



# NET

December 2, 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](mailto: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

**PETER B. GUDAITIS, M.DIV.**  
*Executive Director & CEO*

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## NYDIS NEWS AND EVENTS

### ■ **Urgent: Katrina Evacuees Need House of Worship Sponsors**



**We need houses of worship to sponsor Katrina evacuees - 300 families face eviction from local hotels when FEMA funding ends on Dec. 15.** To date, eleven houses of worship have signed on to the NYDIS/ Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM) Katrina Evacuee Sponsorship Program to resettle 100 evacuee households that have relocated to NYC. Central Synagogue was the first to step up and is already assisting one Mississippi family. The program matches evacuees with houses of worship of all faiths that commit to offer housing and employment assistance as well as personal contact and

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[slockwood@nydis.org](mailto:slockwood@nydis.org)

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NEW YORK, NY 10007

OFFICE: 212.669.6100  
FAX: 212.669.6101 [www.NYDIS.org](http://www.NYDIS.org)

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moral support, and provides training and support to sponsoring houses of worship and families throughout the resettlement process.

- **If your house of worship is ready to sponsor an evacuee household:**
  1. Register with EMM  
Email - [EMM@episcopalchurch.org](mailto:EMM@episcopalchurch.org)  
Phone - 212.716.6347
  2. Attend the Dec. 7 training (details below) or schedule a training for your house of worship with EMM, Don Cimato, 212.716-6347.
  
- **If your house of worship is interested but needs more information:**
  1. Attend the Training/Information Meeting  
**Wednesday, Dec. 7, 9:30-Noon**  
The Greater Allen Cathedral of NY  
110-31 Merrick Rd ([map](#))  
Jamaica Queens  
  
**Please register online at [www.nydis.org](http://www.nydis.org)**  
Or Email – [slockwood@nydis.org](mailto:slockwood@nydis.org)  
Phone – 212.669-6104
  2. **For more information visit [www.nydis.org](http://www.nydis.org) or contact:**  
The Rev. Susan Lockwood  
212-669-6104  
[slockwood@nydis.org](mailto:slockwood@nydis.org)

### ■ Mayor Honors NYDIS and Katrina Donors at Annual Meeting

Mayor Michael Bloomberg honored NYDIS' response to local Katrina evacuees at NYDIS' 2005 Annual Meeting on Nov. 22 at NYU's Kimmell Center. The Mayor, joined by NYC OEM Commissioner Joe Bruno, recognized donors, program partners, and the 150 NYDIS Katrina Relief volunteers who made possible NYDIS' efforts.



The evening also included recognition of major donors and partners that support NYDIS' recovery and preparedness programs. Erica Lowery of the Red Cross' September 11 Recovery Program spoke in recognition

of NYDIS' sponsorship of the NYC 9/11 Unmet Needs Roundtable which gave away \$1.2 Million in 2005 in partnership with IOCC, LDRNY and Safe Horizon. Ken Curtin, FEMA Voluntary Agency Liaison, keynoted the gathering of 225, highlighting the unique and invaluable contributions NYDIS makes to disaster human services.

For more photos or to download our 2005 Annual Report go to:  
[www.nydis.org](http://www.nydis.org)

#### ■ **WTC Immigrant Recovery Worker Meeting Set for Dec. 14**

NYDIS is continuing to host a series of inter-agency meetings to discuss the current unmet needs of documented and undocumented immigrants who were employed to abate asbestos or clean buildings at the WTC site. Agencies present at the Nov. 7 meeting made detailed recommendations to the three Unmet Needs Roundtables in NYC, LI, and NJ on how to best support the sustainable recovery needs of these laborers. That discussion also focused on barriers to sustainable assistance for out-of-status immigrants. The next meeting is set for Wednesday, Dec. 14, 9-10:30 am at NYDIS.

For more info, contact:  
Maggie Jarry, Director of Recovery & Advocacy  
212.669.6105  
[mjarry@nydis.org](mailto:mjarry@nydis.org)

#### ■ **Bill To Restore \$125M for Recovery Workers Back on Track**

The \$125 million previously appropriated for New York to aid ill and injured WTC workers and volunteers has been attached to an emergency spending bill that is currently moving through Congress. Last week, Congressman Vito Fossella was able to obtain an agreement with House Speaker Dennis Hastert to have the \$125 Million restored. Speaker Hastert gave assurances that the funding will be included in the Katrina Supplemental to be considered by the House in Dec. The advocacy of NY legislators, especially Senators Hillary Clinton and Chuck Schumer and Rep. Carolyn Maloney, as well as many 9/11 service providers including NYDIS has played an integral role in restoring the \$125 million in 9/11 aid that President Bush's proposed budget omitted and that was rejected by the Joint House-Senate Labor, HHS Conference Committee Nov. 15.



To read more, go to:  
[www.house.gov/maloney/issues/Sept11/112205letter\\_hastert.pdf](http://www.house.gov/maloney/issues/Sept11/112205letter_hastert.pdf)

#### ■ **NYC 9/11 Unmet Needs Roundtable Updates**



- **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, December 8**
  - 9:30 am – **Thursday, December 22**
  
- **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 - **Wednesday, December 7**

To sign up for In-Service Training or to present a case, contact:  
Maggie Jarry, Moderator  
212-669-6105  
[mjarry@nydis.org](mailto:mjarry@nydis.org)

#### ■ **NYDIS Executive Attends OEM Meeting on Pandemic Influenza**

NYDIS Executive Director Peter Gudaitis attended a Dec. 1 Pandemic Influenza Agency Preparedness Meeting sponsored by NYC Office of Emergency Management (OEM). OEM Commissioner Joe Bruno brought together the city's critical infrastructure agencies to provide information and scenarios that can be used by agencies to develop an internal agency-specific pandemic influenza plan, and to brief agencies on the city's current influenza preparedness. The goal of the meeting was for agencies to design and develop a written continuity and response plan that will be submitted and reviewed by OEM and the Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene.



To read more about the city's response, go to:  
[www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/readynewyork/hazard\\_public\\_health.html](http://www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/readynewyork/hazard_public_health.html)

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## COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS

#### ■ **Poll Shows Most Americans No Better Prepared After Katrina**

NYU professor, Paul C. Light reports that "American right now are not

prepared to last three hours on their own, let alone three days. They are still as dependent on government, but have less confidence." The report drew its conclusions from two polls taken before and after Katrina that were conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associates.

To read the article, go to: [www.signonsandiego.com](http://www.signonsandiego.com)

For info on NYU's Center for Catastrophe Preparedness and Response, go to: [www.nyu.edu/ccpr](http://www.nyu.edu/ccpr)

#### ■ EPA to Sample For WTC Dust

The Environmental Protection Agency has announced that it will proceed with a modified plan to sample and clean apartments in Manhattan that were affected by the cloud of dust sent out when the World Trade Center was attacked on Sept. 11.

Read the full story at: [www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2976](http://www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2976)

#### ■ Feel the Music! Workshops/Lessons for Youth

The Feel the Music! free music workshops for children and teens directly affected by Sept. 11 that began in Oct. have blossomed into a teen jazz ensemble, a percussion class, family music for children under 5, a Thursday afternoon singing workshop and private piano lessons. The jazz ensemble has already written their first composition and plans are being made to go into the recording studio in 2006.



#### Registration for the NYC winter cycle will open on Dec. 15 for workshops and lessons in January-March.

For information on any of the activities listed above, to register, or to make a suggestion for a music workshop in your area, please contact: Valerie Ghent

212.669.6126

[valerie@musicandhealing.org](mailto:valerie@musicandhealing.org)

[www.musicandhealing.org](http://www.musicandhealing.org)

#### ■ Katrina Disaster Assistance Service Center Closes

NYC Office of Emergency Management (OEM) closed full operation of the Katrina Disaster Assistance Service Center (DASC) at 80 Centre St. on Nov. 28. The Centre St. site, will, however, operate as a referral service for Katrina evacuees from 10 am-3 pm, M-F. The DASC opened Sept. 15 and saw an average of 40 Katrina evacuee households a day. With the help of city agencies, the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, NYDIS, and more than 1,300 volunteers, the DASC served 2700 of the estimated 3000 who relocated to NYC from the Gulf region.

#### ■ Katrina Evacuee Case Management Training Dec. 6

The Training Subcommittee of the Katrina Coordinating Group will hold the first full-day training for case managers working with Katrina evacuees on Tuesday, Dec. 6. Details are in the flyer. The training will offer case managers practical and updated information in order to serve evacuees effectively.

Space is limited to 50 participants, and advance registration is required.

[Download the flyer and registration form.](#)

For questions about registration contact:

Hayyim Obadyah

212-836-1618

[ObadyahH@ujafedny.org](mailto:ObadyahH@ujafedny.org)

For questions about the training contact:

Jen Schenkel

212-371-1000

[jennifer.schenkel@archny.org](mailto:jennifer.schenkel@archny.org)

#### ■ Case Management Hotline for NYC Katrina Evacuees

A consolidated case management referral system for Katrina evacuees living in NYC is now operational. Thanks to Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York all Hurricane Katrina evacuees living in NYC who are seeking a case manager to assist with services and recovery needs can call 1-888-744-7900, M-F, 9 am-6 pm.



#### ■ NYC Katrina Evacuee Updates From HSC on NYDIS Website

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](http://www.nydis.org/resources/headlines/10-14-05.php)

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#### FROM OUR MEMBERS AND PARTNERS

- **Valerie Ghent To Be Honored Dec. 9**  
Valerie Ghent, Founder/Director of The World Foundation for Music and Healing, will receive the Paul Ramos Award for Service to the Arts at the Betances Health Center Jazz Concert and Awards Ceremony on Friday, Dec. 9, at 8 pm at the Harry de Jur Playhouse at Abrons Art Center, 466 Grand St, Manhattan.  
For more info, contact:



Doug Marvin  
917.653-5334

- **Bronxville Episcopal Parish Organizing Trip to Gulf Coast**  
Christ Church Bronxville (Episcopal) is organizing a trip in February to work along the Mississippi Gulf Coast in cooperation with the Dio of MS. There are some slots open for volunteers. The cost is approximately \$500.

For more info, contact: The Rev. Daniel C. Gunn, Assistant, Christ Church, [dgunn@ccbny.org](mailto:dgunn@ccbny.org)

To see what the Episcopal and Lutheran Dioceses of Mississippi are doing, go to: [www.dioms.org](http://www.dioms.org)

- **Women In Islam Holds Forum on Social Justice**  
Women In Islam Inc is presenting a lecture on "The Aftermath of Katrina: Where do we go from Here?" Thursday, Dec. 15, 6-9 pm, at the Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive at 120th.

For more info, contact:  
Women In Islam Inc  
212-576-8875  
[womeninislam@usa.net](mailto:womeninislam@usa.net)  
[www.womeninislam.org](http://www.womeninislam.org)



- **NYDIS Collaborates on NYS Disaster MH Curriculum**

The Rev. Martha R. Jacobs (right), Vice President of NYDIS' Board of Directors and a Board Certified Chaplain, has accepted an invitation to serve as NYDIS' "subject matter expert" for the writing of the new New York State Disaster Mental Health Curriculum that is being developed for the New York State Department of Health. The project is headed by Dr. Herrmann an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and of Clinical Nursing and the Director of Disaster Mental Health at the University of Rochester Medical Center. This curriculum is being developed as an instructor training for those who will serve as instructors throughout the state teaching disaster mental health assessment and caregiver skills to hospital-based mental health and spiritual care providers. Rev. Jacobs will serve on the project as an experienced provider and expert in care giving in a multi faith setting, and, as needed, will draw upon the expertise of religious leaders of other faiths to enhance the curriculum's cultural and theological competency.



## PREPAREDNESS CORNER

### ■ New York City Disaster Preparedness Information

Check out the latest resource from the New York City Office of Emergency Management - a pocket sized Ready New York Guide!



Information and other preparedness resources are available at:

[www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/readynewyork/home.html](http://www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/readynewyork/home.html)

### ■ Two Ready New York Training Events Available

Assemblyman Mike Benedetto's office will be sponsoring two Ready New York events on emergency preparedness next week in the Bronx:

#### **Wednesday, Dec. 6, 6:30-9:30 pm**

Trinity Methodist Church  
113 Bay Street  
City Island Ave.  
City Island, NY



#### **Thursday, Dec. 8, 6:30-9:30 pm**

St. Francis De Chantel  
2962 Harding Ave  
Bronx, NY 10465

Each of these presentations is open to the public and will be co-presented by OEM and the American Red Cross in Greater New York.

For more info, contact:

Herman Schaffer, Community Outreach/Disaster Education Coordinator  
NYC Office of Emergency Management

718-422-4821

[hschaffer@oem.nyc.gov](mailto:hschaffer@oem.nyc.gov)

### ■ Disaster Preparation for People with Psychiatric Disabilities



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) invites you to participate in an interactive webcast on Dec. 15, 1-2:30 pm. The webcast will focus on using self direction/peer support in planning for and reacting to disasters. Learn from those that have lived through disasters and what can be done and how self direction/peer support can be utilized. Also, resources will be shared pertaining to disaster preparation for people with psychiatric disabilities.

LIVE AND ARCHIVED VIEWING VIA WEBCAST: A live webcast, as well as a later archived webcast, of this broadcast will be available for free and unrestricted viewing at: [www.ConnectLive.com/events/samhsa](http://www.ConnectLive.com/events/samhsa)



This broadcast will be available for free and unrestricted viewing from all fifty states of the USA, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean. C-BAND Satellite: AMC-1 Transponder: C20 Orbital Location: 103 degrees W.L. Downlink Freq: 4100 MHz Vertical

For info, contact:

Jackie Golden

[jgolden@dbconsultinggroup.com](mailto:jgolden@dbconsultinggroup.com)

301-589-4020, Ext 211

[www.mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/consumersurvivor/](http://www.mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/consumersurvivor/)

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## JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN DISASTER SERVICES

- **NYDIS Planning & Training Position Available**  
NYDIS has a VISTA position (through Pace University) that would work in our Planning & Training program. The position runs one year, from now-through December 2006. Qualifications include bachelor's degree or equivalent experience.

The VISTA living stipend is \$11,052, plus unlimited monthly metro card, health insurance, childcare subsidies, and a \$4,750 education award upon completion of the program.

To apply, email or fax:

Peter B. Gudaitis, M.Div, Executive Director & CEO

NYDIS - New York Disaster Interfaith Services

22 Cortlandt Street, 20th Floor

New York, NY 10007

[pgudaitis@nydis.org](mailto:pgudaitis@nydis.org)

Fax: 212-669-6101

No phone calls.

For info on NYDIS, go to:

[www.nydis.org/about/1.php](http://www.nydis.org/about/1.php)



- **Tribute Center Seeks Volunteer Tour Guides**  
The Tribute Center, a project of the September 11th Widows and Victims' Families' Association, is seeking volunteers impacted by 9/11 to lead guided tours of the WTC site and share their stories with visitors. The next volunteer training will take place during the second weekend of January.

If you are interested in being trained as a Tribute Center Guide, contact:

[RachaelG@tributenyc.org](mailto:RachaelG@tributenyc.org)

September 11<sup>th</sup> Families Association

For more info on the volunteer program, go to:  
[www.tributenyc.org](http://www.tributenyc.org)

- **NYCOSH Seeks Outreach/Health Specialist**  
The NY Committee for Occupational Safety and Health is seeking a community outreach & Liaison/safety and health specialist to develop, coordinate and conduct safety and health programs for immigrants and low wage workers.

To apply, email: [nycosh@nycosh.org](mailto:nycosh@nycosh.org)



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## WE RECOMMEND...

**Undoing Racism Fall Seminar Series**  
**Monday Evenings, Free Discussion and Dinner Series**  
**Facilitated by David Billings**

**WHEN:** Monday evenings 5:30-7pm  
**WHERE:** Fordham University Graduate Center At Tarrytown  
**FREE** (with light meal included)  
**RSVP** by emailing [ssbernabei@aol.com](mailto:ssbernabei@aol.com) or  
call 914-723-3222 option #2

**December 5th Presentation**  
"Actions towards creating anti-racist agencies and communities"  
**Phyllis B. Frank, [VCS Community Change Project](#)**

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## MAKE A GIFT TO NYDIS

- **DONATE TO NYDIS' KATRINA EVACUEE RELIEF 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](http://www.nydis.org)

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

Order [\*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 walking directions, a map, and identification of key points on the landscape. It also provides first-person stories by recovery workers who struggled and survived the experience.



**Proceeds benefit NYDIS' readiness, response and recovery initiatives.**

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

Order online at [www.nydis.org/visitnyc/5.php](http://www.nydis.org/visitnyc/5.php)

Call: 212-669-6100

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

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