



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS
TO INITIATE LONG TERM RECOVERY PROGRAM
FOR VICTIMS OF HURRICANE KATRINA**

~ Services to provide access to permanent housing, child and medical care ~

TALLAHASSEE, FL - - The Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross, in partnership with multiple faith-based and community organizations today initiated efforts to begin a long term recovery program for victims of Hurricane Katrina who evacuated to the Big Bend Area.

The local Red Cross is spearheading the effort to provide displaced residents of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana long-term housing, child and medical care options for themselves and their families.

“The Long-Term Recovery Initiative will provide displaced residents access to permanent housing, programs and resources,” said Chris Floyd, Red Cross Emergency Services Director. “We are working closely with local and regional community partners to put these services together to help those impacted move forward with their lives.”

Since Hurricane Katrina’s landfall on August 29, the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross Service Center has helped register more than 900 displaced individuals and families with over \$800,000 in financial assistance; provided short-term housing for more than 170 families in local hotels; made available disaster health services to over 700 individuals and families; served almost 1,100 clients with disaster mental health counseling referral needs; and served a total of 10,132 meals and 22,523 snacks throughout the operational period.

The following partner agencies and organizations continue to deliver assistance to displaced persons in the Service Center:

- Agency for Workforce Innovation
- City of Tallahassee
- Department of Children and Families
- Leon County
- Leon County Health Department
- Tallahassee Ministerial Association

For more information about the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross contact (850) 878-6080 and visit www.tallytown.com/redcross/ds.

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