

**North & West Texas**  
**November 2007**

**Disaster Response Update: Case Management**

Lutheran Social Services Disaster Response (LSSDR), the local affiliate of Lutheran Disaster Response in Texas, Louisiana and the Mississippi Gulf Coast, has served nearly 17,500 individuals - survivors of Hurricane Katrina - through Katrina Aid Today (KAT) case management services. This puts LSSDR at more than 95% of our original target. (Nationally, KAT has achieved 68% of its target.)

Our KAT case managers have helped clients access at least \$4.4 million in services. This number does not reflect the dollar value of services for the cases we have transferred to other organizations.

LSSDR has distributed about \$1.4 million in direct financial assistance to our KAT clients for unmet needs related to Hurricane Katrina. Those needs include, but are not limited to: rent; utility assistance; furniture; medical equipment/supplies; appliances; clothing; transportation; education and building materials.

LSSDR has been awarded an extension to continue providing KAT case management through March 31, 2008. We will continue these services in Baton Rouge, New Orleans and the Mississippi Gulf Coast. LDR will also continue to partner with Lutheran Episcopal Services in Mississippi in Jackson and Long Beach, Miss., and with Lutheran Family Services - Missouri, the LDR affiliate providing services in Alabama.

With that extension comes a commitment for LSSDR to serve an additional 840 cases - a total of 7,640 - by March 31, 2008. At our current caseload totals, we have already achieved 85% of that revised target.

Our Houston program, administered by Refugee Services of Texas (RST), has closed in response to the decrease in demand for services. We achieved our target in Houston of 2,000 cases several weeks ago.

The LSSDR Baton Rouge staff has been reduced due to the decrease in demand for services there. We will continue at full staffing levels in New Orleans and Mississippi through March 31, 2008.

To date, LSSDR has served 51,000 survivors of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. To learn more, visit [www.LSSS.org/disasterresponse.htm](http://www.LSSS.org/disasterresponse.htm).