



THE WHITE HOUSE

- The President has called on all Americans to step forward to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina. To help Americans answer the President's new Call to Action, USA Freedom Corps has developed a comprehensive strategy for coordinating volunteers for long-term relief and reconstruction efforts.
- The USA Freedom Corps Volunteer Network is the largest online network of volunteer opportunities. Tens of thousands of these opportunities are Hurricane Katrina-specific. And more are being added every day. By visiting www.usafreedomcorps.gov, Americans can find ways to help in both their communities and in the affected region.
- Many non-profit groups engaged in hurricane relief are already connected to the USA Freedom Corps network to receive volunteers, including the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, and others. We are encouraging more organizations to list their volunteer opportunities on our site.
- Right now, by visiting our website, individuals, groups, or businesses can find volunteer opportunities, or contribute cash or in-kind donations.
- Schools can support other schools by linking to information provided by the Department of Education. Businesses can connect to a command center run by the Department of Commerce to address their specific needs. Similarly, volunteer organizations can connect to a Katrina Resource Center that can match their volunteers with needs on the ground.
- We have asked the Corporation for National and Community Service to develop the Katrina Resource Center, to help volunteer organizations (businesses, schools, scouting troops, and other faith-based and community organizations) connect with needs on the ground, through local and regional volunteer coordinators. This Center, staffed by AmeriCorps*VISA members, will work to ensure that volunteers are wisely deployed to areas that will yield positive results for both the communities affected and the citizens who serve.
- In addition, USA Freedom Corps continues to support all of the national service programs, including Peace Corps, Citizen Corps, and AmeriCorps – many of whom are already working on the ground to help Hurricane victims.
- Millions of volunteers will be needed in the months and years ahead. This may be the largest mobilization of volunteers in our Nation's history. Stay tuned to www.usafreedomcorps.gov for the latest info.

USA Freedom Corps Overview:

President Bush created USA Freedom Corps after September 11th to build on the countless acts of service, sacrifice, and generosity we saw at that time. When he announced USA Freedom Corps in his 2002 State of the Union Address, President Bush called on all Americans to commit their lives to serve a cause greater than themselves. As a White House office, USA Freedom Corps works to help American answer that call. USA Freedom Corps promotes and expands volunteer service by supporting Federal service programs, serving as a resource for non-profits, recognizing volunteers, and helping to connect individuals with volunteer organizations in their communities.