

December 11, 2006- December 12, 2006
Gulf Coast Relief Panel Meeting
French Quarter, New Orleans

December 11, 2006

Presentation of preliminary assessment results by Joe Sullivan
Panel discusses and posits strategic questions that emerge from assessment of relief effort by key stakeholders

December 12, 2006

Continued discussion of assessment, strategic questions, and key learnings. Details of the discussion will be published in a final report by Joe Sullivan and posted at www.uua.org/news/gulfcoastrelief.

Evaluation of work of the panel against charge as expressed in PANEL'S charter: Charter from Fall 2005

“To distribute funds raised in the 2005 UUA-UUSC Gulf Coast Relief appeal in a manner consistent with donor expectations as reflected in official communications from UUA President, Rev. William Sinkford and UUSC President, Charlie Clements:

- *Relief and recovery from hurricanes Katrina and Rita for UU congregations so that their ministries in their communities can be restored – (approximately 1/3 of funds)*
- *Relief and recovery from hurricanes Katrina of the most marginalized and most needy communities – (approximately 2/3 of funds)*
- *95% + of total funds go directly to relief and recovery grants, with 5% or less funding administrative expenses.”*

Discussion of possible continuation of volunteer program

A Late January/Early February stakeholder’s meeting will be held to continue the discussion.

REMAINING FUNDS

Grant from New Orleans cluster for project coordinator will not be funded at this time AS the panel confirms total remaining funds and to allow for establishing the relationship of the Southwest District Executive, Rev. Susan Smith, to the strategic planning work of the New Orleans cluster .

Panel recommends that some remaining funds be held aside for both congregational and community funds as a buffer as funding ends.

The work of the Panel will continue at least through March 2007.

OUTSTANDING GRANTS

a. Grant to extend **contract of Joe Sullivan as Project Manager** through March 2007.

This is a programmatic expense that is taken “off the top” of the fund.

→VOTE: MOTION IS APPROVED.

b. \$7500 to the Mid-South District from the congregational funds for a **Two-Year Visibility and PR for Unitarian Universalism in Mississippi (07-08)**
→VOTE: MOTION IS APPROVED.

Report Submitted by Megan Joiner