A MESSAGE FROM THE OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

How You Can Help Victims of Hurricane Katrina

Below are three ways in which you can help the OSU College of Education in assisting many of the young victims of Hurricane Katrina. 1.) COE will send a pod of supplies to Louisiana State University College of Education for distribution, 2.) Books and school supplies are needed for the children of hurricane evacuees being housed at Camp Gruber in Muskogee, and 3.) Tahlequah High School is needing donations for clothing for high school age hurricane evacuees who will be attending the school.

Donations of supplies for all of these causes can be taken to 106 Willard or you can send your donation directly to the specific cause.

For more information on donating, please contact Lance Millis or Bob Davis at 744-6350.
A special thank you goes out to Lance Millis, Judy Oehler-Stinnett and Mimi Ward for leading the organization of these efforts.

COE “Pod” to Take Supplies to Louisiana Hurricane Victims

The OSU College of Education will be collecting school supplies to send to the Louisiana State University College of Education for young hurricane victims. Also needed are toys and clothing for children under 4. These items will be sent in a pod which will soon be placed on the campus grounds to accept outside donations. Please bring your school supplies, clothing and toys to 106 Willard.

A Message to Dean Fry from Louisiana State University College of Education Dean Jayne Fleener: We've doubled our population in Baton Rouge and are still enrolling college students from the NO universities. The K-12 situation is not easy since all major facilities are being used for displaced families and relief efforts. We just don't have the room for all of the kids!

We are, however, trying to open a charter school (downtown), a “bridge school” (tuition based with our lab school), and are working with the East Baton Rouge Schools. It would be extremely helpful if you wanted to send the supplies here. We are working closely with the Baton Rouge Area Foundation and the International Rescue Committee. Right now, our biggest obstacle is lack of information. We don't know where people are (some are in shelters but many are staying with family and friends). Our dorms are also places where parents and siblings have moved in and our basketball arena and field house are triage locations for the evacuees. It is like a MASH unit - we hear the helicopters come in and the ambulances go out.

Anyway, we appreciate anything you can do. Thanks for thinking of us. For questions or more information, contact Mark Goodson at: mgoods1@lsu.edu.

M. Jayne Fleener, Ph.D., E.B. “Ted” Robert Professor and Dean
College of Education, Louisiana State University

Books Needed for Children at Camp Gruber

Plans for the establishment of a library for Camp Gruber are underway. New or “Gently Used Books” and periodicals are being sought. Library materials can be dropped off at the Muskogee Public Schools Transportation Department. Ms. Anne Henry, Director of Transportation, is organizing the effort. Her number is 684-3730 Ext. 5012.

Children’s books can also be designated as “gifts”. These would be given directly to the children of Camp Gruber to keep as their own. The “Fill the Bus Campaign” is still underway. School supplies can be dropped off at the Muskogee Public Schools Department of Transportation.

Items appropriate for K-8 students would be very much appreciated. There will be a need for specific items in the future. These are not known at this time. We appreciate your willingness to reach out and touch the lives of these children.

God Bless,
Cynthia (Cindy) Heupel, Public Relations Staff Assistant
Muskogee Public Schools, 202 West Broadway, Muskogee, OK 74401
918-684-3700 Ext. 1642

COE Scholastic Book Fair Can Benefit Young Hurricane Victims

To assist with the relief effort for student victims of Hurricane Katrina, COE is collecting books for children of all ages. The scholastic book fair is September 8 - September 15 in Willard Hall on the 1st floor outside room 102. If every administrator, faculty, and staff purchased and donated one book, we could reach many children. For faculty who teach, we could share what we are doing and let students know that they are welcome to contribute as well. Book donations can be left in room 106.

Books for the children at Camp Gruber may be left in 106 Willard.

Tahlequah High School Seeks Aid in Clothes for Evacuees

Our district is honored to have the opportunity to serve students who are evacuees from hurricane Katrina. We have offered educational services for students in grades 10-12 who are currently housed at Camp Gruber. While we do not yet know exactly, we estimate 50 - 60 of these students will be attending Tahlequah High School. As a community we want to contribute to the well-being of these kids in any way possible. What we do know about them is that they are displaced, in a stressful situation, and it will take all of us to provide these children with the wholesome environment they will require.

These students will come to us with many needs. We are working on raising funds to help meet the clothing needs of the students who come to us. Even though Camp Gruber has been inundated with used clothing, we all know how important it is for students to choose their own clothes and look good to their peers.

Our district has a Clothing Bus Activity Account to purchase clothing for students. We would like to have enough in that account by this weekend that we can let these students shop for their own new clothes.

If you would like to donate, just make your check out to, “TPS Clothing Bus Account” and send it to Tahlequah Public Schools., attn: Danny Mason, P.O. Box 517, Tahlequah, OK, 74465.

We really don't have time to organize fund raising activities, so we're just asking for donations. If you have questions, e-mail me at jordanb@tailequah.k12.ok.us

Thank you for helping welcome these students into Tahlequah Public Schools, providing them with the best educational experience Oklahoma has to offer!

Sincerely,
Billie Jordan, Assistant Superintendent, Tahlequah, Ok

Donations for the students at Tahlequah High School may be taken to 106 Willard.