

August 2009

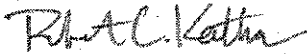
**A Call to Action:  
Now is the time to pass the Gulf Coast Civic Works Act**

To My Fellow Unitarian Universalists,

On May 5, Representative Zoe Lofgren introduced the **Gulf Coast Civic Works Act**. This bill would create 100,000 prevailing wage jobs and training opportunities for local and displaced workers on projects that would restore infrastructure and the coastal environment with green building technologies. This program would empower residents to realize their right to return and create stronger, safer, and more equitable communities.

Four years after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the Gulf Coast is yet to be rebuilt. President Obama characterized the federal response to the storms and levee breaches as "unconscionable ineptitude" and campaigned on a platform which judged the recovery "a national shame." But today, New Orleans' levees are still vulnerable, tens of thousands of people haven't been able to return home, and affordable housing and living wage jobs are scarce. Help bring justice to the Gulf Coast by urging Congress to support the Gulf Coast Civic Works Act.

Sincerely,



Rob Keithan  
Director, UUA Washington Office for Advocacy

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**Add your name to the following letter to let your representative know where you stand on Gulf Coast recovery.**

Dear Representative,

As a constituent and a Unitarian Universalist, I am writing to request that you co-sponsor the Gulf Coast Civic Works Act. Unitarian Universalists are deeply committed to Gulf Coast rebuilding. Over one hundred congregations have sent volunteers to the region, and a Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA)/Unitarian Universalist Service Committee Gulf Coast Relief Fund has raised almost 3.2 million dollars in aid.

Now, Unitarian Universalists in the Gulf Coast and across the nation are calling for the House to pass the Gulf Coast Civic Works Act (GCCWA). When enacted, GCCWA will create thousands of civic works jobs for Gulf Coast residents and evacuees to rebuild their public infrastructure. These jobs will empower workers, revitalize the region's workforce, and restore faith in the government's will to respond to the needs of our people.

I ask that you co-sponsor the Gulf Coast Civic Works Act. This program would empower residents to realize their right to return with dignity and create stronger, safer, and more equitable communities.

Sincerely,

