Hands On Gulf Coast: Resource Guide

Ongoing

Generated November 28, 2026 · 4 open facilities · closed facilities are not listed · call before you go: details change quickly

CA

Architecture for Humanity

Info/Hotline · Open

Non–Profit Disaster Relief/Humanitarean Outreach

900 Bridgeway, Sausalito, CA 94965

Phone 415–332–6273
Web www.architectureforhumanity.org

Architecture for Humanity is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization founded in 1999 to promote architectural and design solutions to global, social and humanitarian crises. Through competitions, workshops, educational forums, partnerships with aid organizations and other activities, Architecture for Humanity creates opportunities for architects and designers from around the world to help communities in need. We believe that where resources and expertise are scarce, innovative, sustainable and collaborative design can make a difference.

The organization is currently providing design services and funding for reconstruction in India and Sri Lanka following the devastating tsunami that struck South–East Asia in December 2004 as well as on the Gulf Coast of the United States after Hurricane Katrina.

In addition to implementing design initiatives and competitions, Architecture for Humanity supports humanitarian–directed design through advocacy. To that end, we have consulted with government bodies and relief organizations on a number of projects, including mine clearance programs and playground building in the Balkans; earthquake resistant construction techniques in Turkey and Iran; school building in Calcutta; refugee housing on the borders of Afghanistan and responding to Hurricane Ivan, Emily and Katrina. We have also provided referrals and advice to a number of organizations, including Oprah's Angel Network, African Regional Youth Initiative, Kansas City Economic Development Corporation, Kids With Cameras, Habitat for Humanity, Common Ground, UN Habitat, and others.

Finally, through exhibitions, media attention, conferences and forums, we foster public appreciation for the many ways that architecture and design can improve lives.

Architecture for Humanity is sponsoring the design and construction of a number of demonstration homes in East Biloxi. This fully–funded pilot program aims to assist families committed to rebuilding on their property by pairing them with architects, engineers and design professionals and others who can help them answer such basic questions as: Is it safe to rebuild on my lot? How will the new flood map elevations and building codes affect me? And, if I rebuild, what can I afford to build?

Families will be paired with a team of professional designers who will work with them one–on–one to design a new home for their property that will not only be affordable but will also be sustainable and meet the area's new building requirements. The pilot program is unique in that it offers families the opportunity to work one on one with architects and design professionals giving them access to expertise and design talent. Architecture for Humanity launched the program with a House Fair, where families were able to meet and choose the design firm of their choice.

Services offered: Construction, Design/Architecture Services; Construction, Rebuilding, Volunteer Services; Housing, Volunteer Housing * (ANY/ALL Types); Meals, Volunteers, Meals for Volunteers; Volunteer Opportunities, International; Volunteers, Groups of Volunteers (This facility accomodates Groups of Volunteers); Volunteers, Individual Volunteers (This facility

accomodates Individuals Volunteers)
Campaigns: Hands On Gulf Coast
Updated Sep 23, 2007 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/1732

MS

Women in Construction (at the Moore Community House)

Info/Hotline · Open

Employment Training/Services
684 Walker St., Biloxi, MS 39530

Phone 228–228–297–0965
Contact Julie Kuklinski
Email julie.womeninconstruction@gmail.com
Web www.moorecommunityhouse.org/womenconstructt.html
Service Temporary

Date: Mon, 17 May 2010 12:34:09 –0500 [05/17/2010 05:34PM UTC]

Dear Friends,

You are cordially invited to the commencement ceremonies for the 7th graduating class of Moore Community House's Women in Construction program. We hope you will join us in celebration of the accomplishments of this beautifully fun and inspiring group of women on May 28, 2010 at 4pm. Please be reminded that the ceremonies will be held at our new permanent location at Moore Community House, 684 Walker St., Biloxi, MS. Invitations are attached and please feel free to invite anyone who would be interested in joining us on this special day.

We hope to see you there!

Julie and Johnny

From the website:

BACKGROUND

The idea for a women in construction project on the Gulf Coast originated with Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW)––a national organization committed to increasing the number of women involved in nontraditional occupations and helping women attain economic self–sufficiency. WOW saw a unique opportunity on the MS Gulf Coast for low–income women to increase their earning potential by helping to meet the demand for skilled workers rebuilding after Hurricane Katrina.

WOW identified Moore to tackle the challenge of developing construction training and associated social and workplace supports for women entering this nontraditional field. With a planning grant from Oxfam, MCH surveyed needs and resources, meeting with overwhelmingly positive responses to the project. A start–up grant from the Women's Fund in Jackson propelled the pilot training session in January 2008

Nationally, women represent only 4 percent of the building trade workforce,. So no one expected that it would be easy to incorporate women into the rebuilding of the Gulf Coast, .But the wave of female faces on Coast construction sites has opened the door for other women to enter the field.

MCH actively recruits participants for its WinC project. Construction training is provided through a partnership with the Hope Community Development Agency, a nonprofit that rebuilds homes in east Biloxi. Through this partnership, our students serve as construction workers for Hope and get on–the–job training ,while together they rebuild homes in the community!

WinC complements traditional training with stipends for child care and transportation; support groups; mentoring, resiliency coaching, job placement assistance, and supplemental classes designed to breach barriers that have historically prevented women from participating in construction trades

Services offered: Advocacy, * (ANY/ALL Types); Air Compressor; Assistance, Referrals, Employment & Job Resources; Assistance, Referrals, Job Placement; Counseling, Career Counseling; Demographic Served: Low Income Folks, Women Only; Demographic Served: Unemployed; Facility: Job Center; Jobs, Paying; Services, Educational Services (See also Category for School); Services, Employment, Internship Program; Training * (ANY/ALL Types of Instruction) ; Training Classes, Construction, Building Skills; Training Classes, Construction Skills Training; Training Classes, Life Skills, Misc.; Training Classes, Trade Skills, Training; Training Classes, Vocational; Training, Services, Employment /JobTraining ; Youth, Leadership Development; Youth, Mentor Program; Youth Program
Campaigns: Habitat For Humanity; Hands On Gulf Coast; YouthBuild
Updated May 18, 2010 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/5876

International Relief and Development – (IRD) Gulf Coast Community Services Center

Walk–in Resource · Open

Disaster Recovery/Community

1223 30th Ave Gulfport, MS 39501, Gulfport, MS 39501

Phone	(228) 864–6677
Contact	IRD, Gulf Coast Community Services Center
Web	www.ird.org
Hours	Mon – Fri, 8:00–5:00
Serves	Harrison, Hancock only
Eligibility	Varies depending on programs. Please see notes.
Bring	Please call for more information
Checks payable to	IRD US
Service	Permanent

U.S. Gulf Coast — September 12, 2008 — As Hurricane Ike bears down on the Gulf Coast, IRD is preparing to provide case management and other assistance to those in its path. Staff from IRD's Gulfport–based Gulf Coast Community Service Center is already in Baton Rouge to assist with Gustav response. drawing on the experience from providing case management services to victims of Hurricane Katrina for the past three years.

Your donation will help us bring emergency relief to the victims of this disaster.

The IRD Gulf Coast Community Service Center (GCCSC) has been rebuilding the lives of the citizens of the Mississippi Gulf Coast since October 2005, opening its doors a little more than one month following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. The goal of the Center is to reach out to the community and assist in the organization and facilitation of an often–difficult recovery process. Located in West Gulfport, the Center serves the entire Mississippi Gulf Coast, representing most of the Coastal cities as well as the three Coastal counties.

The GCCSC began it work on the Gulf Coast by administering emergency relief, but has transitioned its services to focus on sustainable, long–term recovery. The Center was one of the first agencies in the area administering needs assessments and mapping the most affected areas. The goal of the multi–faceted needs assessment and community mapping process conducted by the Center was to identify potential applicants for assistance following the hurricane. As the recovery cycle progressed from assessing needs to managing needs on an individual basis, the GCCSC has changed its focus to assisting citizens in need through case management. Case managers facilitate the recovery process for survivors by identifying ways to maximize their access to community resources.

The Center hosts a walk–in center for assessments administered by the Harrison County Long Term Recovery Coalition (LTRC), and has developed a resource guide printed by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide to other relief agencies as a reference.

The Center also provides financial counseling to hurricane victims and MDA Phase II grant recipients seeking to purchase or rebuild homes through funding from the Enterprise Corporation of the Delta. This counseling not only prepares beneficiaries for homeownership, but gives them tools for long–term financial security. And in partnership with the Mennonite Economic Development Association (MEDA), the Center will create and manage a micro–enterprise capital fund which will finance start–up businesses along the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Additionally, the GCCSC will support the development of an open–air market in its Gulfport neighborhood.

IRD also participates in YouthBuild, a program that provides comprehensive programs for vocational development, workforce training and career counseling with Gulf Coast youth. YouthBuild teaches local at–risk high school students how to assist in rebuilding homes while helping them get their GED.

Helping people rebuild their lives, their relationships, and their sense of self–sufficiency, is equally as important to their long–term recovery and that of their communities as their physical needs. It is the human side of recovery that the GCCSC addresses, for thousands of Katrina survivors.

Services:

1)Case management for Katrina survivors. Eligibility: affected by the hurricane and still have unmet needs

2) Fincancial Counseling. Eligibility: Open to everyone

3) Housing Counseling. Eligibility: Open to everyone

4) Youth Build Program will start in January. Eligibility: youth ages 16 to 24 who do not have a high school diploma/GED

Applications are still being accepted for Katrina survivors and programs. To obtain an application: Monday – Thursday 9:00 – 3:00

Services offered: Advocacy, Disabled/Handicapped; Animals, Rescue, Disaster Response Teams, Pets, Volunteer; Assistance * (ANY Type of: Referrals or "How to" Assistance); Assistance, How to, Navigate Disaster Relief Resources; Assistance, Referrals * General Information & Referral; Assistance, Referrals, Housing, Disabled, Accessible Housing Referrals for Disabled; Assistance, Referrals, Housing, Housing Referrals (For Seniors/Elders); Assistance, Referrals, Housing, Housing Resource Referrals; Case Management, Disabled/Handicapped; Case Management, Hurricane Survivors; Case Management, * (Providers of ANY Type of Case Management); Case Management, Seniors/Elders; Demographic Served: Survivors, Natural Disaster

Impacted Communities; Disaster Damage Assessments for Disaster Managers; Financial Assistance, Case Management for Financial Matters; Financial Assistance, ** Financial Assistance (ANY/ALL Types); Grants * (ANY/ALL Types of Financial Grants); Grants, Post Disaster (For Rent/Belongings/Home Repairs/Rebuilding, etc.); Services, Disaster Recovery ; Support for "All" Disasters; Training * (ANY/ALL Types of Instruction) ; Training Classes, Construction Skills Training; Training Classes, Education, 1st Time Home Buyer Education; Training Classes, GED Preparation; Training Classes, Vocational; Volunteer Opportunities, In General * (ANY/ALL Types); Volunteers, Groups of Volunteers (This facility accomodates Groups of Volunteers); Volunteers, Individual Volunteers (This facility accomodates Individuals Volunteers); Youth Outreach; Youth Program

Campaigns: 2005 Hurricane Katrina; 2008 Hurricane Gustav; 2008 Hurricane Ike; American Red Cross / Int'l Federation of RC / ICRC / IFRC; Americorp VISTA (Volunteers In Service To America); Catholic Charities; Catholic Charities Social Services; Church of Christ Disaster Relief Effort; CWS ~ Church World Service; Gifts in Kind; Government, FEMA / Department of Homeland Security; Government, FEMA, DRC (Disaster Recovery Center); Government, US Deptartment of Housing & Urban Development (HUD); Habitat For Humanity; Hands On Gulf Coast; Hands On Network; LTRC, Long Term Recovery Committee; Lutheran Episcopal Services of Mississippi; Lutheran Social Services Disaster Response; Mennonite Disaster Service; Operation Blessing; Presbyterian Disaster Assistance; Salvation Army; Samaritan's Purse; Society of St. Vincent de Paul; UMCOR Relief Network; United Methodist Disaster Response; United Way; VOAD, NVOAD (National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster), Associate Member/Informal Affiliation; VOAD, NVOAD (National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster – this org is a member); VOAD – Voluntary Organizations Active In Disaster (this Org is a State Level Member); Volunteers of America; World Renew (also known as CRWRC–DRS ~ Christian Reformed World Relief Committee–Disaster Response Services; World Vision; YMCA/YWCA

Updated Jan 27, 2012 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/1790

Worldwide

Useful Document/Guidance: Roles for Volunteers (from HandsOn)

Info/Hotline · Open

Disaster Information

Web handsonblog.org/2010/08/25/volunteer–disaster–relief–3
Service Temporary

1. Disaster Response Coordinator:

Regularly attends local emergency management meetings and affiliates the coordinating agency with the local Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), Interfaith or other local disaster coalition. Educates the member organizations of the VOAD or Interfaith regarding the coordinating agency's (CA) role of referring unaffiliated volunteers to them during disaster recovery. Gathers information from VOAD members about anticipated disaster volunteer needs and then builds a network of civic, fraternal and other groups to encourage their members to affiliate with a local disaster response organization. Develops a disaster volunteer referral plan and gathers supplies needed to open a volunteer reception center— identifies location for reception center; arranges transportation of needed equipment; recruits, trains and orients volunteer staff to help operate the reception center. Develops a plan to transport volunteers from the reception center to the worksites.

2. Coordinating Agency Member:

Works with the disaster response coordinator to register, refer and document unaffiliated disaster volunteers. Develops a public information plan for letting potential spontaneous volunteers know how they can get involved before a disaster occurs. Engages local businesses in planning to donate goods and services to future response and recovery efforts.

3. Disaster Information Developer/Distributor:

Helps to create information material in various disaster preparedness areas for family, youth, seniors, etc. This can include individual, family and community preparedness. Distributes materials to appropriate audiences.

4. Needs Assessment Conductor:

Assesses the hazards and mitigation needs of the community and then communicates them to the Disaster Resistant Community Planning Committee so it can address those needs.

5. Capacity Builder for Reconstruction:

Makes the appropriate partnerships with corporations and organizations involved in construction to ensure effective clean up and rebuilding for recovery efforts.

6. Financial Advisor/Representative:

Takes necessary actions to evaluate potential mitigation and disaster recovery costs and then seeks out methods of fundraising and partnership development to help pay for mitigation and disaster efforts.
Preparedness Roles

7. Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T) Volunteer:

Assists others in their neighborhoods or workplaces following an event and can take a more active role in preparing their communities. Understands basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, and disaster medical operations. Gives critical support to first responders, provides immediate assistance to victims and organizes spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site. Helps improve the safety of the community before disasters happen.

8. Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T) Trainer:

Completes Train–the–Trainer course conducted by the state training office for emergency management or the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Emergency Management Institute (EMI) in Emmitsburg, MD. Studies disaster preparedness, disaster fire suppression, basic disaster medical operations, and light search and rescue operations and educates C.E.R.T. volunteers.

9. Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Volunteer:

Coordinates with existing local emergency response programs and supplements existing community public health initiatives, such as outreach and prevention, immunization programs, blood drives, case management, care planning and other efforts. May deliver necessary public health services during a crisis, assist emergency response teams with patients, or provide care directly to those with less–serious injuries and other health–related issues.

10. Neighborhood Watch Program Volunteer:

Completes training about terrorism awareness and the existing crime prevention mission and aims to bring residents together to focus on emergency preparedness and emergency response training.

11. Volunteer in Police Service (VIPS):

Helps supplement and support officers and civilian personnel by allowing them to concentrate on their primary duties. May perform clerical tasks, serve as an extra set of "eyes and ears," assist with search and rescue activities, and write citations for accessible parking violations. Helps the police department fulfill its duties in the event of a disaster.

12. Community Disaster Educator:

Helps keep families and individuals safe. Presents and distributes important disaster preparedness material at local health fairs and information booths and gives lectures and presentations to interested groups.
Response Roles

13. Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) Director:
Oversees the VRC operation. Clearly designates one entrance and one exit. Sets up the room for efficient flow of volunteers and information. Briefs and assigns tasks to staff and volunteers of the center. Monitors the operation and makes changes when necessary. Meets and thanks volunteers who help in the VRC and instructs them to sign in and out.

14. Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) Greeter:
Provides instruction sheets to volunteers, asks them to complete registration forms and gives them a brief orientation to the registration process.

15. Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) Interviewer:
Interviews volunteers and gives them referral forms. Explains where and to whom volunteers should report for duty.

16. Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) Data Coordinator and Entry Staff:
Records volunteer referrals and communicates, as needed, with requesting agencies so that when needs have been met, requests can be closed out. Enters Requests for Volunteers and Volunteer Registration Forms into the computer. Prints out updated lists of unfilled requests as needed.

17. Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) Volunteer Identification Staff:
Attaches wristbands volunteers that contain the volunteer's name, the agency or site to which the volunteer was referred, and the date(s) on which the volunteer expects to work.

18. Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) Safety Trainer:
Documents the attendance of each volunteer and presents a prepared safety briefing appropriate to the specific disaster event.

19. Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) Specific Job Trainer:
Provides specific job training to each worksite or function before volunteers depart for their work areas.

20. Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) Phone Bank Operator:
Takes calls from individuals and groups wishing to volunteer and from organizations needing volunteers. Records each call and posts information on the request board or forwards details to the data coordinator.

21. Public Information Officer:
Makes statements to the media about the center's operation. Serves as the only contact with media and should be a trained professional who only delivers information approved by the VRC director.

22. VRC Runner:
Attends to VRC stations that have raised a small flag summoning assistance. Posts new requests for volunteers on the request board, carries information from one station to another, escorts guests and delivers supplies to the stations.

23. Worksite Supervisor:
Maintains a supply of volunteer sign–in–sheets at each volunteer worksite. Conducts a safety briefing as each group of volunteers arrives, regarding the specific hazards at the site. Has all volunteers read the statement at the top of the sign–in sheet and sign in, recording their time of arrival and departure each day. Turns in all sign–in sheets to a designated supervisor who will turn them into the budget department.

24. Shelter Volunteer:
Helps with the operation of shelter needs.

25. Language Translator:
Translates disaster response and recovery information to individuals who do not understand English.

26. Transportation Driver/Dispatcher:
Helps people who have no reliable means of transportation get to and from medical appointments. Uses Red Cross vehicles to transport clients to and from area hospitals, physicians' offices and medical facilities. Coordinates appointments and schedules.

27. Volunteer Transportation Director:
Helps to put up road signs and clearly marked directions to worksites, donation warehouses and the reception center. Monitors control checkpoints where trucks and other transport vehicles may be inspected, scheduled, turned back or directed to a designated reception center, warehouse or distribution center.

28. Amateur Radio Operator:
Provides backup communications in the event of a failure of the government system. Supplements communications at large disasters and emergencies.

29. Animal Rescuer:
Helps evacuate and rescue deserted animals. Completes training in small and large animal handling and care.

30. Security Personnel:
Protects worksites from unauthorized visitors and protects victims and other citizens from violent behavior and outbreaks in times of disaster. Aids in police efforts.
Recovery Roles

31. Volunteer Disaster Damage Assessor:
Provides disaster damage assessment support to a large state or national disaster relief operation. Identifies and notes exterior damage to homes within 72 hours of the disaster. Completes appropriate forms, reports and records in a timely manner. Completes necessary training to stay up to date on changes in function. Participates in disaster preparedness exercises. Must be efficient, organized, observant, flexible, adaptable to change, accept direction and have attention to detail.

32. Heavy Equipment Operator:
Runs and operates heavy equipment as part of debris removal and reconstruction.

33. Debris Clean–up Crew:
Helps move debris off the streets to allow for traffic to pass through.

34. Construction Volunteer:
Helps in reconstruction efforts.

35. Food and Donations Distributor:
Helps distribute meals, clothing, etc., to victims of a disaster.

36. Disaster Health/Mental Health Volunteer:
Helps disaster victims and workers involved with the disaster relief effort with health–related emergencies and provides counseling in shelters, service centers and during home visits. Must be licensed professionals.

37. Warehouse Volunteer:
Sorts donated non–perishable food products and repacks it for distribution to emergency food providers in communities.

38. Donation Coordination Team Volunteer:
Manages donations phone bank. Processes offers from the public. Conducts donations intelligence. Works to include emerging relief organizations. Ensures effective logistics procedures are in place. Maintains a database on donated goods and services. Determines the needs of donations and services. Identify staging areas, distribution centers and ports of entry.

39. Donations Coordinator:
Works with the public information officer to plan and implement public awareness information. Coordinates with donations management and other state agencies as necessary. Ensures effective communications are in place. Determines best way to dispose of excess donations—recycle, redistributed or donated to other locations.

Originally published by the Points of Light Foundation. Revised by HandsOn Network in 2010.

Services offered: Disaster Relief System Development Guidance; Documentation, Disaster Planning; Documentation, Disaster Preparedness Guidance, Community Groups; Documentation, Disaster Recovery Process; Documentation, Disaster Relief Process, Community Groups; Documentation, Disaster Relief Process, Roles; Documentation, Disaster Relief Process, Supply

Management; Documentation, Volunteer Instructions; Documentation, Volunteer Management Guidance; Information Resource * (ANY/ALL Types); Information Resource, Booklets, Resource Materials for Volunteers; Information Resource, Disaster Prep, Governments/Community Groups; Information Resource, Disaster Prep, Relief Workers
Campaigns: Hands On Disaster Response; Hands On Gulf Coast; Hands On Network; Points of Light Foundation; VOAD, NVOAD (National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster), Associate Member/Informal Affiliation; VOAD, NVOAD (National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster – this org is a member); VOAD, NVOAD (National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster – this org is not a member, but is "affiliated"); VOAD (this org is not a member, but is "affiliated"); VOAD – Voluntary Organizations Active In Disaster (this Org is a Chapter Level Member); VOAD – Voluntary Organizations Active In Disaster (this Org is a State Level Member)
Updated Feb 18, 2011 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/7628