



NET

October 27, 2005

**BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR
READINESS, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY**

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DEAR FRIENDS OF NYDIS:

Welcome to **NYDISnet**, our bi-weekly e-newsletter. We hope this resource will keep you updated about the work of NYDIS and developments in disaster readiness, response and recovery initiatives here in New York City. If you have some news to share or an upcoming event to publicize please contact slockwood@nydis.org.

When an emergency situation arises in New York City - our office will send out a **NYDISnet ALERT** to all subscribers. The alert will include all official information available through the NYC Office of Emergency Management and news from our members and partners.

Please feel free to copy and distribute any information from **NYDISnet** that you find helpful. If you would like to distribute **NYDISnet** to your agency staff or faith community leaders please let us know - we're happy to provide that service free of charge.

Faithfully, Peter

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NYDIS NEWS AND EVENTS

- **November 9 Jazz Concert to Benefit NYDIS**


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**Jazz for Peace Presents:
a Benefit Jazz Concert for
New York Disaster Interfaith Services
featuring internationally renowned
jazz pianist, vocalist and composer
Rick DellaRatta
and his multicultural band made up of
musicians from Europe, Asia,
Africa & the Middle East**



**6:00 PM
November 9, 2005
Synod Hall**

**The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine
110th & Amsterdam Avenue
\$25 advance tickets / \$30 at door**

(food & beverages will be available for purchase)

Tickets available for purchase at door, at NYDIS (212.669.6100) or online at www.jazzforpeace.org

For flyer, info, or to buy tickets, go to:

www.nydis.org/resources/headlines/10-21-05.php

■ **SAVE THE DATE for NYDIS' 2005 Annual Meeting**

NYDIS will hold its Third Annual Meeting Tuesday, Nov. 22, 6 pm, in the rooftop pavilion at NYU's Kimmel Center on Washington Square Park.

For details, check out our website at: www.nydis.org.

■ **NYDIS Launches New Online Disaster Resource Library**

NYDIS has launched an upgraded version of our website Resource Library to allow new search features, more resources and the capacity to allow public users to post their own readiness, response or recovery resources or information about their agency and its work in our library.

Check it out, at:

www.nydis.org/resources/2db2.php

■ **Unmet Needs Roundtable Updates**





- **In-Service Training for Case Workers**

In-Service Training is required for case workers who have never presented a case at the Roundtable, and is recommended as a refresher for experienced case workers who have previously presented cases. All training sessions take place at NYDIS.

- 9:30-11:30 am - **Tuesday, November 8**
- 9:30-11:30 am - **Tuesday, November 22**
- 9:30-11:30 am - **Tuesday, December 6**

- **Next Meetings of the Roundtable**

The NYC 9/11 Unmet Needs Roundtable brings together donors with agencies providing case management to 9/11 victims. Case Workers who would like to present a case must sign-up by Friday prior to the meeting of the Roundtable.

- 9:30 am - **Thursday, November 10**
- 9:30 am - **Wednesday, November 23**
- 9:30 am - **Thursday, December 8**
- 9:30 am - **Thursday, December 22**

To sign up for In-Service Training or to present a case, contact:

Maggie Jarry, Moderator

212-669-6105

mjarry@nydis.org

- **Sikh Coalition & NYDIS Partners Continue Advocacy on City Council Backlash Mitigation Bills**

The Sikh Coalition, NYDIS and 40 NY organizations are continuing advocacy efforts for the passage of groundbreaking legislation that will address issues directly affecting Sikhs and other faith groups that are subject to discrimination because of religious attire. The City Uniform Anti-Discrimination Bill (Introduction No. 577) and the Backlash Mitigation Bill (Introduction No. 576) are proposed for the protection of Civil Rights. Twenty-five Council members have now endorsed the bills and a date for a hearing before the City Council is expected soon.



For more details, go to:

www.sikhcoalition.org/NewYorkCity_Bills.asp

- **NYDIS Operates Katrina Evacuee Clothing Mart**

NYDIS in partnership with the Mayor's NYC Clothing Bank is staffing the distribution of **new** clothing, household items and MetroCards to NYC's Katrina evacuees. With volunteers from various faith communities and clothing from the State Attorney General's Office, Central Synagogue, Filenes Basement, Liz Claiborne, Macy's, Mayor's Volunteer Center, NYC Clothing Bank, the Riverside Church, the Salvation Army, St. Peter's RC Church and World Vision, the Clothing Mart has served over 1000 evacuee families since it opened Sept. 22.

Evacuees must have registered with the American Red Cross or at the DASC, and have a referral form to shop at the Clothing Mart. The Katrina Evacuee Clothing Mart will close Nov. 4.

Each family is permitted to come to the Mart once a week and take 7 outfits (including an interview suit) per person. Families are also given

one \$4 MetroCard per family member.

If you would like to support our relief work, please contact:

Gili Chupak

212-669-6106

KatrinaRelief@nydis.org

■ NYDIS Provides Oversight to DASC Exit Interviews

NYDIS Recovery Director Maggie Jarry, AmeriCorps Member Cindy Katz and new staff member Bao Vuong are continuing to coordinate and train volunteers to conduct Exit Interviews of every evacuee family processed through the DASC (Disaster Assistance Service Center). Volunteers are recruited and given a DASC orientation by New York Cares. The exit interviews assure that each family has accessed all the services offered at the DASC and also identifies each evacuee's unmet needs. The information collected will be used by the Human Services Council, NYDIS and OEM to determine what long-term recovery programs will be implemented to help evacuees achieve sustainable recovery. In the short-term NYDIS uses the information to coordinate relief services with our members and to communicate about donation needs.

If you would like to volunteer to do exit interviews at the DASC, please contact:

New York Cares

www.nycares.org

Or

Cindy Katz

ckatz@nydis.org



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COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS

■ NVOAD Prepares Hurricane Guide

National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD) has developed a 97-page comprehensive guide entitled *Hurricanes Katrina and Rita - Relief and Assistance Guide - October 2005*. The document was created to provide guidance to people affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and for those who would assist them. Contact information and resources are listed by topic and additional resources are provided in appendices.



If you or someone you know has been affected by these hurricanes, we recommend you go to:

www.nvoad.org/uploads/reports

■ Katrina Evacuee DASC Hours Change

NYC's Katrina Welcome Center for Hurricane Katrina evacuees has changed its hours of operation to Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-5 pm. Evacuees seeking social services from the City may now call 311 to schedule an appointment



or go to the Welcome Center at 80 Centre St. in lower Manhattan.

The Welcome Center and Disaster Assistance Service Center will be closed Nov. 8 for Election Day and Nov. 11 in observance of Veterans Day.

For more information and directions to the DASC: call 311 or go to www.nyc.gov/html/oem/home.html

■ **Weekly NYC Katrina Evacuee Updates From HSC**

The NYDIS website has an archive of all the weekly Katrina Evacuee updates from the Human Services Council on relief and recovery services being offered locally and through FEMA to evacuees relocated to the city as well as information on ways to donate and volunteer.



Go to: www.nydis.org/resources/headlines/10-14-05.php

■ **Six Ways to Help the Environment After a Disaster**

Cathy Shropshire, executive director of the Mississippi Wildlife Federation, offers six straightforward ways people can help the environment following a disaster.



Read the full story at:

www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2919

■ **Debris Burning Draws Ire**

Piles of donated old clothes are spreading like invasive weeds along the roadsides in coastal Mississippi. They're moldering amid the other debris--wood and metal shards, bent bikes, broken toys, ruined appliances, soaked furniture.

Read the full story at:

www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2918

■ **Drama & Creative Expressions Workshop Offered**

September Space with Creative Alternatives of New York is offering a workshop to explore imagination and creative self-expression on **Wednesdays, 6-7 pm, starting Nov. 2** at 11 Broadway at Bowling Green, 11th floor. The program is free and open to adults 18 and older.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact:

Laura Horowitz
Program Manager
646-289-3098

lhorowitz@worldcares.org

www.worldcares.org



■ **September Space Offers Verbal Judo**

Verbal Judo - Phase I, as seen on ABC-News, will be offered on **Thursday, Oct. 27, 6-9 pm**, and the Advanced Workshop will follow on **Thursday, Nov. 10, 6-9 pm**. James Shanahan, longtime Police Academy Instructor, will be conducting the seminars that combine

Western style persuasion with Eastern philosophy to reduce conflict and tension in relationships. Both workshops will be held at 520 8th Ave. 36th Street 11th floor.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact:

Laura Horowitz
Administrative Assistant
212-563-7570
lorowitz@worldcares.org
www.worldcares.org

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FROM OUR MEMBERS AND PARTNERS

- **Faithful Response Equips Seniors with Go Bags**

LDRNY, through its Faithful Response program, is working with Nassau County Office of Emergency Management to better prepare senior citizens for disaster. Nassau County's Citizens Corp purchased more than 100 of LDRNY's Ready-2-Go Bags to be distributed to seniors.



LDRNY will also provide training on Acute Traumatic Stress Management, given by Raymond Shelton Ph.D. Dr. Shelton developed the Critical Incident Stress Management Peer Support program for both the police and fire services in Nassau County. He serves as the clinical director for Nassau and Suffolk County. The audience will consist of volunteers from the Medical Reserve Corp, CERT Care Team, mental health practitioners, and clergy.

For more info, go to:

www.ldrny.org

- **NCC Speaks Out on Katrina Rebuilding**

National Council of Churches (NCC) advises congregations on accepting FEMA grants and ways to advocate for a just rebuilding of the Gulf Coast.



To access the articles, go to:

www.ncccusa.org/news/050928GoverningBoard.html

www.ncccusa.org/news/050909endpoverty.html

- **UMCOR Receives FEMA Grant**

The United Methodist Committee on Relief announced Thursday that it will coordinate a large-scale case management effort after Hurricane Katrina.



Read the full story at:

www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2929

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PREPAREDNESS CORNER

- **New York City Disaster Preparedness Information**

Information and preparedness resources are available at:

www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/readynewyork/home.html



■ Getting Financially Prepared

In the face of a record-breaking hurricane season, more people are focused on disaster readiness - yet many ignore financial preparation. Five quick ways to lessen financial headaches after a disaster - no matter what your income level - is offered in the article below.

Read the full story at:

www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2913

■ Bird Flu Preparedness Urged

Health officials are doing their best to keep the public calm and prepared as the bird flu spread from Asia into Europe.

Read the full story at:

www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2909

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN DISASTER SERVICES

- NYDIS has two full-time temp positions open. One for research and data entry in our Planning & Training Office and other in our Katrina Relief Program. A position profile is available for download from our website.

www.nydis.org

For info, call:
Rahma Walker
212-669-6100



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WE RECOMMEND...

- For a detailed run down of immigrant/Katrina issues, go to: www.ilw.com/immigdaily/news/2005,0921-crs.pdf
- Art Therapy is assisting with recovery efforts. Read the full story at www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2915
- Mississippi's low-income and minority communities are caught in a rip-tide of social inequity as hurricane recovery wears on, said advocates Thursday. Read the full story at www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2914
- For the latest on disaster features and information on Katrina and other disasters, go to: www.disasternews.net

MAKE A GIFT TO NYDIS

- **Order Our 9/11 Recovery and Ground Zero Tour CD**



It's not too late to order from NYDIS the newly released CD - [Courage: A Pilgrim's Walking Tour of Ground Zero](#). Produced by Courtney Cowart who was a volunteer at St. Paul's Chapel after 9/11, the CD accompanies the listener through a journey at Ground Zero and includes not only walking directions, a map, and identification of key points on the landscape, but also provides first-person stories by participants who worked tirelessly in the recovery effort and have struggled with the pain and suffering of the experience.

The CD is enhanced with music by acclaimed songwriter and singer Beth Nielsen Chapman and Emmy award-winning musician, composer and producer Gary Malkin.

Proceeds from the sale of the CD support NYDIS' disaster readiness, response and recovery initiatives.

To order *Courage: A Pilgrim's Walk of Ground Zero*:

Order online at www.nydis.org/visitnyc/5.php

Call: 212-669-6100

Cost: \$15 per CD + \$2 shipping and handling

- **MAKE A DONATION TO NYDIS ONLINE:**

If you'd like to make a donation to assist NYDIS in its mission of providing faith-based disaster services, [click here](#), or send a check to NYDIS at 22 Cortlandt Street, 20th Fl., New York, NY 10007. NYDIS is a 501(c)(3) corporation and contributions are 100% tax deductible. It is a great way to honor or memorialize someone and we will send an acknowledgement of your gift.



To donate on line, go to the NYDIS homepage and click on "Make a Donation": www.nydis.org