

Giving in the Aftermath of the 2005 Gulf Coast Hurricanes

Profile of the Ongoing Foundation and Corporate Response (2007–2009)

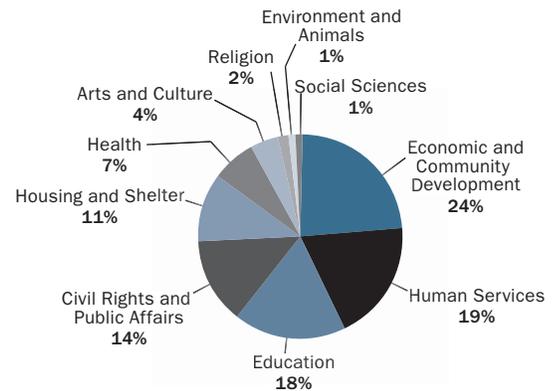
By Loren Renz, Senior Researcher for Special Projects

In August 2006, the Foundation Center released a report tracking the initial response of foundation and corporate funders to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. In August 2007, the Center released the most comprehensive report available on the resources that institutional donors had provided in response to the hurricanes, along with the findings from interviews of leading funders on the long-term challenges they faced.¹ The following update, prepared for the 4th anniversary of the disaster, provides an estimate of support for relief, recovery, and rebuilding through July 31, 2009. It also examines the priorities of more than 100 independent, corporate, and community foundations that have remained engaged in the region in the latest few years—from spurring economic development to protecting civil rights to assisting the arts community—and provides examples of recent foundation commitments and of the organizations they supported.

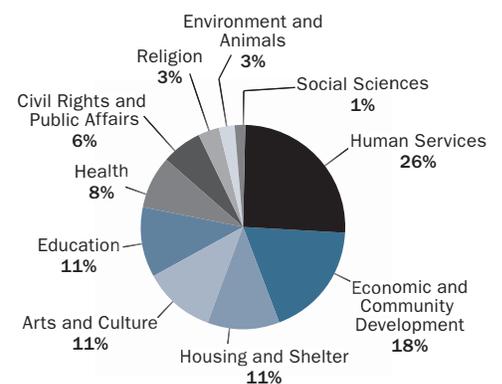
Overview of Response Funding (2005–2009)

- ◆ As of July 2009, the Foundation Center had tracked more than \$1 billion in grants and program-related investments (PRIs) from foundations, corporations, and other institutional donors for relief, recovery, and long-term rebuilding efforts in the aftermath of the 2005 Gulf Coast hurricanes Katrina and Rita. When corporate in-kind gifts are included, total institutional response giving related to these hurricanes rises to nearly \$1.3 billion.
- ◆ The vast majority of the more than \$1 billion in grants and PRI support was pledged in the 16 months following the disaster. Nevertheless, private and community foundations awarded roughly \$133 million for ongoing recovery and rebuilding efforts from the start of 2007 through mid-2009, including \$125 million in cash gifts and almost \$8 million in the form of loans and other PRIs.
- ◆ Foundations, corporations, and other institutional donors reported a total of more than 5,300 commitments through July 2009, including nearly 450 grants and PRIs awarded by private and community foundations after 2006.

2005 Gulf Coast Hurricanes Response: Ongoing Foundation Funding by Major Subject (2007–2009)



Total Giving = \$124.9 million



Total Number of Gifts = 438

Source: The Foundation Center, August 2009. Figures based on grants reported to the Center through July 31, 2009. Due to rounding figures may not add up to 100 percent.

To download previous Foundation Center reports on giving in the aftermath of the Gulf Coast hurricanes, visit foundationcenter.org/gainknowledge/research/specialtrends.

Ongoing Response Funding (2007-2009): Where the Dollars Went and Who Benefited

In the immediate aftermath of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the largest share of foundation and corporate cash giving—over 40 percent—was committed to providing much-needed relief through a broad range of human services. The other principal areas of support were education (10 percent), housing and shelter (6 percent), health (4 percent), and economic and community development (3 percent). The following analysis reveals the shifting priorities of 112 independent, corporate, and community foundations that provided new or ongoing support in response to the hurricanes between January 2007 and July 2009. This additional grant support, which totaled \$125 million, benefited close to 270 recipient organizations.

◆ **Economic and community development** captured the largest share of ongoing foundation support dollars (24 percent) and the second largest share of grants (18 percent). The stronger emphasis on development reflects a shift in the focus of service providers and grantmakers from immediate relief to recovery and rebuilding. The leading supporter of economic development, especially in 2008 and 2009, was the Ford Foundation. Other key grantmakers who remained active after 2006 included the Rockefeller, John S. and James L. Knight, W. K. Kellogg, Bill & Melinda Gates, and Kresge foundations and the Carnegie Corporation. Among the organizations receiving major shares of funding for rebuilding and development were the Gulf Coast Business Council, Broadmoor Improvement Association, Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation,

Enterprise Corporation of the Delta, PolicyLink, and the Lower 9th Ward Neighborhood Empowerment Network Association. Three of the top 10 development grants extended through 2010 while two extended through 2011.

◆ Despite a greater focus on development after 2006, general relief efforts continued to garner broad foundation support. **Human services**, which includes disaster relief and preparedness, crime and justice, food services, employment, and multipurpose human services, received the largest share of the number of foundation gifts awarded over the past few years (26 percent) and the second largest share of grant dollars (19 percent). Of particular note were grants targeting the neediest groups. For example, the Kellogg Foundation gave \$1.3 million to the Ms. Foundation for Women to support the relief and recovery needs of low-income women and children and nearly \$1.1 million to the National Center on Family Homelessness to train and equip service providers working with homeless children and families.

◆ **Education** claimed the third largest share of ongoing foundation support (18 percent), but a smaller 11 percent of grants. Within education, the lion's share of funding (\$16.4 million out of \$22.1 million) targeted higher education, led by the Carnegie Corporation's grants of \$2 million or more to New Orleans-based Tulane University, Xavier University, and Dillard University to recruit and retain faculty and students, resume strategic planning, and support financial aid. Elementary and secondary education received most of the remaining support, including grants of \$1 million each to Teach for America from the Carnegie Corporation (to recruit high-quality teachers for

2005 Gulf Coast Hurricanes Response: Top 25 Private and Community Foundations by Total Funding (2007–2009)

Name	State	Foundation Type ¹	Amount	No. of Grants
1. The Ford Foundation	NY	IF	\$27,861,933	78
2. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	WA	IF	16,164,479	10
3. Carnegie Corporation of New York	NY	IF	14,350,000	8
4. W. K. Kellogg Foundation	MI	IF	13,502,670	17
5. The Rockefeller Foundation	NY	IF	7,721,385	19
6. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	NJ	IF	6,396,286	18
7. John S. and James L. Knight Foundation	FL	IF	5,368,500	7
8. Koch Foundation, Inc.	FL	IF	1,966,293	12
9. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation	NY	IF	1,960,000	5
10. Wallace H. Coulter Foundation	FL	IF	1,800,000	2
11. The Greater New Orleans Foundation	LA	CM	1,753,267	32
12. Charles Stewart Mott Foundation	MI	IF	1,630,000	7
13. Baptist Community Ministries	LA	IF	1,471,123	5
14. Marguerite Casey Foundation	WA	IF	1,385,000	4
15. Surdna Foundation, Inc.	NY	IF	1,265,000	9
16. The Medtronic Foundation	MN	CS	1,245,000	2
17. The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts	NY	IF	1,036,000	16
18. The Kresge Foundation	MI	IF	1,000,000	1
19. Wal-Mart Foundation	AR	CS	1,000,000	1
20. Bush Foundation	MN	IF	998,400	1
21. The Riggio Foundation	NY	IF	997,511	1
22. Blue Moon Fund, Inc.	VA	IF	945,250	10
23. Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation	CA	IF	924,968	1
24. The Annie E. Casey Foundation	MD	IF	748,636	7
25. The Gap Foundation	CA	CS	733,000	3

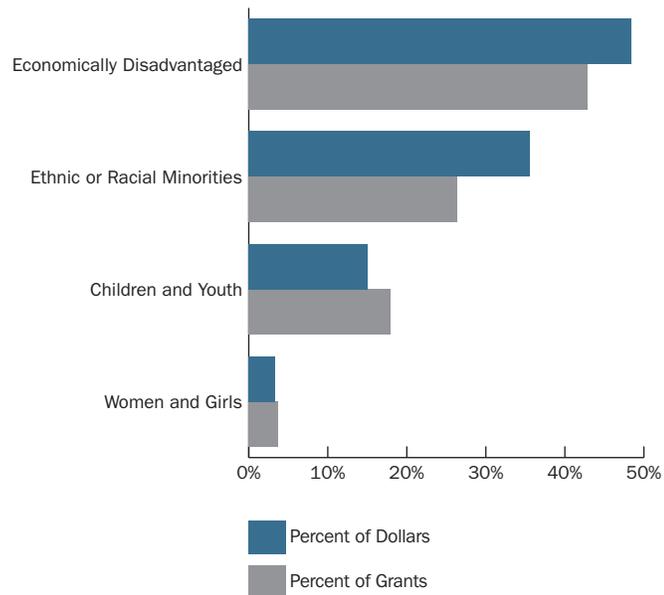
Source: The Foundation Center, August 2009. Figures based on grants reported to the Center through July 31, 2009.
¹Includes independent and family foundations (IN), corporate foundations (CS), and community foundations (CM); excludes direct corporate giving.

New Orleans) and from the Gates Foundation (to help catalyze school reform efforts underway in that city). Five of the top 10 education grants extended at least through 2010 with the longest extending through 2012.

◆ **Civil rights and public affairs** garnered almost 14 percent of foundation support between 2007 and mid-2009 and ranked fourth among foundation priorities. Within this broad category, more than \$12 million of the nearly \$17 million total funded efforts to ensure the rights of all affected citizens, especially the poor and African Americans, in the recovery and rebuilding process. Examples of support for civil rights and public affairs include the Gates Foundation’s \$7.1 million grant to Oxfam America to help Gulf Coast organizations advocate for affordable housing and workers’ rights by helping people whose homes were destroyed; the Kellogg Foundation’s nearly \$2.2 million grant to the Children’s Defense Fund to support the creation of the Katrina Citizen’s Leadership Corps; and the Ford Foundation’s nearly \$1.6 million grant to the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund to ensure that the Gulf Coast region is fairly and accurately represented in the 2010 Census.

◆ Rebuilding the decimated housing stock in the areas hit by hurricanes Katrina and Rita was a priority for many of the foundations that continued to provide support after 2006. **Housing and shelter** received 11 percent of both foundation grant dollars and the number of commitments made between 2007 and 2009. Some of the leading supporters of housing were the Gates, Ford, Knight, and Riggio foundations. Among recipients, major support went to the Greater New Orleans Foundation, the Gulf Coast Renaissance Corporation,

2005 Gulf Coast Hurricanes Response: Ongoing Foundation Funding for Selected Population Groups (2007–2009)¹



Source: The Foundation Center, August 2009. Figures based on grants reported to the Center through July 31, 2009.
¹Includes groups that received more than 1% of grant dollars.

2005 Gulf Coast Hurricanes Response: Top 25 Recipients of Private and Community Foundation Funding (2007–2009)

Recipient Name	State	Amount	No. of Grants
1. Oxfam America	MA	\$7,240,226	2
2. Children’s Defense Fund	DC	6,155,172	4
3. Xavier University of Louisiana	LA	5,900,000	5
4. Tulane University	LA	5,257,974	6
5. Dillard University	LA	5,248,400	8
6. Greater New Orleans Foundation ¹	LA	5,115,132	11
7. Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation	LA	4,673,000	12
8. Gulf Coast Business Council	MS	2,768,000	1
9. University of Pennsylvania	PA	2,227,785	1
10. Foundation for the Mid South ¹	MS	2,170,000	4
11. Broadmoor Improvement Association	LA	2,050,000	2
12. Teach for America	NY	2,000,000	2
13. AmericaSpeaks	DC	2,000,000	6
14. Gulf Coast Renaissance Corporation	MS	2,000,000	1
15. Social Science Research Council	NY	1,953,425	3
16. Twenty-First Century Foundation	NY	1,920,000	5
17. PolicyLink	CA	1,882,828	4
18. Enterprise Community Partners	MD	1,870,000	3
19. Ms. Foundation for Women	NY	1,800,000	2
20. RAND Corporation	CA	1,700,798	2
21. Gulf Coast Housing Partnership	LA	1,618,333	8
22. Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund	DC	1,583,333	1
23. Enterprise Corporation of the Delta	MS	1,501,250	3
24. Louisiana Public Health Institute	LA	1,261,145	3
25. American Red Cross	MN	1,245,000	2

Source: The Foundation Center, August 2009. Figures based on grants reported to the Center through July 31, 2009.
¹The Greater New Orleans Foundation and the Foundation for the Mid South, which are community foundations, are also represented as donors.

Enterprise Community Partners, the Gulf Coast Housing Partnership, and Project Home Again. Half of the 10 largest grants were awarded over several years, including a \$300,000, 10-year grant (through 2018) from the Ford Foundation to the Gulf Coast Housing Partnership to expand GCHP's capacity to acquire land and for predevelopment expenses related to developing affordable homes in the Gulf Coast region.

- ◆ Providing physical and mental health services to the most vulnerable populations and rebuilding the damaged public health and medical care infrastructure was another important focus of ongoing foundation support. **Health** captured 7 percent of foundation grant dollars and 8 percent of the grants awarded since 2007. The leading health supporter by far was the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Examples of RWJ's grants included \$1.2 million to the Medical Center of Louisiana Foundation to plan and develop a new post-Katrina academic medical center committed to being the area's safety net, and nearly \$750,000 to Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center to address the mental health needs of children and families displaced by the disaster.
- ◆ Demonstrating strong foundation interest in the recovery of New Orleans's unique cultural patrimony and the plight of its artists, **arts and culture** garnered 11 percent of the number of ongoing foundation commitments (although a smaller 4 percent of grant dollars). Key arts supporters were the Ford and Andrew W. Mellon foundations and the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. Ford alone awarded eight of the 15 grants of \$100,000 or more for arts and culture, including \$500,000 to the Louisiana-based National Performance Network for creation and touring of contemporary work in performing arts and for rebuilding; and \$400,000 to

Efforts of Grace for general support for the Ashe Cultural Arts Center to engage artists in the economic revitalization of New Orleans.

- ◆ Smaller percentages of ongoing Gulf Coast hurricanes response grant dollars went to religion (close to 2 percent), the environment and animals (1 percent), and the social sciences (nearly 1 percent).

Who Benefited

The Foundation Center classifies grants as benefiting up to 21 specified population groups, from children and youth to the economically disadvantaged to ethnic or racial minorities. (Gifts that benefit more than one population group are counted more than once.) More than 70 percent of the dollars and about 62 percent of the number of Gulf Coast response gifts awarded by foundations after 2006 are coded for a population group.

- ◆ The **economically disadvantaged** benefited from the largest share of foundations' ongoing relief and recovery giving targeting specific population groups—roughly 48 percent of total dollars committed between 2007 and 2009 and 43 percent of new commitments. This prominent share reflects in part the principal missions of key service providers, such as Oxfam America, Volunteers of America, and the Gulf Coast Housing Partnership, which all seek to serve the poor. In addition, as documented in the examples above, some grantmakers have specifically directed support to providing for greater economic opportunity, reducing inequity, and expanding services for those with the least resources.
- ◆ **Ethnic and racial minorities**, especially African Americans, benefited from 36 percent of the grant dollars and 26 percent of the

grants awarded for relief, recovery, and rebuilding after 2006. The focus on minorities was strongest in areas such as economic development, education, and civil rights and public affairs. Examples of leading Gulf Coast grantees that serve or target African Americans and other minorities include the Enterprise Corporation of the Delta, the Lower 9th Ward Neighborhood Empowerment Network Association, Xavier University of Louisiana, Dillard University, and Advocates for Environmental Human Rights.

- ◆ Among other population groups, 15 percent of funding (\$18.7 million) targeted **children and youth**, while just over 3 percent of funding (\$4.1 million) provided a benefit for **women and girls**. Some of the leading recipients focused on children included the Children's Defense Fund, Teach for America, and Save the Children Federation. The leading recipient benefiting women was the Ms. Foundation for Women, which created the Katrina Women's Response Fund to meet the needs of affected low-income and minority women and to ensure the consideration of their priorities in the recovery and rebuilding process.

Endnote

1. Steven Lawrence, Josefina Atienza, et al., *Giving in the Aftermath of the Gulf Coast Hurricanes: Update on the Foundation and Corporate Response*, New York: Foundation Center, 2007.

About the Foundation Center

Established in 1956, and today supported by close to 600 foundations, the Foundation Center is the nation's leading authority on organized philanthropy, connecting nonprofits and the grantmakers supporting them to tools they can use and information they can trust. The Center maintains the most comprehensive database on U.S. grantmakers and their grants and conducts research on trends in foundation growth, giving, and practice. It also operates education and outreach programs that help nonprofit organizations obtain the resources they need. Thousands of people visit the Center's web site each day and are served in its five regional library/learning centers and its network of more than 400 funding information centers located in every U.S. state and beyond. For more information, visit foundationcenter.org or call (212) 620-4230.