

NYRAG's Gulf Coast Recovery Task Force presents

***Philanthropy & the Faith Community:
Opportunities for Collaboration in Disaster Recovery and
Beyond***

**Co-Sponsored by Middle Collegiate Church and the Twenty-First Century
Foundation**

Thursday, June 12th at NYRAG: 79 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY

8:30 AM: Registration and Breakfast

9:00 AM to 12 noon: Program

12 noon to 1PM: Informal Networking Lunch

Registration: register@nyrag.org

Information: dianajcrawford@yahoo.com

This event will focus upon opportunities for collaboration and cooperation between the faith-based and the philanthropic communities in a post-disaster environment, and will highlight existing innovative partnerships that have benefited hurricane-affected communities in the Gulf Coast through programs that focus upon social justice, community development, advocacy, and the mental health needs of disaster survivors.

Program

According to the National Council of Churches (NCC), over \$160 Million was collected for Gulf Coast recovery by eighteen NCC reporting denominations in the first year after the storms. Approximately \$37.1 Million was disbursed by NCC entities for recovery activities during this same period, with over \$100 million set aside for longer term strategic projects. Many faith-based agencies also responded to the disaster by sending teams of volunteers to directly interact with survivors, providing immediate humanitarian aid via the provision of relief kits, food, clothing, gift cards, or supplies for gutting and repairing homes with minor damage.

Both the philanthropic and faith communities have worked diligently in the Gulf Coast region to advance equitable recovery and transformation since Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, yet collaboration between the two communities has been infrequent, and awareness of the level of investment in the region by faith-based organizations is often under-appreciated.

In many regions across the country, faith-based organizations are the cornerstones of our communities—particularly in those areas with predominantly minority, elderly, or poor populations. The central role played by faith-based organizations in these communities means that existing networks are often in place to encourage communication between community members and to distribute basic necessities in times of need—systems that can be utilized in times of disaster to aid relief and recovery efforts.

The opportunity exists for the philanthropic community to collaborate with the faith community to assist in the pre-disaster formalization of many of these systems, and to provide immediate assistance post-disaster to enable faith communities to respond immediately and effectively to the needs of their communities. Please join us at this NYRAG event where presenters will discuss the role of the faith community during 3 phases of disaster recovery: immediate relief,

community recovery, and transformative rebuilding; and opportunities for collaboration with the philanthropic community.

Presenters