

From Katrina, to Rita, & Beyond



October 3, 2005 — Within days of Hurricane Katrina, RI deployed emergency response teams to Baton Rouge where they immediately set-up local headquarters and established a warehouse for the receiving and distributing of donations. As Hurricane Rita gathered strength off the Gulf Coast, RI teams still working throughout southeastern Louisiana, again transitioned into emergency mode to assist affected populations. RI is now developing long term recovery programs & will include shelter construction and educational assistance.



Emergency Relief

In the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, thousands were left homeless, entire communities were rendered inhabitable, & outlying cities swelled to twice their normal populations.

In response, RI's Mobile Distribution Units have been bringing specifically requested supplies directly into communities that do not have transportation or access to area distribution centers. Subsequently, RI has assisted more than 10,000 hurricane survivors both directly and indirectly.



Amongst those RI has ministered to, more than 4,500 have been children. RI is specifically addressing the needs of children through the distribution of 20,000 teddy bears & through its Kid Kits program. Kid Kits provide displaced kids with a backpack filled with school supplies, toys, hygiene items and non-perishable snacks in an effort to provide them psycho-social support.



Bridging the Gap to Recovery

Relief International believes that the participation of local communities in their own recovery is critical for the long-term success & sustainability of a program. Already as RI's Baton Rouge team is looking into creative ways to help local communities restore what they lost and improve infrastructures & systems which were in decline.

With more than 15 years of international program implementation and emergency response experience, RI understands and values the importance of keeping the recovery process in local hands. To this end, RI is building relationships with local NGOs and State organizations and is working with them to help hurricane-affected peoples restore their lives. From kids & educational programs to displaced survivors and cash-for-work programs, RI is listening to the needs of the people as it moves forward with the recovery effort.



DONATE NOW!

Hurricane Survivors need your help as they begin to rebuild their communities and lives! Donate now as RI develops and implements long term programs in affected areas such as education and community development.

Our Mission: *RI's mission is to assist disaster victims worldwide without concern for race, ethnicity or religious background. RI bridges the gap from the relief phase to disaster recovery and rehabilitation. RI's programs of assistance include food, health, shelter, education, community development and income generation. www.ri.org*