



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DONATIONS OF FOOD AND WATER NEEDED URGENTLY FOR VICTIMS OF HURRICANE KATRINA

*Volunteer Florida encourages everyone to locate
organized donation collection sites in their areas now ...*

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER, TALLAHASSEE – The Governor’s Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service, Volunteer Florida, is encouraging Florida residents to donate **water** and **non-perishable, ready-to-eat food items**, to local, organized collection sites. While making a financial gift to the relief organization of your choice still is the best way to help, Floridians also can help by contributing urgently needed items to help victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Examples of “ready-to-eat” food items include breakfast bars, cereal, meals ready to eat (MREs), peanut butter, jelly, crackers, pop-top canned items, and any non-perishables that can be opened and consumed without the aid of can openers or other utensils. More supplies will be needed in the coming weeks and months. The Volunteer Florida Web site, located at volunteerflorida.org, will be updated daily, if not more often, with an updated “needed items” list, as well as comprehensive information resources about how you can help the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Organized collection drives are in progress throughout Florida. Donors should check their local media outlets for the locations of collection sites in their areas.

(more)

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www.volunteerflorida.org

FOOD AND WATER DONATIONS

(Add One)

“One important success story from the 2004 Hurricane Season was that our donors provided very few items, if any, that were not needed,” said Volunteer Florida CEO Wendy Spencer.

“We can attribute this success to the fact that people heeded our advice to donate *only* items that were listed on our Web site, located at volunteerflorida.org. We hope that people continue to be generous to the victims of Hurricane Katrina through donating only the items that are needed.”

The Governor’s Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service was established in 1994 by the Florida Legislature to administer grants under the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993. The Commission grants funds to Florida AmeriCorps and National Service programs; encourages volunteerism for everyone from youths to seniors to people with disabilities; promotes volunteerism in emergency management and preparedness; and helps to strengthen and expand Volunteer Centers in Florida.

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