



INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE BATON ROUGE AREA FOUNDATION

Baton Rouge Area – Katrina Response Rapid Assessment
Final Report September 23, 2005

“Nobody wants us,” recounted the shelter director at Mount Pilgrim Church. “We were only going to feed people when they started to arrive before the hurricane but they kept coming and it kept getting worse. They just sat on the pavement and one little boy said, “Nobody wants us.” It was when I heard that I knew we had to take them in. That’s when we decided to open the shelter.”

I. BACKGROUND

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) is a leading international humanitarian aid organization providing relief, rehabilitation, protection, post-conflict development, resettlement services and advocacy for populations that have been uprooted and/or affected by conflict, disaster or other complex emergencies. The IRC was invited by the Baton Rouge Area Foundation (BRAAF), a community foundation that forms partnerships with philanthropists, nonprofit organizations and other community leaders in the Baton Rouge, Louisiana area, to provide technical assistance supporting emergency relief efforts in the aftermath of the Katrina hurricane disaster. Katrina has displaced 1 to 1.5 million people living in the Gulf States, with the majority of the displaced population originating from parishes in the greater New Orleans area. It has been estimated that a significant concentration of displaced persons have landed in the Greater Baton Rouge, Louisiana area. This displaced population is currently being housed in shelters, hotels, motels and are being hosted by families in the area.

In response to BRAAF’s request, the IRC deployed a 7-member, multi-disciplinary technical assistance (TA) team to work with BRAAF to assess and augment organizational and response capacities to effectively meet the needs of the Katrina victims displaced in the Baton Rouge area. In order to better understand the needs of this displaced population, the IRC team conducted a rapid assessment.

Sectoral Approach Guided by an International Humanitarian Aid Framework

The rapid assessment was conducted using a sectoral approach to conceptualize and analyze the needs of the displaced population. These sectors are guided by an international humanitarian aid framework, which provides standards for the care and protection of displaced peoples¹. Specialists from the following sectors were represented on the IRC technical assistance team: protection; education; psychosocial care; public health and relocation/resettlement². While the rapid assessment collected information across all of the sectors, this report highlights the following sectors:

1. Protection: Protection refers to preserving a person’s sense of safety, dignity and integrated understanding of a person’s physical, emotional, and psychosocial needs³. Protection assessments seek to identify threats, vulnerabilities, and the opportune times that these threats and vulnerabilities can be exploited⁴.

2. Education: Education as part of emergency/disaster response can be life-saving and life-sustaining. Children and youth can access much need health and support services while transitioning to a normalizing environment, which

¹ The Sphere Project (2004). Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response. Oxfam Printing: London, UK. The Sphere Project provides minimum standards to be attained in disaster assistance The initiative was launched in 1997 by a group of humanitarian NGOs and the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement.

² Separate assessments were carried out for the public health and relocation/resettlement sectors. The findings of these assessments are documented in a separate report. Some general trends pertaining to these sectors are reported here.

³ Slim, H & A. Bonwick. (2005). Protection: An ALNAP Guide for Humanitarian Agencies. Overseas Development Institute: London

⁴ Ibid.

provides structure and stability⁵. Through education, adults gain greater access to employment opportunities and can transition from day to day survival to planning for the future⁶.

3. Psychosocial Care: The principals of providing psychosocial care in the aftermath of a disaster includes reconnecting individuals with family members and other support networks; fostering social connections and interactions; normalizing daily life; promoting a sense of competence in order to facilitate the restoration of a sense of control over one's life and allowing for expressions of grief within a trusted environment, when an individual is ready and follow-up is guaranteed⁷.

Rapid Assessment – Goals and Objectives

The objective of the rapid assessment is to gain a better understanding of the needs and experiences of displaced persons affected by the Katrina hurricane disaster living in underserved environments in the Baton Rouge area. The goals are as follows:

- Goal #1: To identify and assess the needs of the most vulnerable segments of the displaced population as well as vulnerabilities the general population may be exposed to as a result of their displacement (Protection)
- Goal #2: To assess educational needs and access to formal and non-formal education opportunities for displaced children/youth and adults (Education)
- Goal #3: To assess the personal and inter-personal functioning of displaced persons and to identify areas for support (Psychosocial Care)
- Goal #4: To assess the sanitary/living conditions, access to health care services, and identify public health concerns of displaced persons being sheltered in non-Red Cross facilities (which are thought to have less formal access to official disaster relief assistance) (Public Health).
- Goal #5: To assess relocation needs. Barriers, and trends among displaced persons in the Baton Rouge area (Relocation/ Resettlement)

Rapid Assessment Methodology

The IRC visited 17 non-Red Cross shelters. The assessment targeted outlying areas of Baton Rouge because it was believed that these shelters have less access to needed services and support. A multi-method approach (semi-structured interviews, direct observation, focus group discussions) was employed to collect information from these facilities over a five-day period. Approximately 250 people were interviewed, including shelter residents, and shelter staff. A team of volunteers from the Baton Rouge community assisted in gathering information from shelter managers and residents.

Methodology Shortcomings

⁵ Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE). (2004). Minimum Standards for Education in Emergencies, Chronic Crises and Early Reconstruction. UNESCO: Paris

⁶ The *Minimum Standards for Education in Emergencies* provides guidelines for Education programming in disaster situations.

⁷ The Psychosocial Working Group (PWG). (2003). Psychosocial Intervention in Complex Emergencies: A Conceptual Framework. Centre for International Health Studies - Queen Margaret University College: Edinburgh, UK. The Psychosocial Working Group, a collaborative body of humanitarian-aid organizations and learning institutions implementing psychosocial programming in complex emergency situations, has developed a conceptual framework for psychosocial care. IRC's Principles for Psychosocial Care and Protection is reflective of this framework.

This assessment covered a relatively small sample size considering the numbers of displaced persons in the Baton Rouge area. For this reason the findings/results of this assessment cannot be generalized to the entire displaced population. It provides a limited snapshot. Further, more comprehensive assessments should be done to properly inform planning and policy to address the needs of displaced persons in the Baton Rouge area.

Although, the assessment did focus on underserved shelters housing displaced persons, the assessment team was not able to gather information from an even less served segment of the displaced population, those housed with families in the community. It is estimated that this segment of the displaced housed in private homes in the community outnumbers those currently housed in shelters. It is also likely that as shelter residents move on to more stable housing, those housed in the community will become less stable and possible move into the shelters.

Finally, due to time/human resource constraints and de-centralized/informal information gathering, the assessment team was not able to gather all of the information requested in the assessment instruments. Many questions were left unanswered either because they were not asked by the interviewer or because the information was not readily available at the shelter. The issue of gathering information from decentralized sources is a re-occurring theme throughout the assessment and the Katrina relief response. It reflects one of the major barriers to providing/planning for the needs of the displaced population; whether through official relief assistance channels or at the local shelter site.

II. FINDINGS

“We had nothing, we would have been on the street if the community hadn’t taken us in.”
 -Shelter resident at Faith Fellowship Church during focus group discussion

There has been an outpouring of immediate response and relief efforts from the Baton Rouge community. Support from individuals/families, local agencies and faith-based organizations represent a diverse group of capacities and resources. As a direct result of their efforts they have saved lives and begun to address the needs of the displaced where official channels of relief did not. At the same time, the magnitude of need and displacement caused by Katrina was unprecedented and there exists many needs left unmet. The findings presented in this report highlight a number of areas that need attention. The findings are outlined collectively by assessment indicators and sectors, then in individual shelter profiles.

Common Themes by Indicator and Sector

Common themes of need emerged from the individual shelter assessments. Themes are summarized in the following table then explained in detail below. Although areas of need are listed under separate sectors, it is important to recognize the interactive nature of the sectors.

Number of Sites Assessed	17
Assessment Dates	9/8/05 – 9/13/05
Date Range when shelters opened (Katrina – 8/29/05)	8/27/05 – 9/2/05
Shelter Current Occupancy Range	6 – 250 people
Population (demographic makeup)	Average of 35.4% of population across assessment sites were under 18 ⁸
Vulnerable persons identified	Vulnerable persons were identified in 94% of the assessment sites
Types of vulnerability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elderly (some with limited mobility) • Chronic illness (i.e. diabetes/insulin dependent, high blood pressure, asthmatic, etc) • Physical disabilities • Mental Illness / Substance abuse • HIV positive • Medically frail (i.e. recent surgery, broken bones, oxygen tank dependent; toddler with tracheal tube/pouch)

⁸ Percentage of population under 18 was not specified for 3 sites. This average is based on 14 out of the 17 sites.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited English proficiency (Spanish, Haitian Creole); • Families with missing family members (including separated child/ unaccompanied minors/ orphans) • Pregnant women & teenagers/nursing mothers/newborns • Single parents • Developmentally delays/mental retardation
Separated Family Members	59% of sites reported having residents with missing family members
Registration	Process varies – inconsistent in type of information collected and tracking of individuals once they leave shelter
Child Protection Issues	<p>25% of sites reported unaccompanied minors/separated children General child protection issues in 41% of sites</p> <p>General child protection issues include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children unsupervised when parents leave to look for work or f/u w/ benefit appointments • Young person abusing substances • Child neglect (family of 7 children ages 4-10 left to fend for themselves due to parent alcoholism) • Security concern for children sleeping in church with strange men around and child predators outside of shelter • Children dislike lack of privacy and communal bathing arrangements. • Pregnant mother of toddler with pre-Katrina involvement with child protective services (other child was removed from home)
Security Concerns	<p>71% of sites did not report security concerns (of that 71% – 25% had some form of security coverage)</p> <p>29% reported security concerns regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection of children from child predators • Traveling to bathing facilities at night • Residents accused of theft and weapon possession • Overcrowding/tensions among residents • Fatigue of staff
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No disclosure of personal experience of gender based violence • Domestic violence cited in two sites • Residents at two different sites heard about rape/child molestation at Cajun Dome (through other residents who had been there) • Resident reported rumors of rape at Denham Springs H.S. (shelter now closed but resident reporting it was a former resident) • One resident had re-occurring nightmares about the rape and killing he witnessed while evacuating New Orleans • Group of residents at one site reported that they did not want to go to Superdome after levy broke because of stories of rape
Food Needs	71% of assessed sites reported no food needs; those that reported food needs expressed dissatisfaction with portion size and menu as food served does not reflect accustomed diet
Non-Food Item Needs	
School Registration	76% of sites reported at least some children registered for school but within these sites all children were not registered
Psychosocial Concerns:	<p>88% of assessment sites report psychosocial concerns. Concerns include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frustration/anger,/overwhelmed • Staff overwhelmed • Agitation/ nervousness/ aggressiveness • Previously diagnosed mental illness • Shock/denial/numbed response • Some tensions among residents • Request for mental health counseling • Detached behavior • Depression, guilt and uncertainty • Substance Abuse

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missing/grieving family members and friends • Psychosomatic reactions • PTSD-like symptoms • Difficulty sleeping/nightmares
Child Friendly Space	<p>47% have child friendly space but these spaces do not offer structured /regularly schedule activities</p> <p>53% had no child friendly designated space</p>
City/Parish of origin	New Orleans (including East Over, 9 th Ward); Jefferson; Jell St.Bernard/Chalmette; Maneuver; Westwego; Metairie; Kennarr; Port Sulphur
Major Concerns	Housing, FEMA/Other public benefits, missing family members; employment; limited cash on hand; lack of sanitation facilities
Where residents going after leaving shelter	Average of 56% (across assessment sites) wanted to eventually return home to N.O. Next largest segment wants to stay locally in Baton Rouge area
Access to/Services Being provided On-site/Partner organizations:	Most assistance coming through previously established church networks
Barriers	<p>Most cited barriers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of phone line/internet access • Difficulty accessing FEMA and other public benefits • Lack of coordinated information and resources/misinformation
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	35% assessment sites reported providing assistance to displaced in the community (non-residents) ⁹

Protection

Identified Characteristics of Vulnerability

Vulnerable individuals: Those with the following characteristics appear to be at increased risk of not accessing services and imminent risk of harm in the shelter environment:

- persons separated from family members including unaccompanied minors/separated children
- elderly
- chronically ill
- medically frail
- pregnant/nursing women
- newborns
- mentally ill
- displaced persons identified/perceived as being from high crime areas in New Orleans (at risk of not being accepted into shelters or of discriminatory practices/perceptions from other residents and host community)

Separated Family Members

- *Separated Families:* Many shelter residents have been separated from family members. Aside from the emotional consequences of being separated, there is further frustration due to the lack of information, knowledge of systems to search for missing family members and/or unfamiliarity with the internet and numerous websites. Additionally, many have limited computer literacy skills that prohibit internet searches.
- *Unaccompanied Minors/Separated Children:* Although shelter residents report incidences of children being separated from their parents, younger separated children appeared to be cared for by extended family members. Several separated youth, however, did not appear to have a primary caregiver and were relying on adults with whom they had created relationships to provide material and emotional support.

Registration

⁹ It is likely that a higher number of the assessed sites are in fact providing some type of assistance to displaced persons in the community (non shelter residents). This figure reflects how many sites provided explicit information about services to community housed displaced people.

- Limited tracking: Due to the spontaneous manner in which many of the shelters opened and the varying capacity of the numerous organizations to manage and provide shelter, it is challenging to develop a registration process to track the movement of the displaced. Therefore, providing accurate information to appropriate authorities as to the location and needs of shelters is difficult. This directly impacts on the ability to locate separated family members and directing appropriate support to shelters.

Child Protection

- Unclear procedures for reporting child abuse/neglect: It is often not clear to shelter residents and staffs the protocol for contacting Child Protective Services in cases of abuse and/or neglect.
- Lack of information: Adults at the shelters do not have adequate information on the process and importance of registering separated children.
- Separated Children: Children who are separated from their parents but are cared for by an adult are often not registered in a database even though there may be a parent actively searching for that child.
- Potential risks to child safety: A number of shelter residents expressed concerns about the possibility of child predators in two of the larger facilities.

Gender Based Violence

- None of the women interviewed at the assessment sites disclosed any personal experience of sexual violence/rape. However, the residents advised that they had heard about incidences of rape at the Astrodome in Houston, Texas; the Cajun Dome in Lafayette, LA, and at Denham Springs High School in Denham Springs (Baton Rouge suburb)
- Some reports of domestic violence (between heterosexual intimate partners) at shelters

Security Concerns

- Shelter residents report more security concerns in larger occupancy shelters (100+) with physical spaces that are not well lit or populated.

Non-Food Item Needs

- Continued need for materials: Families continue to need underwear, socks, shoes, cooking utensils, and clothes in larger sizes.

Education

General School Concerns

- Concerns for dropouts and poor performance: Pre-Katrina dropout rates and poor performance of students in New Orleans parishes was already a serious concern. Many of those students are not registering in schools and there is a fear that they will drop out of the system entirely.
- Lack of preparedness: Schools accepting displaced students are unable to provide necessary academic and psychosocial support.

School Registration

- Transportation problems: Although a good number of children have been registered (approximately 5,000 displaced children are registered for school), there have been cases of transportation problems inhibiting children from going to school.
- Anticipated relocation: Many parents anticipate moving to a more permanent situation soon and are not yet willing to register their children.
- Attendance: Some registered students are leaving their assigned school as their families relocate to other shelters or private accommodations. Additionally, there are cases of registered students not attending school regularly.

Psychosocial Care

For the most part, shelter residents are focused on finding housing/accessing and benefits so that they can move out of the shelters, reconnect with family members and re-start their lives. Though pre-occupied with these survival activities, most shelter residents welcomed and often thanked the assessment team for the opportunity to tell their stories of escape, survival, and heroism. There are psychosocial needs and concerns for those who were ready to tell their stories as well for those who were observed as being in distress and others reported to be in distress:

General Need for Psychosocial Support/Intervention

- Common signs of distress: The following reactions were commonly reported by shelter residents and managers
 - Shock/Denial (“I keep thinking this is all a dream”)
 - Somatic Reactions (i.e. elevated blood pressure in high blood pressure patients when speaking about disaster, headaches, stomach aches, etc.)
 - Sleep Difficulties
 - Detachment
 - Depression
 - Agitation (i.e. when speaking about the slow relief response after the hurricane)
 - Anxiousness
- Pre-existing risk factors: There appears to be a significant portion of the displaced population who have been exposed to previous trauma and risk. The reported risk factors include: involvement / placement with child protective services, community violence, poverty, unemployment, disability, out of school, coming from poor performing school, etc.
- Dearth of mental health professionals/counselors: Shelter managers and residents are asking for skilled counselors to work with individuals and families. Relief organizations and local mental health agencies have also expressed a concern that the need is vastly overwhelming the cadre of counselors available
- Need for “trauma training” and other psychosocial training support: Mental health professionals and other professionals providing specialized support services (i.e. child and youth programming workers, teachers, case managers, medical personnel, etc) have expressed the need for basic trauma training to help them recognize/provide support around trauma reactions. There is also a request for training in community-based models of psychosocial support/intervention to deal with mass/community trauma experienced by the displaced population and the host community.

Vulnerable Persons in Need of Immediate Psychosocial Care

- Concerns for people living with a pre-existing psychiatric illness: For those with pre-existing mental illness, medication and treatment supervision has been limited. There are a few documented cases of persons suspected of having a mental illness being asked to leave the shelter due to acting out/aggressive behavior that would possibly put other shelter residents at risk. These persons are being moved between shelters (and possibly falling out of the shelter system) without any formal assessment, tracking or follow-up.
- Concerns for persons with substance abuse histories: There have been some reports of persons who had actively been using substances pre-Katrina, who are showing signs of substance withdrawal. For those seeking drug treatment and recovery support (i.e. AA, NA, etc), the current network of mental health providers has been overwhelmed, making access to services difficult.

Support for Children and Youth

- Lack of structured activities: Few shelters provide opportunities for children to engage in structured activities and even fewer have safe spaces outdoors where children are able to play. In environments where there aren't structured activities, children show signs of boredom, agitation and hyperactivity. Children and youth have expressed great interest in being involved in activities ranging from sports to art.

- Signs of separation anxiety: Some children have expressed a reluctance to leave their parents for any length of time. These children are not able to interact fully with other children and are resistant to going to school and engaging in activities without their parents/caregivers.
- Parentification of older youth: Young people are stepping in to help in care-giving roles. During a focus group discussion, one youth articulated, “Us kids are holding it down better than the adults”. They are dealing with additional responsibilities of survival/care-giving in Katrina’s aftermath, while processing their own traumatic experiences. They continue to have dreams for the future but wonder how long it will be before their lives return to some sense of normalcy in order to continue in pursuit of those dreams.

Support for Caregivers

- Lack of support for caregivers (including parents, teachers, shelter staff, volunteers, etc.): Many have worked long hours under incredibly difficult circumstances with little to no attention to their own needs. There is expressed concern over caregivers’ ability to continue in the same capacity. Without the proper support for their own emotional well being, caregivers are at risk of compassion fatigue, vicarious trauma and other stress related reactions. As students return to schools, teachers especially, are in increasingly stressful environments where they are often put in the position of providing support to both children and their parents.

Public Health

Basic needs such as food, drinking water and shelter are being met in the Baton Rouge area for the short term. However, based on initial findings, there are several areas of concern within the public health sector:

Water/Sanitation Issues

- Poor sanitary conditions: Garbage disposal is largely inconsistent and inadequate; dirty laundry and food waste is left standing in public and sanitary areas, etc.
- Consistent lack of shower facilities: Travel is required for off-site bathing at a number shelters while most have limited on-site access. There is also an overall lack of water for bathing in some shelters.
- Insufficient number of toilets: Limited access often results in people waiting in long lines.
- Shortage of laundry facilities: Limited access often results in an inability to maintain personal hygiene.

** *The lack of shower and toilet facilities also has larger protection implications (children/elderly feeling unsafe; inability to provide separate facilities for males and females, general lack of privacy and dignity).*

Shelter Living Conditions

- Inconsistency in sleeping arrangements: People are sleeping head to head on church pews, cots, air mattresses or directly on the floor.
- Overcrowding: While some shelters are attempting to limit their occupancy levels, others are accepting displaced persons beyond a suitable occupancy level in an attempt to meet the overwhelming demand for shelter.
- Lack of support of non-Red Cross/spontaneous shelters: There is often great disparity between shelters and services available for the displaced in shelters; a standard level of attention and services is needed, especially for those in poorer communities who may be struggling to provide support
- Lack of Privacy: Some displaced people are housed in large open spaces like gyms and church sanctuaries with no privacy; others have partitions for families or have made Sunday school classrooms available for extended family members providing only limited privacy.

Access to Healthcare Services

- Dearth of medical care professionals in shelters: There is inconsistency in access to health care (some shelters are visited by medical staff; others had limited or no services provided; this is compounded by a lack of transportation to health services).

- High number of vulnerable persons in need of care: There appears to be a significant percentage of the displaced population in need of immediate and follow up medical care and a large number of persons living with chronic illnesses such as insulin-dependent and those requiring dialysis. There is also concern about the inability to track TB patients.
- Disruption of vaccination services: It is unclear where to find services for routine vaccination as recommended by order of the CDC to prevent potential disease outbreak.

Relocation/Resettlement

- Desire to return: Of those interviewed, the majority want to eventually return to their home parishes and are willing to wait in the Baton Rouge area until they are cleared to do so. Some of the issues around return are: not knowing extent of damage to house and infrastructure of parish, knowing their houses are still under water but not wanting to relocate permanently out of New Orleans. There were also concerns about being geographically separated from family members who may be staying with friends in other areas of Louisiana. There is resistance to move out of the general area if it means further separation from family members.
- Unemployment and ongoing difficulties finding jobs: Along with widespread unemployment caused by Katrina, shelter residents currently seeking immediate jobs at nearby venues (restaurants, gas stations, construction) report being denied work because they are from New Orleans.
- Lack of immediate and longer-term housing: The lack of rentals in nearby areas along with unclear plans for longer term housing was seen as a primary concern for the majority of shelter managers and residents.
- Lack of access to or lost identification documents: A number of evacuees have lost, or have no access to, identity documents and feel that if they leave Louisiana it would be more difficult for them to replace official documents

Individual Shelter Assessment Profiles

Below are the assessment profiles of the 17 shelter sites, which provide the detailed information for the above summary section. Recommendations for immediate follow up with each shelter are included at the end. Shelter ID numbers are used instead of names.

Name of Shelter	(ID#: 1)
Time Period	8/30/05 – 9/12/05
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	150 /90
Population (demographic makeup)	Male: 25% Female: 75% # of families: 20 (under 18) approximately 30% (60+) Not available
Vulnerable persons identified	Yes
Type of vulnerability	Elderly, medical needs (not specified); orphans.; unaccompanied minors; physical disabilities; mental illness (type unknown). Single mothers with children, families with missing family members.
Separated Family Members	Yes - Missing Family Members; unaccompanied minor
Registration	Complete demographic information form
Child Protection Issue	Unaccompanied minor; possible orphan; Security concern for children sleeping in church with strange men around
Security Concerns	Church staff acting as security – daytime/nighttime; staff near point of exhaustion; Concerns for children (resident comment: sleeping in church with strange men around)
Gender Based Violence/Concerns	None reported
Food Needs	None reported
Non-food Item Needs	None reported
General School Concern	None reported
School Registration	Children are registered for school
Psychosocial Concerns	Sense of absolute frustration, being overwhelmed, resident anger high; staff overwhelmed; agitation/ nervousness apparent

Need for Immediate Psychosocial Care	Follow needed for shelter resident with previously diagnosed mental illness; care for caregivers support for church staff; facilitation to diffuse tensions/frustrations
Child Friendly Space	In/outside play areas; No planned activities for children.
Water/Sanitation	1 toilet/30 people (minimum standard for residential facility: 1 per 10 people). No showers being bused to showers or cleaning up in sinks (standard 1 shower/bathtub 1 per 8). ¹⁰ People wash clothes at local laundromat.
Shelter Conditions:	Residents are sleeping on wooden church pews with pads
Access to Health Services	Doctor and nurse visit every other day, transportation to medical facilities available.
Parish of origin	New Orleans/Jefferson
Major Concerns	Housing, desire to rent local apartment—lack availability; locating missing relatives; receiving FEMA money; people down to last bits of cash; High levels of frustration with slow speed of resolving problems; perception that everyone in Texas had access to money and resources, but people of LA were being left behind; financial assistance, job placement.;
Where evacuees going after leaving shelter:	75% want to stay locally until New Orleans is rebuilt/safe to return to; will need cash and assistance on the other end in order to go back
Access to/Services Being provided on site/Partner organizations:	Food provided by Red Cross, non-governmental org, church groups. Clothes (adult/children), shoes women's sanitary products, diapers, distributed.
Barriers	Need Computers with internet access/ more telephones.; only 2 telephones for residential use
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	Not reported

Name of Shelter	(ID#: 3)
Time Period Assessed	8/30/05 – 9/13/05
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	50 / 6 (7 more expected on 9/14/05)
Population (demographic makeup)	(0-4) 2 (5-18) 1 (19-40) 0 (41-60) 3
Vulnerable persons identified	Yes
Types of vulnerability	Previously Diagnosed Mental Illness; High Blood Pressure
Separated Family Members	None reported
Registration	Roster of names kept; registration process not specified
Child Protection Issues	None reported
Security Concerns	Travel to bathing facilities in the evening
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	None reported
Food Needs	No Refrigerated/Freezer Storage; Small food portions (residents report feeling hungry)
Non-food Item Needs	Underwear, deodorant; hair products (i.e. brushes, combs, etc.)
General School Concern	None reported
School Registration	School aged child registered for school
Psychosocial Concerns	Previously Diagnosed Mental Illness; Shock/Denial/Numbed Response (i.e. “This can't be happening” when see TV coverage)
Need for Immediate Psychosocial Care	Follow needed for shelter resident with previously diagnosed mental illness
Child Friendly Space	- Space designated on-site - Structured Activities: Volunteers/ Staff not available to supervise children's activities
Water/Sanitation	No bathing facilities (residents must travel to local high school gym); Toilet/person ratio: 1 per 1.5 persons
Shelter Conditions:	Not specified
Access to Health Services	A nurse visited the facility once to administer general screening/shots
Parish of origin	Jefferson Parish (20%); East Over (20%); 9 th Ward (60%)

¹⁰ The International Plumbers Code : A guide for adoption. Table 403.1 Minimum Numbers of Plumbing Facilities.

Major Concerns	Permanent Housing; Getting FEMA Rep to Shelter Site; Bathing Facilities
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	50% want to return home <i>not specified</i> stay locally 50% move to other states (Missouri, TX, FL) <i>not specified</i> undecided
Access to/Services Being provided on site/Partner organizations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transportation via church van - Information and Referrals via Church volunteers - Partner Organization: Salvation Army – provides diapers and water - Local Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) office – directs overflow to nearby shelters - Convenient public bus access - Partner Organization: St. Vincent de Paul – provides lunch and dinner on-site daily
Barriers	Need Volunteers; no computers; no posted information on relief benefits/community resources
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	Distribute water, diapers, food to displaced living in the community (50 at a time – 5 families; 4 singles)

Name of Shelter	(ID#: 6)
Time Period	8/30/05 – 9/12/05
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	160/100
Population (demographic makeup)	Not specified
Vulnerable persons identified	Yes
Type of vulnerability	Mental illness, Physical Disability, Physical Illness; Pregnant woman,
Separated Family Members	Yes – Missing Family Members; Unaccompanied Minor (15 y.o.)
Registration	Have intake form/database; collect contact info when residents leave shelter
Child Protection Issue	Unaccompanied Minor (15 y.o.); Concerned about “child predators” outside of shelter—will call sheriff if problems arise
Security Concerns	Shelter full, verging on being overcrowded but have been asked by authorities to take 100 more evacuees; as occupancy grows security becomes more of an issue; current police response time is 5 minutes
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	None Reported
Food Needs	None Reported
Non-food Item Needs	Mattresses
General School Concern	None reported
School Registration	Children are registered for school but some leaving and will have to re-register
Psychosocial Concern	Director and staff overwhelmed; Bi-polar mother/son (asked to leave shelter); some tensions among residents
Immediate Need for Psychosocial Care	Track where bi-polar son/mother sent; facilitation around to diffuse/reduce resident tensions; care for caregivers support for church staff
Child Friendly Space	None reported
Water/Sanitation	5 toilets, 2 showers
Shelter Conditions:	Residents sleep in large room on air mattresses; no partitions but space between family groups
Access to Health Services	Poor-“agencies don’t show up”
Parish of origin	Not specified
Major Concerns	Finding housing; No central way of getting information; Awaiting visit from FEMA
Where evacuees going after leaving shelter:	Breakdown not specified
Access to/Services Being provided on site/Partner organizations:	Outside physicians, Red Cross counselor came once; other churches; outside prosthetic supply company furnishing prosthetics
Barriers	Limited access to internet; no centralized information; difficulty finding resources
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	Will buy bus ticket or give money for gas for resident/non-resident to reunite with family members or move on to more stable housing situation

Name of Shelter	(ID#: 8)
Time Period	8/31/05 – 9/12/05
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	100 / 50
Population (demographic makeup)	Male: 40% Female: 60% # of families: Not reported (under 18) approximately 50% (60+) Not reported
Vulnerable persons identified	Approximately 3
Types of vulnerability	Elderly; orphan
Separated Family Members	Yes – Missing Family Members
Registration	Not specified
Child Protection Issues	None reported
Security Concerns	No—have armed security guards mostly to allay fears by neighbors in the community.
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	None reported
Food Needs	Adequate food, but not usual diet.
Non-Food Item Needs	Van to transport people; lotions, toiletries, over the counter medications, cleaning supplies.
General School Concerns	None reported
School Registration	Children are registered
Psychosocial Concerns:	Requested mental health counseling; Aggressiveness, detached behavior; Some tension as difficult to live crammed with people.
Need for Immediate Psychosocial Care	Counseling support needed
Child Friendly Space	There are community groups that come in to do specific activities with the children. Inside (nursery) and outside (play yard)—there are toys, books,
Water/Sanitation	1 per 3.6 (standard 1 per 10) Separate male/female—2 showers available (standard 1 per 8). Have to wait for showers. Laundry picked up and returned to residents.
Shelter Conditions:	Broken air conditioning; Separate rooms for some families, built separators for others in larger room. Relatively good, clean with central heating and separate baths, eating, living spaces. Some tension as difficult to live crammed with people.
Access to Health Services	Nursing care comes to shelter. No doctor has visited.
Parish of origin	Various parishes (not specified)
Major Concerns	Housing is a top priority both short and long-term. Employment is a significant concern; money is running out.
Where residents going after leaving shelter	Majority want to return home; some unknown what they will do
Access to/Services Being provided On-site/Partner organizations:	Contacted Council of Aging (nothing was done); host church, community groups providing food. Pastor has opened a PO box so people can receive checks/info; Good relationship with community
Barriers	Need van to transport people; need financial assistance to cover shelter expenditures for DSL internet; One phone and one computer with internet for residents. A computer is being set up but none of the evacuees know how to use it. Information is lacking. FEMA visit and informed people of 1-800 number, thought there is confusion about how to get both FEMA and benefits from employers. Little information about missing family members.
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	None reported

Name of Shelter	(ID#: 9)
Time Period Assessed	8/30/05 – 9/12/05
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	200 / 150
Population (demographic makeup)	<i>Estimate</i> Male: 50% / Female: 50% # of families: 23 (range 3-5 family members)

	Under 18: 19.3% 60+: 12.5%
Vulnerable persons identified	yes
Types of vulnerability	Elderly, diabetes, multiple sclerosis, substance abuse; HIV; physical disabilities; mental illness; limited English proficiency
Separated Family Members	Shelter resident mother has been separated from child
Registration	Registration process not specified
Child Protection Issues	Children unsupervised when parents leave to look for work
Security Concerns	None reported
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	None reported
Food Needs	None reported
Non-Food Item Needs	Shoes (Large sizes); underwear; wheelchair; medication; cots; mattresses; wash rags, large sized clothes; towels
General School Concerns	Difficulty registering for school b/c unclear school district lines
School Registration	11 students to start school on 9/13/05 8-9 students started week of 9/5/05
Psychosocial Concerns:	Depression
Need for Immediate Psychosocial Care	Active Substance Abuse
Child Friendly Space	Preschool playground, basketball, badminton Structured activities: Volunteers supervising activities but not on regular basis
Water/Sanitation	No showers in building; Toilet/person ratio: 1 per 4
Shelter Conditions:	Shelter residents currently sleeping in pews in church sanctuary
Access to Health Services	EMS not responding; ill residents unable to see medical personnel
Parish of origin	90% New Orleans
Major Concerns	Temporary housing; freedom of movement; space/privacy
Where residents going after leaving shelter	90% want to return home 5% stay locally 5% move to other states (OK, TX, CA) <i>not specified</i> undecided
Access to/Services Being provided On-site/Partner organizations:	- Partner Organization: Covenant Community Church – provides donations - Partner Organization: Baptist Church Network (out-of-state affiliates) – provides donations
Barriers	one phone line/no computer
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	None reported

Name of Shelter	(ID#: 10)
Time Period Assessed	8/30/05 – 09/13/05
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	75 / 48
Population (demographic makeup)	Under 18: 46%
Vulnerable persons identified	Yes
Types of vulnerability	Elderly with limited mobility; high blood pressure; limited English Language proficiency (Spanish); separated child; physical disabled; newborn; toddler with tracheal tube/pouch
Separated Family Members	Yes - Missing family members reported and separated child (16 y.o.) at shelter
Registration	Intake includes needs assessment form
Child Protection Issues	Separated Child (16 y.o.); young person using substances; Child neglect (family of 7 children ages 4-10 left to fend for themselves due to parent alcoholism – asked to leave shelter)
Security Concerns	None reported – Chief of police is church member
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	None reported
Food Needs	None reported
Non-food Item Needs	Cooking Utensils
General School Concerns	None reported
School Registration	17 students registered, 7 moved away Youth comment: “School here is better than school at home”

Psychosocial Concerns	Substance Abuse; Previously Diagnosed Mental Illness; Mild Dementia; Aggressiveness/bullying among children; Social skills; Parenting skills
Need for Immediate Psychosocial Care	Follow needed for shelter resident with previously diagnosed mental illness; several active substance users
Child Friendly Spaces	Fellowship Hall used for sports, summer camp, vacation bible school, movies, stories read to children Structured Activities: Activities supervised by local and non-local volunteers
Water/Sanitation	5 portable showers with hot water access available; Toilet/person ratio: 1 per 4 persons
Shelter Conditions:	Residents are housed in Sunday school classrooms, separated according to family groups. Some residents sleep on cots and others on air mattresses. Some privacy and quiet time possible
Access to Health Services	M.D. and R.N. available on site (local volunteers); housing 10 nurses from Renal Healthcare who are working at O'Neal Dialysis Hospital
Parish of origin	New Orleans, Jell, Chalmette
Major Concerns	Housing/Losing Home; Missing Family Members; Finding Employment
Where evacuees going after leaving shelter	30% want to return home 20% stay locally <i>not specified</i> move to other states (FL, LA, MS, KS, TX) <i>not specified</i> undecided
Access to/Services Being provided On-site/Partner organizations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Several bulletin board providing information on relief benefits and community resources - DSS Representative visited to process food stamp application - Assistance applying for FEMA benefits (volunteer assisted) - Partner Organization: The Healing Place – provides toilets food, relocation, cots, bedding - Partner Organization: St. Luke's / Methodist – provides cooked meals
Barriers	Partial power outage; no air conditioning; fax machine not set up
Services to evacuees in the community (non-shelter residents)	None reported

Name of Shelter	(ID #: 15)
Time Period	8/29/05-9/12/05
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	Not answered/150
Population (demographic makeup)	150 (about 50 males; 100 females) 2 pregnant women; 5 people 60 years or older
Vulnerable persons identified	Yes
Types of vulnerability	Mental Illness; Physical Disabilities; Elderly; Residents with Limited English Proficiency (Spanish speaking)
Separated Family Members	Not Reported
Registration	Not Reported
Child Protection Issues	Not Reported
Security Concerns	None reported
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	Domestic violence reported
Food Needs	None reported
Non-food Item Needs	None reported
General School Concerns	Not answered
School Registration	Not answered
Psychosocial Concerns:	Affect of poor sanitary conditions on psychosocial well being
Need for Immediate Psychosocial Care	Follow up needed for shelter residents with previously diagnosed mental illness
Child Friendly Space	None reported
Water/Sanitation	4 toilets (very dirty); 3 female/1 male plus urinal; Horse trailer made into shower-poor conditions, not clear if there are separate male/female bathing areas; clothes are being washed for them
Shelter Conditions	Poor sanitary conditions; recommendation made to close this site

Access to Health Services	Not reported
Parish of origin	Not answered
Major Concerns	Laundry-blood and feces collected on laundry
Where evacuees going after leaving shelter:	Not answered
Access to/Services Being provided on site/Partner organizations:	Affiliated with Healing Place Church Center Use Pastor's Resource Council (PRC) volunteers
Shelter Conditions:	Unsanitary conditions; Dirty towels piled in corner; no soap in bathrooms; bugs/flies; high noise level
Barriers	No phones/ computers available to residents; not enough refrigeration/sanitation facilities
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	Not reported

Name of Shelter	(ID#: 17)
Time Period	08/31/05-09/10/05
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	80/56
Population (demographic makeup)	26 Males/30 Females; 18 years and younger=26, 19-40 years=13; 41-60 years=9; 60 years and older=1
Vulnerable persons identified	Yes
Types of vulnerability	Elderly; Physical Disabilities; Physical Illness; Newborns, Nursing Mothers
Separated Family Members	Yes
Registration	Intake done; ongoing case management provided by church volunteers; tracking where residents go
Child Protection Issues	None reported
Security Concerns	None mentioned
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	None reported at facility but heard about rape in Cajun dome and suspicion of rape/child molestation at Denham Springs High School (Denham Springs H.S. is no longer a shelter but many Judson shelter residents were transferred form Denham Springs H.S.)
Food Needs	None reported
Non-Food Item Needs	Underwear, ladies undergarments
General School Concerns	Before the hurricane, Livingston parish ranked 2 nd in LA for overcrowded or full-capacity school, post- hurricane the schools can't manage all of the students
School Registration	Not all children registered to return to school (some but not all)
Psychosocial Concerns:	Request made by resident for mental health/counseling by licensed professional Worry, anxiety among residents; children miss family members and friends; psychosomatic (high blood pressure patient reports blood pressure goes up when talking about evacuation experience)
Need for Immediate Psychosocial Care	Request made by resident for mental health/counseling by licensed professional
Child Friendly Space	Yes-playground for daycare and preschool
Water/Sanitation	25 or more toilets (evenly divided male/female); 3 showers (separated male and female) laundry done with Church members-church members
Shelter Conditions:	Rooms separated by family groups
Access to Health Services	Licensed Counselor; Social work students from Southeastern School of Social Work
Parish of origin	Not specified
Major Concerns	Uncoordinated services (Where is FEMA?);
Where residents going after leaving shelter	75 % want to return home 10% stay locally 15% move to other states
Access to/Services Being provided On-site/Partner organizations:	Church resources, community support; facility provides case management services to resident families
Barriers	None reported
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	Provide support to network of displaced living in church members' homes

Name of Shelter	(ID#: 18)
Time Period	8/30 or so-9/10
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	500/250
Population (demographic makeup)	Majority btw 19-40 years; over 100 btw 5-18 years
Vulnerable persons identified	Yes
Types of vulnerability	Physical illness; Physical Disability
Separated Family Members	None reported
Registration	None reported
Child Protection Issues	None reported
Security Concerns	None reported
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	None reported
Food Needs	None reported
Non-Food Item Needs	Washing detergents; cleaning supplies; medical supplies
General School Concerns	None reported
School Registration	Older youth registering
Psychosocial Concerns:	Anxiety
Need for Immediate Psychosocial Care	None reported
Child Friendly Space	No; Need structured activities
Water/Sanitation	8 women/4 men; separate showers
Shelter Conditions:	Large population living close together; lack of water and sanitation facilities
Access to Health Services	Nearby counseling center
Parish of origin	New Orleans; Manuever, Westwego
Major Concerns	Lack of sanitation facilities
Where residents going after leaving shelter	50 % want to return home 50 % stay locally
Access to/Services Being provided On-site/Partner organizations:	None mentioned
Barriers	None reported
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	None reported

Name of Shelter	(ID#: 20)
Time Period	8/30-9/12
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	150/124
Population (demographic makeup)	Male: 50% Female: 50% # of families: Not reported (under 18) approximately 20.2% (60+) 4%
Vulnerable persons identified	11
Types of vulnerability	Pregnant woman; elderly; 2 unaccompanied minors; mental illness; asthmatic; diabetics.
Separated Family Members	Yes – Missing Family Members; Separated Children/youth
Registration	Not specified
Child Protection Issues	Separated Youth (wants to talk to parent on the phone)
Security Concerns	Shelter has too many rooms, no privacy; can get kicked out. Previous issues with family stealing and bringing weapons in—sent family away.
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	Heard about rape in Cajun Dome in bathroom in larger facility, did not want to go there;
Food Needs	Need better food; fed anything, do not like food
Non-Food Item Needs	Need more meds; clothes
General School Concerns	Some adults cannot read; Parent trying to get children into a good school
School Registration	Children are being registered; not specified how many
Psychosocial Concerns:	Have certified counselors on-site; 3 people nervousness, no incidents.
Need for Immediate Psychosocial Care	None reported
Child Friendly Space	Need daycare/fenced in play area; children/youth want activities (i.e. go to mall,

	movies, skating rink); some structured activities (i.e. army reserved organized basketball/hangout)
Water/Sanitation	Toilets –total 1 per 21 (standard 1 per 10), showers 1 per 24. Laundry facility on site and when necessary people go to Laundromat one block away.
Shelter Conditions:	Some people sleeping on floor on mats; 2 families share one room; resident suggested that there should be separate shelter for pregnant and women with infants.
Access to Health Services	Partners with Walgreens/CVS for prescriptions; getting RX free; has a pediatrician that comes; other doctors and nurses who are church members come, medical care from Red Cross; Need more meds
Parish of origin	65% New Orleans 30% Jefferson 5% St. Bernard/others
Major Concerns	Finding a house ; go out to look for car with gas; unemployed; Signed up for unemployment and FEMA benefits but nothing yet; to find some place to stay; animals still at house; armed gangs looting; how to get papers back to file claims, lost everything, how to get ID, food stamp people do not keep appointments or even show up; worrying about loved ones who were left behind
Where residents going after leaving shelter	Some will return to New Orleans 50% will stay in Baton Rouge; they got jobs-Walmart hired. Others TX, FL, and other states.
Access to/Services Being provided On-site/Partner organizations:	Partners with Walgreens / CVS for prescriptions; Red Cross, local churches, Council on Aging, Sororities,
Barriers	Need directions and be able to locate available housing; need gas; need transport; Red Cross phone number not working; not qualified for a job, need to have job training; can't read; no child care- can't leave with family members, not many telephones available, Those wanting to relocate/settle/move will need cash/transport.
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	None reported

Name of Shelter	(ID#: 21)
Time Period Assessed	8/28/05 – 9/12/05
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	125 / 85
Population (demographic makeup)	12-13 families 30 males / 55 females (0-4) 4; (5-18) 10; (19-40) 15; (41-60) ?; (60+) 8
Vulnerable persons identified	Yes
Types of vulnerability	Pregnant women; mental illness; physical disability; chronic illness (i.e. insulin dependent); medically frail (recent surgery)
Separated Family Members	Not reported
Registration	Intake form; residents do not have access to internet to register w/ web-based databases
Child Protection Issues	None reported
Security Concerns	None reported
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	Male resident screams at night b/c he is recalling seeing people raped/killed as evacuating N.O.
Food Needs	Resident complained that food cold and have small portions
Non-Food Item Needs	Money, clothes closet, toys/games, beds
General School Concerns	None reported
School Registration	Some children registered for school; majority are not registered
Psychosocial Concerns:	Request made for counseling; no counselors available; Male resident screams at night b/c he is recalling seeing people raped/killed as evacuating N.O.
Need for Immediate Psychosocial Care	F/U for mentally ill resident
Child Friendly Space	No designated space on-site
Water/Sanitation	20 toilets (sex segregated)
Shelter Conditions:	Residents sleep in large gym; no partitions but separation between family groups; residents sleep in air/regular mattresses
Access to Health Services	Visit from Harvard volunteer doctors for first time on day of assessment;
Parish of origin	Orleans 80%; ; Metairie 15%; Kenner 5%; Port Sulphur – 1 person
Major Concerns	Housing; FEMA
Where residents going after leaving shelter	Majority prefer to stay locally with the hope of returning to N.O.; some have relocated out of state through church network sponsored initiatives that are sponsoring families out of state (i.e. TX, Michigan, GA, Missouri)
Access to/Services Being provided On-site/Partner organizations:	Local church network; had visit from Harvard volunteer doctors and Capital Area Human Services mobile crisis team (mental health) visited for first time on day of assessment; Council for the Aging providing lunch; no other regular visits from outside agency
Barriers	Residents do not have access to the internet
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	Not reported

Name of Shelter	(ID#: 23)
Time Period Assessed	8/28/05 – 9/11/05
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	200 / 160
Population (demographic makeup)	27 children initially, now down to 13 btwn ages 4 -15
Vulnerable persons identified	Yes
Types of vulnerability	Mental retardation 13 individuals from N.O. group home)
Separated Family Members	Not reported
Registration	Intake form, encourage residents to register with Red Cross/ missing persons
Child Protection Issues	None reported
Security Concerns	None reported
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	None reported
Food Needs	None reported
Non-Food Item Needs	None reported
General School Concerns	None
School Registration	All children registered for school

Psychosocial Concerns:	Not reported
Need for Immediate Psychosocial Care	None
Child Friendly Space	None observed on-site
Water/Sanitation	4 toilets (sex segregated); 4 standard showers;
Shelter Conditions:	Some privacy exists for residents from group home via tubular barriers
Access to Health Services	Local volunteer doctor visiting; Red Cross nurses visit daily for DD population
Parish of origin	9 th Ward (Orleans)
Major Concerns	FEMA benefits; finding a job
Where residents going after leaving shelter	TX; Arkansas; Atlanta 60% return home 20% stay locally 10% relocate to another location
Access to/Services Being provided On-site/Partner organizations:	Red Cross nurses Church network donations for food and non-food items
Barriers	None specified
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	None reported

Name of Shelter	(ID#: 28)
Time Period Assessed	8/30/05 – 9/9/05
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	100 / 80
Population (demographic makeup)	15-20 families; 3 single people Males 30 / Females 50 (0-4) 10; (5-18) 20; (19-40) 20; (41-60) 20; (60+) 10
Vulnerable persons identified	Yes
Types of vulnerability	Pregnant women; Physical disability; elderly; Mental Illness; Limited English proficiency (Haitian Creole); Physical/Chronic Illness;
Separated Family Members	Yes – Missing Family Members;
Registration	Intake form/ internal database
Child Protection Issues	None reported
Security Concerns	None reported (pastor is police officer)
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	None reported at facilities (resident reported didn't want to go to Superdome when evacuated N.O. because of reports of rape, poor conditions, lawlessness there)
Food Needs	None reported
Non-Food Item Needs	Additional freezer/ ice
General School Concerns	Families in transit – barrier to school registration
School Registration	Some children registered; older youth not registering
Psychosocial Concerns:	Some aggressiveness/irritability among children; residents complained of nightmares; difficulty sleeping; some residents became tearful during discussion; one resident seeing a psychiatrist (receiving medication)
Need for Immediate Psychosocial Care	Residents show visible signs of distress; responded well/thankful to have someone listen to their story; would benefit from facilitated group sessions; F/U mentally ill person referred to Women's shelter
Child Friendly Space	Play room for children (has video games, toys, books) Basketball net available Nursery and playground available for 3-5 year old Structured/Supervised activities not available on regular basis
Water/Sanitation	2 toilets / 2 urinals (men) 3 toilets (women); 2 outdoor showers
Shelter Conditions:	Residents sleep in single large room (sanctuary) on air mattresses; no partitions but some place between family groups; well kept/organized
Access to Health Services	Local volunteer doctors provide free services; church members transport residents to medical appointments
Parish of origin	40% Orleans; 5% Jefferson; 25% St. Bernard
Major Concerns	Housing; getting through to FEMA
Where residents going after leaving shelter	Some going to FL, KY, TX

	Most will stay in Baton Rouge area
Access to/Services Being provided On-site/Partner organizations:	Receive donations from church members and church network
Barriers	Limited transportation
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	Providing some support to displaced in community but unclear how many or what type of support

Name of Shelter	(ID#: 30)
Time Period Assessed	9/2/05 – 9/8/05
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	47 / 15
Population (demographic makeup)	Males: 8 Females: 7 (0-4) 2; (5-18) 5; (19 – 60+) 8
Vulnerable persons identified	Yes
Types of vulnerability	Pregnant woman, woman with oxygen tank (asthma/heart disease), mental illness; Developmentally delayed person; elderly
Separated Family Members	Yes – Missing Family Members; Unaccompanied minor 16 y.o.
Registration	Roster of names (not updated once residents leave)
Child Protection Issues	Children unsupervised while parents f/u w/ benefit appointments; parent has prior involvement with child protective services pre-Katrina (child was removed from home)
Security Concerns	Mentally ill person becoming aggressive (has been removed from shelter and placed at River Center shelter; leaving shelter 3am to wait on line at social security office
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	Domestic violence reported but couple was asked to leave church facility
Food Needs	Residents not used to Red Cross food; advise red Cross food stale; prefer to receive donation of food that residents can cook themselves
Non-Food Item Needs	Underwear, socks, shoes
General School Concerns	Youth report that it is common that children were not going to school pre-Katrina
School Registration	Some children registered; older youth not registered
Psychosocial Concerns:	Aggressiveness among children; older youth uncertain of future; Youth report “Us kids holding it done better than the adults”; Tension among residents; overworked staff
Need for Immediate Psychosocial Care	F/U needed for mentally ill person referred to River Center; support for staff;
Child Friendly Space	No designated space, some toys available; no supervised/structured activities
Water/Sanitation	No on-site bathing facilities; Take shower at Expressway park facility; no facilities for washing clothes; 1 bathroom/toilet (not segregated by sex)
Shelter Conditions:	Residents sleep in padded pews in church sanctuary; women and children have air mattresses
Access to Health Services	Volunteer nurse (church member) received mobile medical team visit from unknown outside agency (administered tetanus shots); use church van to go to emergency room (Baton Rouge General/ Women’s Hospital); free prescriptions at local pharmacy
Parish of origin	New Orleans
Major Concerns	Those who were not receiving Section 8 (housing subsidy) pre-Katrina have not received voucher for housing now; Difficult contacting FEMA and accessing FEMA benefits
Where residents going after leaving shelter	Majority want to stay local (don’t know anywhere else but New Orleans); Some going to Texas because people there receiving benefits; Others going to St. Rose
Access to/Services Being provided On-site/Partner organizations:	Church members donating food and some non-food items; received overflow of displaced from Allen AME (share resources with Allen AME)
Barriers	Residents have no access to computer; no bathing facilities; no access to centralized resource information
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	None reported

Name of Shelter	(ID#: 31)
Time Period	8/27-9/11/5
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	170/48
Population (demographic makeup)	Male: 60% / Female: 40% # of families: Not reported (under 16) 33.3 % (60+) 17%
Vulnerable persons identified	12
Types of vulnerability	Elderly, pregnant teenagers, broken bones; possible infringement on religious freedom (have to attend church b/c the are staying at the shelter)
Separated Family Members	Not reported
Registration	Not specified
Child Protection Issues	Children dislike lack of privacy and communal bathing arrangements.
Security Concerns	None reported
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	None reported
Food Needs	Not reported as an issue, receiving a variety of types prepared by host church and community members.
Non-Food Item Needs	None reported
General School Concerns	None reported
School Registration	Majority of children/youth are registered (Some not being registered), but not new arrivals. Not clear if children will be registered as families unsure of their plans. Children concerned that they would have to repeat the last grade if not enrolled within 9 weeks.
Psychosocial Concerns:	Children express of guilt and uncertainty; Children feeling bad about taking assistance and being treated like they are poor
Need for Immediate Psychosocial Care	F/U psychosocial care/counseling for children
Child Friendly Space	No structured activities. Children reported making some new friends in shelter. Areas outside to play, but not real designated areas.
Water/Sanitation	Toilets-24 on-site -1 per 2 people. Showers are not on-site, going to Walker High School at night but someone donated showers for on-site use as well. School showers at school are communal; some children expressed they did not like this- Also scrub in sink. Laundry facilities on site.
Shelter Conditions:	Well run, most residents have their own vehicle.
Access to Health Services	Trying to assist with health concerns on site, as could not access care because they were not registered with Red Cross
Parish of origin	Kenner
Major Concerns	People having gone from hotels to shelters and families, running out of money and becoming a burden on family-will have to go to a shelter again.
Where residents going after leaving shelter	In general people are saying they want to go back home to New Orleans. Return Home 60% Stay locally 20% Relocate—unknown but some people have already left for Texas and the Dream Center in Los Angeles.
Access to/Services Being provided On-site/Partner organizations:	FEMA, Red Cross-nurses, church/community groups and out of state churches provided food
Barriers	Not having access to clear information.
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	People having gone from hotels to shelters and families, running out of money and becoming a burden on family-will have to go to a shelter again.

Name of Shelter	(ID#: 34)
Time Period	9/2/05-9/12/05
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	30/15
Population (demographic makeup)	9 males; 6 females; 2 people 60 or over
Vulnerable persons identified	Resident with diabetes (note: IRC provided needed test strips to him following day);
Types of vulnerability	Physical Illness; mental Illness
Separated Family Members	Yes – Missing Family Members 9one man is still without news of his wife and 2

	children)
Registration	Not specified
Child Protection Issues	No children in this shelter
Security Concerns	None mentioned
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	None mentioned
Food Needs	None reported
Non-Food Item Needs	Paper plates; napkins; paper towels, plastic silverware; The biggest need is for portable showers
General School Concerns	No children in this shelter
School Registration	No children in this shelter
Psychosocial Concerns:	Depression and Anxiety among residents; Fatigue of volunteers/coordinators
Need for Immediate Psychosocial Care	Several people show signs of serious depression; Fatigue of volunteers/coordinators
Child Friendly Space	No children in this shelter
Water/Sanitation	1 outdoor crude shower; really need Red Cross portable shower; 2 toilets- 1 male/1 female; use local Laundromat to wash clothes; The biggest need is for portable showers
Shelter Conditions:	Shelter is housed in a small one room church building with kitchen and bathroom facility in the back. People are sleeping on wooden pews with pads and say they don't need cots and air mattresses they are comfortable as is.
Access to Health Services	Council on Aging contacted
Parish of origin	New Orleans-50%; Jefferson-50%
Major Concerns	(1) Housing-desire to rent locally and lack of information on finding available space; (2) Locating missing relatives; (3) receiving paychecks from former employees; (4) receiving FEMA money- all have registered; (5) The biggest need is for portable showers
Where residents going after leaving shelter	100 % stay locally (The coordinator says that the residents, all of who are from New Orleans area express a desire to stay right where they are and seem to feel safe at this shelter and in this town).
Access to/Services Being provided On-site/Partner organizations:	Council on Aging
Barriers	None reported
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	None reported

Name of Shelter	(ID#: 36)
Time Period Assessed	8/29/05 – 9/11/05
Highest occupancy/current occupancy	80+ / 40
Population (demographic makeup)	Under 18: 25%
Vulnerable persons identified	None reported
Types of vulnerability	N/A
Separated Family Members	None Reported
Registration	Demographic, special needs, and work history information collected; Referred to register with Red Cross/Missing Person database via internet
Child Protection Issues	None reported; no separated children
Security Concerns	None reported; hire evacuees as security
Gender Based Violence / Concerns	None reported
Food Needs	None reported
Non-Food Item Needs	Need refrigerator truck for frozen food items
General School Concerns	None reported
School Registration	All children registered for school
Psychosocial Concerns	Pastor advises that mental health counselor needed
Need for Immediate Psychosocial Care	None reported
Child Friendly Spaces	On-site school/daycare; some school/daycare slots space allotted to displaced residents at minimal cost Structured Activities: games and books available but activities are not facilitated

Water/Sanitation	No showers in building; Toilet/person ratio: 1 per 10
Shelter Conditions:	Residents are housed in one large room; some partitions for family groups; Residents sleeping on air mattresses
Access to Health Services	Local doctor and nurse wife volunteers are offering medical services
Parish of origin	Not reported
Major Concerns	Housing
Where evacuees going after leaving shelter:	20% want to return home 60% stay locally 10% move to other states (TX, AK) <i>not specified</i> undecided
Access to/Services Being provided On-site/Partner organizations:	Church network donations
Barriers	No major barriers reported
Services to displaced in the community (non-shelter residents)	Serving 200 – 300 people per day as distribution site for smaller churches and to evacuees living with parishioners' homes

III. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE FOLLOW UP

IRC recommends immediate follow up in all of the assessment sites. Specific follow up tasks and activities are outlined below by site. These immediate needs were identified by facility managers and the individuals interviewed.

** Please Note: Calculations for toilets are based on recommendations from The International Plumbing Code: A guide for use and adoption, Table 403.1 Minimum Number of plumbing facilities for institutional facilities, residential. This is based on the recommendation of 1 toilet per 10 person and 1 shower per 8 people.*

<p>(#1)</p> <p>Current # Residents: 90</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource/information person to help with paper work, resources. • Telephones • Computers with internet • Services for physical disabilities • Resources for single mothers • Assistance with follow-up concerning missing family members. • Cots • Plan activities for children • 6 Portable toilets. • Showers – 11 portable prefabricated • Laundry facilities
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<p>(#3)</p> <p>Current # Residents: 6</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource/information person to help with paper work, resources • Computers with internet • Mental health services/counselors for previous diagnosis • Regular medial visits—up to assessment only one visit • Staff to supervise children's activities • Need Refrigerator/food storage • Underwear, deodorant, hair products (brushes, combs, etc.) • Need 1 prefabricated shower—no bathing facilities on site.
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<p>(#6)</p> <p>Current # Residents: 100</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource person to connect people to • Better information on resources –forms etc. available. • Computers with internet • Services for mental illness, physical disabilities • Resources for pregnant and young mothers • Connect to health services—“outside” doctor visits only one time • Showers 10 prefabricated showers. • 7 portable toilets
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<p>(#8)</p> <p>Current # Residents: 50</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance for elderly residence • Contact Social Services ORPHAN Children at this facility. • Medical personal to visit • Resource person to help with employment networks, etc. • Computer/telephone • Repair air conditioner • Mental health counseling • Van for Transport • Lotions, toiletries, over the counter meds, cleaning supplies • Request for more familiar foods • Resource person to help with filling out forms/internet etc;. Telephone assistance. • Assistance with trying to locate missing family • Showers 4 prefabricated • Laundry facilities
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<p>(#9)</p> <p>Current # Residents: 150</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource /information person • Services for people with MS, HIV/AIDS • Medical care network or referrals—no response from EMS –and one time visits by medial volunteers • Interpreters—Spanish speakers • Telephones • Computers and internet • Children’s activities • Showers-18 prefabricated –none at facility –going to private homes. • Assistance for people who want to go to other states with family • Need assistance looking for an apartments • Cots/mattresses—currently using pews
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<p>(#10)</p> <p>Current # Residents:30</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource person to assist with getting help to people with jobs, etc • Fax machine/internet • Visiting nurses/doctor volunteers doctors—special medical needs in group • Resources for mental health counselors • Translators
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact Social Services—separated children, possible child neglect • Assistance with missing family members • Parenting skills classes, AA meetings (requested) • Cooking utensils (requested)
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<p>(#15)</p> <p>Current # Residents: 150</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource person-computers/internet for facility and surrounding neighborhood hosting displaced • Assistance for elderly • Assistance for persons with physical disabilities • Laundry services greatly needed • Portable showers needed • Showers 15 prefabricated • 14 Portable toilets needed –cleaning capacity • Laundry facilities <p>Residents should really be placed in another facility</p>
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<p>(#17)</p> <p>Current # Residents: 66</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource person/information to help people access information • Privacy issues • Counseling resources • Underwear, ladies undergarments, basic first aid. • More laundry facilities • Assistance for people who want to leave for other states • Showers-3 prefabricated
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<p>(#18)</p> <p>Current # Residents: 250</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities for youth (large youth population) • Assistance for persons with physical illness/disability • Assistance in placing children/registering children • Washing detergent, cleaning supplies, basic medical supplies • Unknown # of showers • 19 portable toilets
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<p>(#20)</p> <p>Current # Residents: 124</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource person with internet—help with assistance—directions, etc. help with transport, job training, literacy programs/help • Child care • Resources for pregnant women-referrals—getting food stamps, etc. • Resources for young mothers • SOCIAL SERVICES needs to be contacted—2 unaccompanied minors • Telephones for residents • Assistance with mental health issues • Special medical needs identified • Only volunteer doctors/nurses come—not sure if connected to medical system.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literacy issues rising • More structured activities with youth • Daycare facility • Have counselors on site—however not clear if part of overall system. • Need clothes • More appropriate foods • 9 portable toilets • 11 prefabricated Showers • Laundry Services needed • Privacy issues
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<p>(#21)</p> <p>Current # Residents: 85</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Staff/references-Medication needs chronic patients • Resource/Information person • Internet –no current access • Assistance with missing children • Transport to social service offices • Counseling resources needed • Beds • Showers UNKNOWN • Assistance for people who want to join other family members in other states • Unknown quantity of showers
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<p>(#23)</p> <p>Current population: 160+</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist with move of group home for persons with cognitive disabilities. • Establish Child friendly space • Additional showers -12 singles • Possible need for 16 toilets • Showers 8 prefabricated
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<p>(#28)</p> <p>Current population: 80</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource information person—needs information on bus routes, etc. • Medical--assist with transport/referrals for medical care for chronic illness. • Translators –Haitian residents • Additional laundry facilities • 4 portable toilet • Showers-6 prefabricated • More freezer space • Assistance with registering children in school.
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<p>(#30)</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource/Information person –bulletin board resource area. • Resources for substance abusers, domestic violence. • Counseling services • Requested copy of child registration form
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 computer with internet • 1 toilet • 2 Showers prefabricated—no shower facilities take at Expressway Park • Transport /assistance with SS etc so that travel does not have to start at 3am • Child-friendly spaces • Additional toilet needed. • Need laundry facilities—none available
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<p>(#31)</p> <p>Current # Residents: 48</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact Social Services—pregnant teens • Contact Council on Aging • Special med needs • Need access to med care—said not registered with Red Cross so are not receiving visits. • Register children for school. • Develop structure activities for children. • Child friendly spaces • showers 5 prefabricated
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<p>(# 34)</p> <p>Current # Residents: 15</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource person to help connect to other services –small shelter possibility person could be linked to larger shelter. • Assist in placing families in another shelter –or priority to be first moved into temporary housing. People sleeping on pews—no space for cots/mattresses. • Special medical need—diabetic • Physical disabilities need link to system/referral with follow-up with past and current benefits. • Assistance with missing relatives. • Paper plates, napkins, paper towels, plastic silverware. • 1 prefabricated shower
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<p>(#36)</p> <p>Current # Residents: 48</p>	<p>Immediate Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource person with computer/internet—none available • Access to medical system • Mental health counselors • Assess food storage • Showers 5 prefabricated • Toilets 2 portable
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