

“Homes for Christmas”

*Help someone rebuild their home
in time for Christmas!*



2008 Appeal

Families are anxious to return home. Many families in greater New Orleans did not have enough money to rebuild their homes after hurricanes Katrina and Rita, even when they had some insurance. FEMA and the Road Home program have not helped enough.

We are helping. Project Homecoming is the rebuilding effort of the Presbytery of South Louisiana and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, working with volunteers from around the world to rebuild homes in New Orleans. While our rebuilding effort continues in a positive direction, there are still many families that need our help. The people we serve are low-income, elderly, underinsured, or disabled.

You can help, too! You can **raise awareness** in your church and community, **donate money** for building materials, and **volunteer to work** with us. Your donations and volunteer work help bridge the gap between families' resources and their needs.

Fundraising Ideas “Homes for Christmas” is a mission project for churches to raise funds to provide building materials for the rehabilitation of a family's home in South Louisiana. The resources in this packet can be used any time during the year to raise consciousness about the fact that many families are still struggling to return home.

“Homes for Christmas” Tree

Cut out the template and place the homes on a tree. People can take a home off the tree, make a donation, and write a message on the home for the person/family who will receive the donated building materials. When the Presbytery of South Louisiana begins work to rebuild a home, the family will be given these messages of support, care, and hope. Send the homes with the messages to the Presbytery of South Louisiana along with the funds raised.

Alternative Christmas Market

Cut out the homes on card stock with the message: *“A gift has been made in your name to the Presbytery of South Louisiana to help a family rebuild their hurricane damaged home.”* People can make a donation to purchase building materials in honor of someone they love and send the house in a Christmas card as a gift to that person. A donation can also be made in memory of a loved one.

“Adopt-A-Home”

Ready for a larger commitment? Your church can form a lasting personal relationship with a family to help them rebuild physically, spiritually, and emotionally. Contact us for details.

Come up with your own

Please feel free to be creative in mixing and matching these ideas, or add your own to make this a meaningful mission of your congregation or presbytery.

Where to Send Gifts Please send the funds that you raise in a check made payable to *The Presbytery of South Louisiana*, and note in the memo line, *Project Homecoming*. If people wrote messages on the cut out homes for a family receiving the donation, please enclose those cut outs with messages.

**Presbytery of South Louisiana
12909 Old Hammond Hwy.
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816**

Questions Contact Richard Maag at (877) 942-0444, (504) 942-0444, or Richard@pslrecovery.org.

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More about helping Project Homecoming

“Homes for Christmas”

This funding tool provides building materials and/or appliances for returning homeowners.

“Adopt-A-Home”

A congregation can direct funding and volunteer efforts to a particular home. Funds needed for homes range from \$5,000 to \$20,000. Churches develop their own fundraising ideas or use “Homes for Christmas” to help their family. Churches will receive updates on progress and an invitation to the final dedication of the home. Contact Richard@pslrecovery.org for details on homes needing adoption.

Volunteer mission trips to New Orleans

Bringing much-needed people of all skill levels, mission trips are one of the most gratifying aspects of giving. Engaging in the work and meeting the homeowner has had a dramatic effect on the thousands who have come to help. Our construction team will guide you in your work. Accommodations are provided by area churches, and His Grace is felt by all. Out of 29 faith-based organizations contributing volunteers, Presbyterians are third in hours given. Contact SueLarue@pslrecovery.org for more information.

Sample text for bulletins

Project Homecoming is the New Orleans area rebuilding effort of The Presbytery of South Louisiana. Two years after Katrina and Rita, New Orleans is still in the early stages of rebuilding homes for those who meet the HUD poverty guidelines. Our organization is staffed with an experienced construction team and case managers that are dealing with the challenges of helping as many people as possible return to their homes. According to FEMA, 34,000 people still live in “temporary” trailers in the greater New Orleans area.

Here’s an example of a “Homes for Christmas” Tree:



INSPIRE YOUR CHURCH

Project Homecoming
DVD Available!

To get a copy for your church,
contact Richard Maag at
(877) 942-0444,
(504) 942-0444, or
Richard@pslrecovery.org

The next page of this packet is a flyer you can share with your congregation. It describes what a donation to Project Homecoming can buy.

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Volunteer work teams provide the labor.
Your gift provides the building materials.
Project Homecoming puts it together!

What Your Contribution Can Buy

- \$5.00 One ten pound box of nails
- \$10.00 Ten square feet of ceramic floor tile
- \$20.00 Five gallons flat enamel interior wall paint
- \$40.00 One roll of insulation
- \$50.00 Twenty-five 2X4 wall studs
- \$75.00 Eight feet of kitchen counter tops
- \$100.00 Front door
- \$450.00 Mold remediation for one house
- \$500.00 Sheet rock
- \$1,000.00 Appliances
- \$2,000.00 Roofing materials
- \$5,000.00 Cost to complete electrical, plumbing, and HVAC services

Make checks payable to

The Presbytery of South Louisiana
Memo: Project Homecoming
3700 Gentilly Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70122

Questions

Contact Richard Maag at (877) 942-0444, (504) 942-0444 or
Richard@pslrecovery.org.

House templates — Front

For messages to families,
leave back blank



House templates — Back

Use for alternative giving

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