

# **Louisiana Federation of College Republicans**

## **OFFICE OF THE STATE CHAIRMAN**

[Chairman@lfc.org](mailto:Chairman@lfc.org)

Dear friends,

September 2, 2005

Louisiana is experiencing a troubling time right now. In addition to the news reports that you've all undoubtedly seen, the problem is also affecting College Republicans. For instance, numerous universities in New Orleans, including four with College Republican chapters, are now closed. It is comforting to know that our College Republican friends around the nation are thinking of us during this time. Please know that College Republicans in Louisiana appreciate your thoughts and prayers.

I would like to thank Texas, Arkansas, and all of the states showing hospitality to the people of Louisiana during this time. If you ask the Louisiana residents staying in your state, they might just cook you up a good gumbo!

I appreciate the many state chairmen who have called this week to ask how they can help during this time of crisis. I thought it would be best if I sent an email to every state, outlining what you can do. I want you to know that I attempted to send an email to you earlier this week through the CRNC but to no avail. I believe that time is of the essence in our efforts and no time should be wasted. People are in need of relief now.

The Louisiana Federation of College Republicans has launched a relief effort, which many are calling "Operation Republican Relief." The first thing you can do is to donate to the American Red Cross directly. Visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) for more information. This allows the Red Cross to purchase what they need in bulk, getting more out of each dollar given. The Red Cross knows exactly what items they need, and I strongly encourage you to donate to them.

If you would rather donate items, Louisiana is in need of just about everything. I recommend items that would be easy to ship including clothes and school supplies. Many evacuees in the shelters brought what clothes they could stuff in a bag, if they were able to bring anything at all. Clothes of all kinds are needed. If you have any old clothes that you've outgrown and can't wear, please send them. Also, the dispersed evacuees will not be allowed to return to New Orleans for some time and now must start a temporary life somewhere else. These people must enroll their kids in new schools in new towns, thus the need for school supplies.

If you do choose to ship items, send them to the LFCR and we will make sure they are dispersed properly. Our address is:

LOUISIANA FEDERATION OF COLLEGE REPUBLICANS

PO Box 80339

Baton Rouge, LA 70898

If you donate to the Red Cross, we'd like to know so that we can keep a record of College Republican support during this time. Of course we can't put a dollar amount on the kindness and thoughts that you are showing our citizens in other states, but we would like to keep track of how much money and supplies College Republicans across the nation donate.

For more information, visit [www.lfcr.org](http://www.lfcr.org). You can contact me at [chairman@lfcr.org](mailto:chairman@lfcr.org) although I am not able to send email from that account at this time due to the storm. Again, thank you for your support, thoughts, and prayers. We look forward to the day that we can reopen New Orleans for College Republicans. And we look forward to the day that we in Louisiana can meet with you personally to thank you for your support. May God bless you, and may God bless the great State of Louisiana. With kindest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely yours

J. KEITH GATES

Chairman