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CLR e-Briefs

A legal information resource for Community Legal Resources' clients

September 14, 2005

This special issue of CLR e-Briefs is an update for those of you working on responding to the many issues resulting from HURRICANE KATRINA.

Please note that if you prefer not to receive future issues of CLR e-Briefs you may click on "Safe Unsubscribe" at the bottom of this e-mail.

Resources for Tracking Ongoing Changes to HUD/IRS Guidelines

For Developers Trying to Make Housing Available to Hurricane Evacuees

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has established a [Hurricane](#)

[Katrina Resource Page](http://www.hud.gov/katrina) at www.hud.gov/katrina. In addition to guidance for evacuees, the page includes guidance for housing providers trying to navigate the ongoing changes to rules governing federal housing programs.

At this time, the Site includes (among other things):

- [Memo to FHA-approved lenders](#)
- [Memo to GNMA participants](#)
- [Emergency Shelter Grant \(ESG\) Waiver](#)
- [ConPlan Waiver](#)
- [CDBG Waiver](#)
- [HOME Waiver](#)
- [Assistance for Disaster-Affected Families for Public Housing and Voucher Programs](#)
- [Instructions to Public Housing Residents and Voucher Recipients who were Affected by Hurricane Katrina](#)
- [Temporary Voucher/Public Housing Certification Form](#)

Similarly, the U.S. Internal Revenue Service has established a [Hurricane Katrina Page](#).

Governor Establishes Michigan Hurricane Helpline 1-888-535-6136

The Governor's office was inundated by calls from thousands of concerned citizens, businesses, and organizations that want to contribute to the disaster relief and recovery effort for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Michigan is an incredibly compassionate and generous state. The Governor's office has taken several steps to coordinate and organize that compassion and generosity into an effective statewide response to aid citizens along the Gulf Coast.

The Governor's Office established a Michigan Hurricane Helpline for citizens to pledge donations of goods, services, and other offers of assistance. Pledges will be cataloged and coordinated so that when the affected region asks for our assistance, the state can deliver immediately. **The Michigan Hurricane Helpline number is 1-888-535-6136.**

Other Michigan Resources

In the State of Michigan, the coordinated website for Hurricane Katrina information is the [Michigan Homeland Security Department](#). Local offices of the [Michigan Department of Human Services](#) are coordinating services to Hurricane Katrina evacuees.

In southeast Michigan, the United Way for Southeastern Michigan has developed a website that attempts to list all of the resources for receiving or offering assistance: <http://katrina.uwsem.org/>

Legal Assistance

Some community nonprofits or groups may be interested in aiding the evacuees of Hurricane Katrina. Several legal concerns may arise for each of you as you move forward in these efforts. The legal landscape surrounding relief efforts is ever-changing these past few weeks and will continue to change as the IRS and other regulatory agencies adopt new rules and policies to deal with this crisis. CLR is in the process of working with its volunteer lawyers to better understand the legal issues at stake and is available to you as a resource should you decide to engage in hurricane relief efforts and have legal questions in that regard.

Contact CLR with any questions or legal needs

Request Assistance

Community Legal Resources (CLR) provides free legal assistance to community-based organizations.

Contact us at 313-964-4130 or visit our [website](#) for more information.

email: klocker@michiganlegal.org
phone: 313-964-4130
web: <http://www.clronline.org>

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