



**Adopt a
Hurricane
Family**

Crisis Housing Solutions

Self-Sufficiency of these families is Our Goal

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Welcome To Crisis Housing Solutions "Adopt a Hurricane Family"

About Us

After viewing the devastation from Hurricane Katrina and seeing the look of despair on the faces of thousands, Craig and Lisa Vanderlaan, residents of South Florida, realized something needed to be done. These families would need an alternate place to call home.

They contacted their friend, Rick Figley, about the possibility of doing a web site, who joined in the cause and put a web site online. "Adopt a Hurricane Family" was born.

The next morning, at the CCB Million Meals Committee meeting in Broward County Florida, numerous agencies, experienced in giving, offered their support and guidance.

Following Hurricane Andrew, South Florida received a nationwide out pouring of assistance. It was now time to return the favor. Soon after, we too were hit by Wilma and are now working with families displaced by Katrina and Wilma.


Initially, our main focus was geared towards individual families taking hurricane victims into their own homes or offering them vacant housing for a short period of time. Later we found, our focus needed to change. Within the first few weeks we realized that most families were not interested in leaving their communities or the shelters that housed them.

These victims of Katrina did not want to leave before registering with the Red Cross or FEMA, many were missing family members, countless people were "shell-shocked" and in denial that they could not return to their homes. And most important, they needed their privacy.

With this understanding, we have recognized a greater long-term need for these displaced victims. Hundreds of thousands of people will not be able to return to their homes or communities for months, possibly years. In addition to losing their homes and personal belongings, countless victims have lost their jobs, transportation, schools and community as well.

Now, our focus has shifted to having corporations, faith based organizations and private donors assist us with more broad-based funding. The primary goal is to assist these families / individuals in a way that will allow them to get back on their feet and become self-sufficient.

Please review our web site and let us know if you are interested in helping.



COMMITTEE

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