cross, Southeast Louisiana Chapter
 Archbishop Rummel High School
 Archbishop Shaw High School
 Baton Rouge General Medical Center Foundation
 Bethel Total Community Service Corporation
 Big Buddy Program
 Boys' Haven of America, Inc.
 Buckner Children and Family Services, Inc.
 Building Healthy Communities
 Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans
 Children's Defense Fund Southern Regional Office
 Communities in Schools Southeast Texas, Inc.
 Deep East Texas Council of Governments
 Desire Street Ministries

East Arkansas Enterprise Community, Inc.
 Extensions of Life Foundation, LLC
 Faith Temple Evangelistic Center
 Families Helping Families of SWLA
 Family and Youth Counseling Agency
 Family Service of Greater Baton Rouge, Inc.
 First Baptist Church of Luling
 Friends of WWOZ, Inc.
 Gretna Economic Development Association
 Hope Center, Inc.
 Housing Opportunities of Texas Inc.
 Humanitas, Inc.
 I. P. Hunt Foundation
 Jackson Medical Mall Foundation
 Jackson Metro Housing Partnership
 Living Word Christian Center, Inc.
 Lutheran Social Services of the South
 MSAADA, Inc.
 Mendenhall Ministries
 Neighborhood Development Foundation
 New Orleans Council on Aging
 New Orleans Resources for Independent Living, Inc.
 Opelousas Family Worship Center
 Parkway Partners
 Plum Street Soup Kitchen

Hurricanes Katrina - Rita

Storm Path

Zone of Maximum Devastation

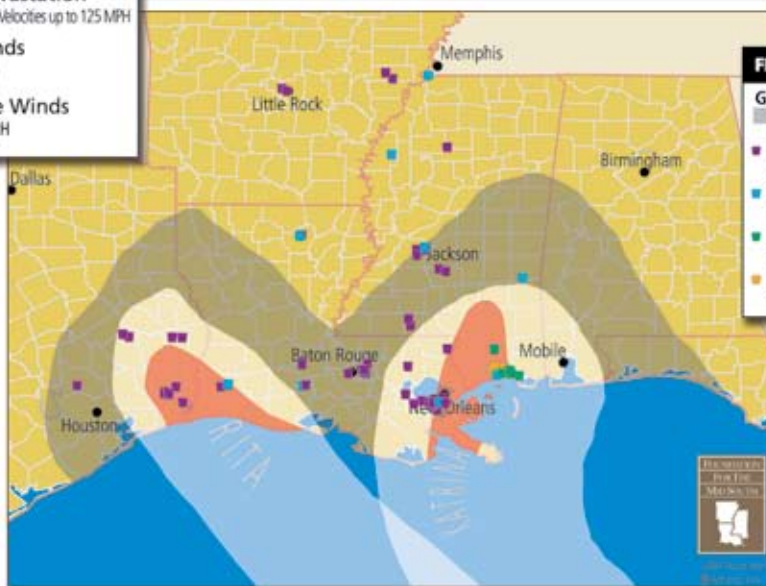
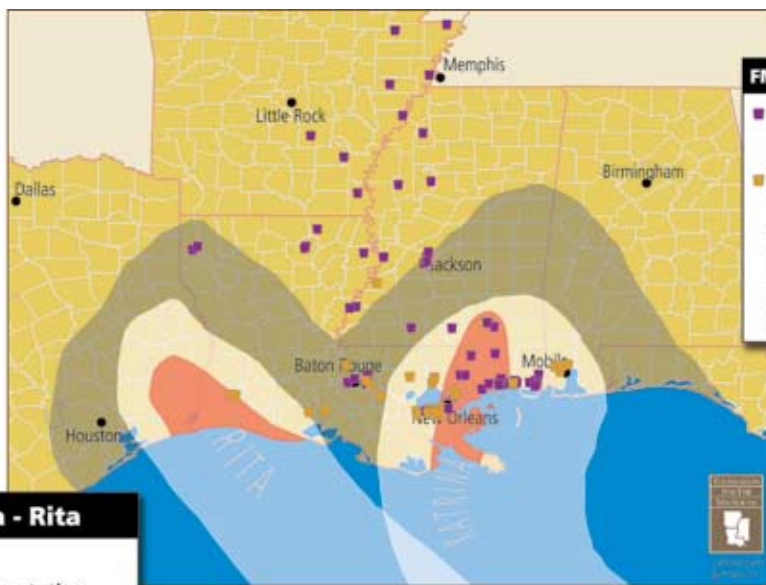
Sustained Winds above 100 MPH & Velocities up to 125 MPH

Hurricane Force Winds

Sustained Winds above 75 MPH

Tropical Storm Force Winds

Sustained Winds above 50 MPH



FMS Recovery & Restoration Fund

- Immediate relief grants to nonprofits and faith-based organizations (phase 1) **\$850,505**
- Rebuilding grants to nonprofits for operating support (phase 2) **\$2 Mill.**

To date, grants have been made with donations from the FMS hurricane general fund, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, The Ahmanson Foundation, Weingart Foundation, GAR Foundation, and other major contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations.

FMS Advised Funds

Grants to Nonprofits

	Number	Awarded
■ Entergy Corp Hurricane Recovery Fund	64	\$613,500
■ Baxter Int'l Fnd. Health Recovery Fund	15	\$250,000
■ Allstate Fnd. Hurricane Recovery Fund	8	\$141,000
■ Rebuild Ocean Springs Fund	3	\$46,844

Primary Health Services Center
 REJOICE, Inc.
 Rose of Sharon Church of God in Christ
 Southeast Louisiana Legal Services
 Southwest Louisiana AIDS Council
 Southwest Mississippi Christian Outreach Ministries, Inc.
 St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School
 St. Charles Catholic High School
 St. Francis House, Inc.
 St. Joan of Arc Catholic School
 St. Martin, Iberia, Lafayette Community Action Agency
 St. Landry-Evangeline United Way
 Texas Legal Services Center
 The Center for Families
 The Chamber Southwest Louisiana Foundation
 The Family Tree Information
 The Living Word Baptist Church, Inc.
 Triangle AIDS Network
 Turning Point Partners
 Val Verde Baptist Church
 Vietnamese Initiatives in Economic Training
 Volunteers of America Greater New Orleans
 Waymaker Ministries
\$3.65 million to individuals and families

Allstate Foundation: \$291,000

Gulfport Police Athletic Activities League
 MS Coastal Plains RC&D Council
 Moore Community House
 Ohr - O'Keefe Museum of Art
 Sacred Heart St. Vincent de Paul Society
 Mercy Housing and Human Development
 (2) Little Hands Playgrounds
 Rebuild Ocean Springs Fund
 Visions of Hope, Inc.

Baxter International Foundation: \$250,000

Catholic Charities, Inc.
 Delta Health Center, Inc.
 Desoto Health and Wellness Center
 Louisiana Emergency Mobile Medical Units
 Lower Cameron Hospital Service District
 LSU Health Sciences Center
 Medical Foundation of South Mississippi, Inc.
 Outreach Health Services, Inc.
 Project HOPE
 St. Bernard Medical Group/St. Bernard Medical Group
 St. Landry-Evangeline United Way

The Center for Children and Families, Inc. of Northwest LA
 The Prometheus Group
 United Way of Southwest Louisiana
 Voice of Calvary Family Health Center

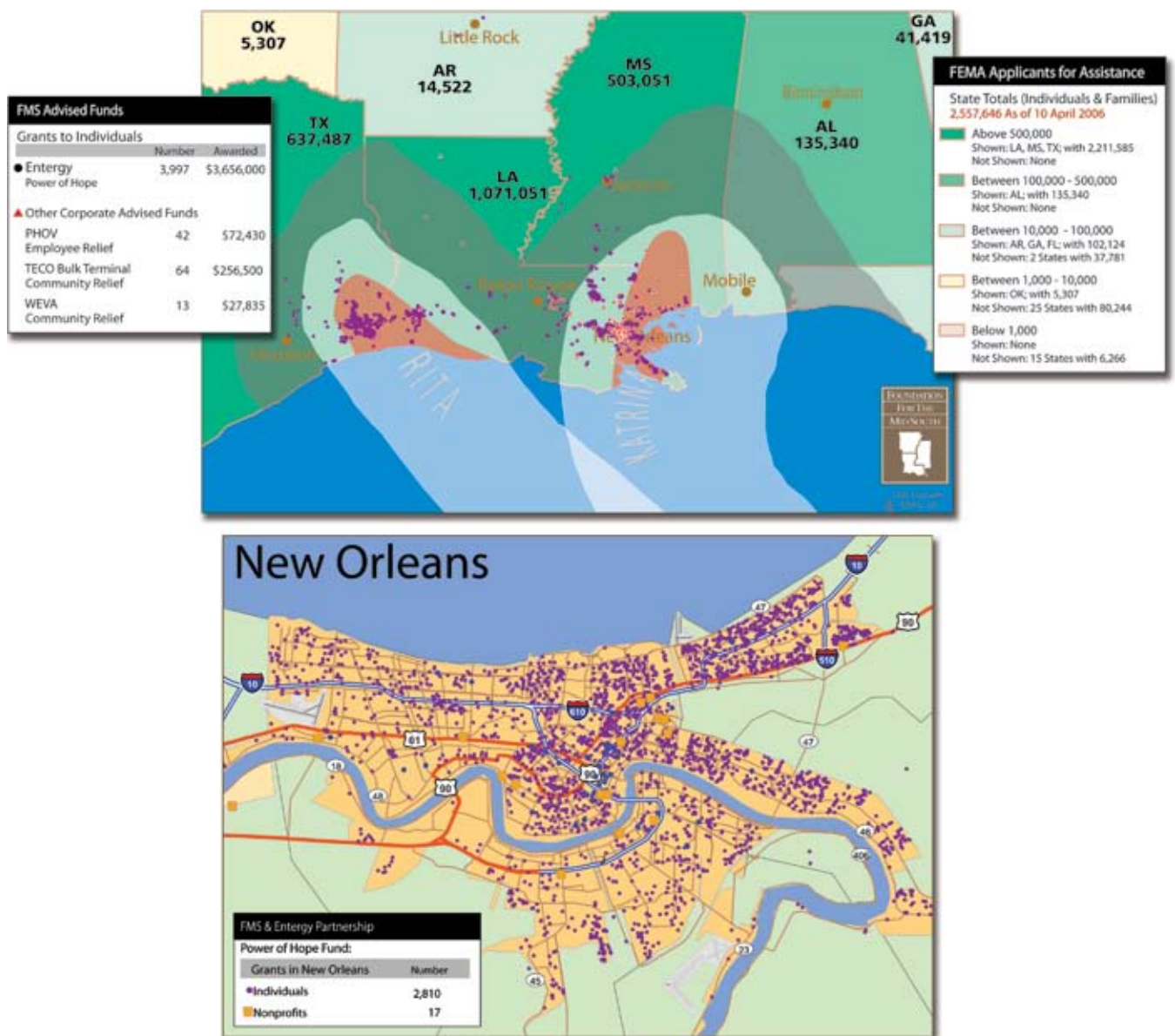
Rebuild Ocean Springs Fund: \$46,844

Boy and Girls Club
 The Lord is My Help
 Walter Anderson Players

TECO Bulk Terminal Community Relief Fund: \$256,500 to TECO BT employees.

PHOV Employee Relief Fund: \$72,430 to PHOV employees.

WEVA Videographers in Distress Fund: \$27,835 to displaced videographers.



FAITH IN WOMEN

GATHERING HELD TO DEVELOP WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN THE CHURCH

**MID SOUTH GATHERING OF
WOMEN IN MINISTRY
LEADERSHIP
MAY 4-5, 2006
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI**

Many women have developed their passion for social justice through the ministry in the Mid South. These women are part of one of the most significant changes in church life in the 20th century—the movement of ordained women into American Protestantism. For centuries, the norm dictated that clergy be exclusively male. In recent decades, however, the roles of women in church leadership positions is expanding. Today, a growing number of women are serving as pastors and clergy leaders in Protestant churches despite job discrimination, disparities in pay between male and female clergy, and resistance from congregations.

According to the Association of Theological Schools, the number of women entering seminaries has more than tripled over the past 23 years. When the association began counting seminary enrollment by gender in 1972, women composed 10.2 percent of enrollment. The most recent figures from 1996 show that women made up 33.9 percent of the total enrolled.

To support this growth of new leaders in the faith-based community, the Visionary Leadership Institute sponsored the 3rd *Mid South Gathering of Women in Ministry Leadership* on May 4-5th

in Jackson, Mississippi. Women on the frontline of ministry in the Mid South participated in one of the few gatherings available to female Church leaders. Conference attendees enjoyed opportunities to network, share experiences, and develop their leadership and ministerial skills.

A highlight of the Gathering featured Bishop T.D. Jakes—one of the most recognized and influential evangelists in the country. Bishop Jakes appeared at Jackson State University's Athletic and Assembly Center joined by Dathan Thigpen and Holy Nation, Shari Robbins, David Wyatt, LaToya Knight of the Mississippi Mass Choir, the trainee company of Ballet Magnificat, and Hope 3 Mass Choir—a greater Jackson area ecumenical choir.

The second day of the Gathering offered conferees training in leadership, resource development, community outreach, and ministerial excellence. The luncheon keynote address was delivered by Elisabeth Omilami, C.E.O. of Hosea Feed the Hungry and the Homeless from Atlanta, Georgia. “You still have in the church a feeling of subservience of women,” commented Ms. Omilami. “There’s a gender bias that exists in this country we’re often faced with.”

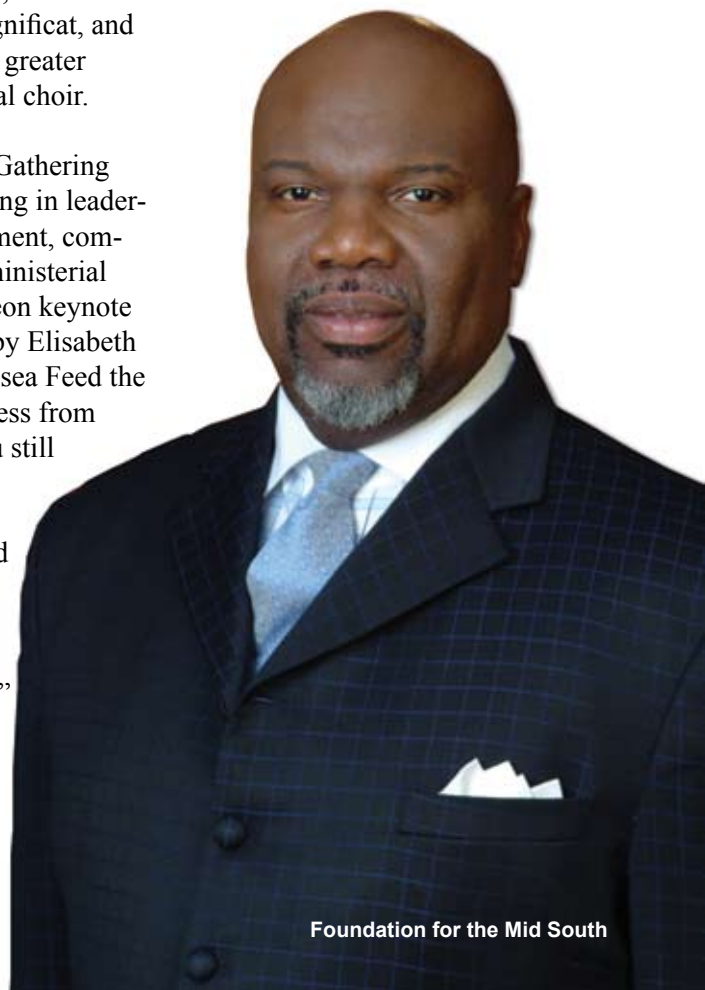
The closing plenary session featured Dr. Renita Weems,

former contributing writer for *Essence* magazine and author of several widely acclaimed books on women's spirituality and wholeness including *What Matters Most: Ten Passionate Lessons from the Song of Solomon* (2004).

Debra Brewer, pastor of Good Shepherd Ministries and conferee said, “The conference was helpful to women like myself who are overcoming barriers in ministry leadership and walking in our spiritual gift. If I had to sum up the conference in one word, it would be *DYNAMIC!*”

●●●

Bishop T.D. Jakes



DINNER & A MOVE-IN

NEW NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT BOOSTS ARKANSAS COMMUNITY

“Getting to Know Your New Neighbors” was the theme of a recent dinner hosted by the St. Francis County CDC at the Forrest City Cyber Café in Arkansas. Participants in a new homeownership program who are building new homes in the Buford Cherry Subdivision met over dinner with other residents from the area, city council members, and others who wanted to welcome the new homeowners.

One of four activities planned for the development of the subdivisions, the dinner provided an opportunity for residents to share ideas including a neighborhood watch program. Other activities include an event around the demolition of dilapidated housing stock, a ground breaking ceremony, and an event celebrating the completion of the twenty-unit subdivision and the families who will live there.

The evening’s keynote speaker, Mayor Larry Bryant, welcomed the cities’ latest homeowners and commended their achievements of purchasing their own homes.

In addition to the positive aspects of home ownership, the development of the neighborhood helped to rid the city of a high crime and drug area. “The city will be a much better and safer place to live because of this effort,” he told them.

The development of this new subdivision—estimated at \$2 million—was made possible with the leadership of the St. Francis County CDC in partnership with USDA Rural Development, Arkansas Development Finance Authority, Forrest City Bank, Pulaski Mortgage, and the Foundation for the Mid South’s Communities of Opportunity initiative. Dr. Beverly Divers-White, director of Communities of Opportunity, said, “This is an incredible example of what can be accomplished when community residents take a stake in their community. This is just the first of—what we hope to be—many neighborhoods that are positively transformed through efforts like this, and Communities of Opportunity is excited about working closely with them.”



Mini-Grants Awarded

After receiving proposals to address critical needs identified by residents in St. Francis and Leflore counties, the Communities of Opportunity (COO) initiative awarded several mini-grants to help citizens tackle the issues that are most important to them.

A total of \$85,000 was awarded to grantees in Morgan City, Quito, and Browning in Leflore County, Mississippi. Grants were awarded to support projects involving: cultural enrichment, education, health and wellness projects and education, and mosquito abatement and creating healthier environments.

A total of \$95,000 was awarded to grantees in Madison, Hughes, Wheatley, Widener, and Palestine in St. Francis County, Arkansas. Grants were awarded to support projects involving: street and drainage improvements to promote new housing developments and citizen safety, health and wellness projects and education, physical wellness, and beautification.



CELEBRATING PROGRESS

COMMUNITY LEADERS JOIN RESIDENTS FROM THE BUFORD CHERRY SUBDIVISION TO CELEBRATE THE PROGRESS MADE ON DEMOLISHING DILAPIDATED HOUSING STOCK IN FORREST CITY, AR.



YOU CAN'T **BE THERE** TO TEACH
HIM THE BLUES,
BUT YOU CAN SUPPORT
THE PROGRAMS THAT **ARE.**

the Raised Up Right Fund



RAISED UP RIGHT FUNDRAISER
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2006
233 NORTH MICHIGAN AVE.
CHICAGO, IL
5–8 P.M.

On June 7, the annual Raised Up Right Fundraiser, dubbed *Back to the Blues*, will be held in Chicago, Illinois, in the plaza outside of 233 North Michigan Avenue. The event will benefit the Raised Up

Right Fund and will raise money to provide grants in 2006 to nonprofit organizations working to improve the outlook and opportunities for children in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. One hundred percent of the proceeds from the event will be used to support these innovative and under-resourced programs.

Back to the Blues will feature the music of the Delta Blues Museum's Arts and Education Program Band—one of the 2005 Raised Up Right Fund grantees. This exceptional program teaches children in Clarksdale, Mississippi, to play the Blues and the importance of

passing the rich tradition of this uniquely Southern art form on to the next generation and beyond. To say the least, these kids will amaze and delight anyone, regardless of musical preference. They are truly something to see *and* hear.

Join the Expatriates Network of Chicago for delicious Southern cuisine, tasty Blues licks, and the satisfaction that the cost of your ticket will help a program in the Mid South serve a disadvantaged child who desperately needs it. Or if you are unable to attend, consider making a donation online to the Raised Up Right Fund at www.fndmidsouth.org. ●●●

MORE THAN SOCIAL

EXPATRIATES ARE INVESTING IN SOCIAL **CHANGE**

Since forming two years ago, the Expatriates Network of Chicago has received both inspiration and motivation through the efforts of the BrazilFoundation—a nonprofit that mobilizes resources and talent from Brazilian expatriates living in New York to improve social conditions in Brazil. Essentially, the BrazilFoundation’s work was the catalyst that brought a group of Mid South expatriates together in Chicago to form a formal network. Primarily through the generosity of Mid South expatriates, the Chicago network established the Raised Up Right Fund at the Foundation for the Mid South to provide grants to innovative nonprofit organizations in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi serving disadvantaged children.

Finally in March, the two organizations met face to face for the first time to make introductions, share ideas, and learn from the other group’s experiences. Lorelei Williams from the BrazilFoundation visited with the Chicago

network about their work. “The BrazilFoundation acts as a bridge between the U.S. and Brazil,” she said. “We communicate the reality and the needs in Brazil to expatriates in New York, and raise funds to support social programs throughout the country.”

She also commented on their success in tapping new people and resources to help back home. “Most of the donations,” Lorelei explained, “come from individuals and socially responsible corporations in the United States who care about the disparities facing nearly 90% of Brazil’s population.” Some of the strategies used to bring awareness and resources to the BrazilFoundation include a wildly successful annual gala / fundraiser and regular, intimate living room gatherings that Brazilian expatriates host in their homes.

“Since the beginning of our network, we have been impressed with the BrazilFoundation’s ability to link expats and their resources back to the critical social issues affecting their former homes,” said Gaynell Malone, chair of the Expatriates Network of Chicago advisory board. She continued, “It was so meaningful to finally meet the staff and share ideas and ask questions. While our focus is to continue to expand our network in Chicago, we’ve progressed to the point where the Foundation for the Mid South can use the Chicago model to create similar networks in other cities throughout the country.”

As the Foundation for the Mid South continues to refine its expatriates outreach program, the success of the BrazilFoundation reinforces the importance and potential of groups like the Expatriates Network of Chicago to affect social change.



AT THE CROSSROADS

EXPATRIATES NETWORK OF CHICAGO
IN CLARKSDALE, MS, DURING A TOUR OF NON-
PROFITS IN THE MID SOUTH.



MAKING THE GRADE

HELEN LATTIMORE REVIEWS A CHILD’S
COMPUTER PROJECT AT THE FORREST
CITY CYBER CAFE IN ARKANSAS.



EXPAT CHAT

LORELEI WILLIAMS FROM THE
BRAZILFOUNDATION VISITS WITH EXPATS
AT A MEETING IN CHICAGO.

the POWER OF HOPE

\$4.2 MILLION AWARDED TO HELP FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES REBUILD

In March, the Foundation for the Mid South and Entergy Corporation announced the final grant disbursements to hurricane victims from the Power of Hope Fund. The fund was established just days after Hurricane Katrina made landfall along the Gulf Coast and devastated many areas where Entergy is the primary utility provider. On the heels of one of the costliest disasters in recent history, Hurricane Rita followed and dramatically added to the hundreds of thousands of Mid Southerners who were already homeless, displaced, or desperately needing some kind of assistance.

Entergy Corporation seeded the Power of Hope Fund with an initial investment of \$1 million to benefit Entergy customers and employees and requested that the Foundation for the Mid South manage and administer the fund. The fund was intended to help those—particularly uninsured or under-insured, low-income individuals and families—in Louisiana, Mississippi, and southeast Texas begin to make repairs to their homes. After raising an

additional \$2.6 million from various energy corporations and individual donors from around world, Entergy contributed an additional \$613,500 to the fund to provide grant opportunities to nonprofit organizations operating in their service area.

With a total of \$4.2 million available, the Power of Hope Fund provided \$3.6 million in grants ranging between \$500 and \$10,000 to over 4,000 individuals and families. In addition, 67 nonprofit organizations that provide direct services to hurricane victims also received grants totaling \$613,500. Grants were awarded on the basis of need, subject to the availability of funds.

“As our communities continue on the road to recovery, Entergy is proud to do its part in helping our employees and our customers rebuild their lives,” said Patty Riddlebarger, Entergy Corporation Director of Corporate Social Responsibility. “Thanks to many generous donors, our neighbors and friends are getting help to make a new start.”

The Power of Hope Fund was administered by the Foundation for the Mid South, which processed, reviewed, and evaluated approximately 30,000 applications. With such an overwhelming number of applications to process and only a staff of fifteen, the Foundation trained local law school graduate students to assist in reviewing and ranking the requests. Additionally, the Foundation for the Mid South waived all administrative fees making certain that 100 percent of all funds raised went directly to those in need.

“The Foundation for the Mid South is honored to have managed the Power of Hope Fund for Entergy—one of our most generous and faithful supporters,” said Foundation president, Dr. Ivey Allen. “With so many in need, it was crucial that the grants process was put in place quickly after the storms, but—just as importantly—that it took into account the socio-economic and equity issues that are critical in helping the region rebuild better than it was before.”



Foundation board and staff join representatives from Entergy in presenting Power of Hope Fund awards.

NEWS BITS & PIECES

OTHER HAPPENINGS AROUND THE FOUNDATION FOR THE MID SOUTH

THE FMS STAFF LEND A HAND AND A HAMMER TO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

The Foundation for the Mid South staff recently spent a day participating in Habitat for Humanity's *New Neighbor Blitz* in Jackson, Mississippi. The purpose of the project was to construct ten new homes on Elm Street and eight new homes on Hunt Street for victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita who now reside in Jackson.

The day began with a prayer from Bishop Ronnie Crudup and then over sixty volunteers rolled up their sleeves and got to work. The occasional afternoon shower did not dampen the spirits of the group that consisted of volunteers who traveled from as far as California and Maine to lend a helping hand.

Foundation staff spent most of their time priming walls, staining cabinets, and caulking doors and baseboards in houses that had been constructed earlier in the week. "I arrived home tired, but with the wonderful feeling that I had a hand in a new start for a family here in Jackson," said Necole Irvin, special projects officer for the Foundation. "Projects like the *New Neighbor Blitz* are so worthwhile, and I urge anyone who wishes to help in their community or in the hurricane recovery efforts in the Mid South to contact Habitat for Humanity and find out how to volunteer."

To learn more about the *New*

Neighbor Blitz contact the Habitat for Humanity office at 601.353.6060 ext. 204 or visit <www.habitatjackson.org>.



FMS WINS AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING COMMUNICATIONS

The Foundation for the Mid South has been named both a Gold and Bronze award winner for excellence in communications by the 2006 Wilmer Shields Rich Awards Program. Sponsored by the Council on Foundations, the awards program recognizes effective communications efforts to increase public awareness of foundations and corporate giving programs. FMS received the Gold for its special report *Where Hope and History Rhyme: Reflections and Findings from the Mid South Commission to Build Philanthropy* and the Bronze award for its magazine *the Bridge—Special Edition* that concentrated on the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

"We are extremely grateful to be recognized for our efforts to share our work with the people of the Mid South, our donors, and those who care about this region," said Chris Crothers, director of communications for the Foundation. "We are very passionate about the work that we do at

FMS, so it is exciting to be noticed among so many outstanding national organizations and the fabulous work that they produce."

This year 255 entries were submitted to the awards program. The awards were presented at the 57th Annual Conference of the Council on Foundations in Pittsburgh on May 7, 2006.



Tanya Ray, Communities of Opportunity assistant, volunteered for Habitat for Humanity's 'New Neighbor Blitz' and suggested that the hammer is sometimes mightier than the pen.



2005 CONTRIBUTORS

WHAT YOU DO TRULY MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS

thanks y'all

2005 ANNUAL FUND

\$25,000+

Entergy Corporation
The New York Community Trust
R.E. Lee Wilson Trust
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

\$10,000 – \$24,999

AmSouth Bank
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Mississippi
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\$5,000 – \$9,999

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\$1,000 – \$4,999

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**Our employees in [our]
communities are
witnessing the fruits
of the Foundation's labor
first-hand. We're honored
to play a role in the
organization's success.**

Ronnie Smith
AmSouth's Mississippi area executive

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:

FMS Endowment
African American Philanthropy Fund
Communities of Opportunity
The Delta Fund
Mid South IDA Initiative
Raised Up Right Fund
Visionary Leadership Institute

\$100,000+

Entergy Corporation
The Ford Foundation
W. K. Kellogg Foundation
Lilly Endowment
Walton Family Foundation

\$10,000 – \$99,999

BancorpSouth
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**Please use [my donation]
 in whatever way you can
 to help the treasure of
 humanity in the Mid South
 to rebuild their lives and
 their communities.**

Barbara Greene, Belfair, WA

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\$1 Million+

Walton Family Foundation
 Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

\$100,000 – \$999,999

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 St. Joseph Health System Foundation
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