

Gulf Coast Relief Conference Call—Summary Report

11/27/2006 8am CST, 9am EST

Present: Meg Riley, Joe Sullivan, Martha Thompson, Steve Crump, Eunice Benton, Jacqueline Luck, Becky Cureau (for part of call), Wayne Clark

1. Report from New Orleans Working Group (Wayne Clark and Becky Cureau for the moments she was on the call)

- The New Orleans Working Group met Friday November 17th and 18th for their last meeting. The agenda was to fill in gaps in the 5 year strategic plan and make decisions on where to go next.
- The New Orleans Strategic Plan focuses on 5 year timeframe. The large question is: *What can New Orleans Congregations and the UUA do to make UUism more visible in New Orleans area?* Conversation has moved to discussion of a “Recovery Period” vs. a “Receiving Period.”
- Briefly discussed the grant proposal by the newly-formed “Greater New Orleans Unitarian Universalists” (GNO-UU) cluster for a project coordinator for the strategic plan. The proposal describes a very general job description for a part-time position that would report to the GNO-UU cluster.
- The Group agreed to pursue a joint (cluster) capital campaign. The campaign will be managed by fundraising consultant and First UUNO member, Claudia Barker and UUA fundraising consultant, Larry Wheeler. Wheeler would be paid out of Gulf Coast Relief funds. There is no stated goal as of yet. The plan is to move from relief to recovery.

2. Discussion of District Staff (BCM) Meeting 12/1-12/3

- The main goal is to impart information that DEs can carry back to their congregations. The focus will be on recovery, funds used in both congregational and community contexts and the continued need for volunteers.

3. Panel discussed concerns related to evaluation and brainstormed topics for Dec. 11-12 meeting)

4. Grant Proposals (Martha Thompson)

A. → VOTE - PASSED: \$15,000 for C3/Hands off Iberville for their New Orleans Public Housing Right of Return and Democracy Campaign.

B. → VOTE - PASSED: \$100,000 for People’s Institute for Survival and Beyond for Anti-Racism training for organizations working with evacuees.

C. → VOTE - PASSED: \$30,000 to Zion Travelers Cooperative Center Support for Advocacy and Rebuilding in Phoenix

5. Report on Volunteer Program Advisory Group (Joe)

A trial run of the anti-racism training is next week (12/4)

6. Next Meetings

Panel will next meet in person in New Orleans December 11-12.

Report Respectfully Submitted by Megan Joiner