

Blessing Hands

Newsletter of the Las Vegas Humanitarian Service Room

November 2008

October '08 Destinations:

- California
- Columbia
- Costa Rica
- El Salvador
- Ecuador
- Florida
- Guatemala
- Haiti
- Honduras
- Jamaica
- Kazakhstan
- Kentucky
- Liberia
- Louisiana
- Palestine
- Texas

clothes, medical supplies, and relief items. The resources are then pre-positioned in key locations for shipping on short notice. Because of this preparedness, the Church is able to respond immediately in times of emergency. When the timing of response is critical, international relief agencies have come to rely on the Church for food and materials. In addition to providing materials, the Church also helps with funds and volunteers.



Volunteers often make the most difference in restoring hope in the lives of those in crisis. A recent example is the more than 100,000 hours of labor donated by Church members to assist victims of hurricanes in Louisiana and Texas and other affected areas.

Needs This Month

- Single (approx 72"x90") Quilts
- Sewn School Bags

The LV-HSR is in need of a laminator to create file folder games.

*Guidelines available thr.: [LDS.org/About the Church/ Humanitarian Services/ Humanitarian Aid Kit Patterns](http://LDS.org/About%20the%20Church/Humanitarian%20Services/Humanitarian%20Aid%20Kit%20Patterns)

Spiritual Thought

... perhaps we can never know how often our acts of compassion, though small, can make a difference. Sometimes it's the smallest thing that changes the world

...
(Pure Religion - Neil K. Newel, *A Small Gift*)

Materials, Funds and Volunteers

Each year, millions of men, women, and children are impacted by war, floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, hurricanes, and other disasters. In these desperate circumstances, quick response is often the difference between life and death.

The Church continually gathers donations of food,

First Year: The Las Vegas HSR

So often we look around us and say "The need is so great, but what can I do, I'm only one person?" Some will act while others don't know where to begin. It can be so over-whelming.

As we mentioned last month, President Uchtdorf spoke in the Priesthood Session of this October's conference, where he related the story of moving the piano. The Piano was not moved until each of the brethren "stood close together and lifted where they stood." Each of us has the opportunity to lift where we stand, working together, standing shoulder to shoulder, to accomplish great things.

President Uchtdorf also mentioned Captain Moroni's 2000 Stripling Warriors, who are not known by their individual names, unlike many others in the scriptures, but rather jointly as the "Stripling Warriors". While remaining in relative individual anonymity they accomplished great things and are a righteous example for all of us. We too can accomplish great things by standing together and lifting together not only as individuals but as people who are moved, rising to the challenges that are placed before us.

The Las Vegas Humanitarian Service Room is such an opportunity. It has been a year of wonderful experiences for those who volunteer and serve there. The Las Vegas Humanitarian Service Room opened for operation November 1, 2007.

In the last 12 months the LV-HSR volunteers and missionaries have assembled, produced and sent to the Humanitarian Service Center in Salt Lake City, the following items for distribution in and out of our community;

25,248 Hygiene Kits,
6,136 Newborn Kits,
8,572 School Kits.
1,070 quilts,
1,257 games & toys,
1,695 articles of children's clothing and
12 cases of misc. medical supplies and more.

In addition to those items sent to the HSC-SL they provided the following items to groups in the Las Vegas area;

89 filled backpacks
192 School Kits,
12 cases of misc. school supplies,
1535 Hygiene Kits,
19 cases of shampoo/soap/ other items
431 Quilts,
100 "Hugs"
(stuffed arms/hands for hospitalized children mentioned in the October '08 [Ensign](#)),
20 cases of diapers, bibs, burp cloths, etc.
101 receiving blankets
124 crib sheets
1038 knit caps,
103 scarves,
125 blankets
210 pr. socks, and again more.

And last but not least, this summer more than **1200 volunteers** also had the opportunity to help assemble **17,472 Cleaning Kits** to help in the recovery process from the storms which hit the Gulf Coast areas.

Each of these listed items has or will make a difference in some ones life. So now when someone says "what can I do?", tell them that they can make a difference, individually or by joining together with others to "lift where they stand".

LV-Humanitarian Service Room RULES for attendance

(We are open 10:00 to 4:00, Tues, Wed & Thurs)

- Wear appropriate clothing & shoes (Modest & closed-toed shoes)
- Be at least 12 years of age
- Bring 1 adult leader for every 6 youth
- Observe appropriate conduct
- Bring a smile

What are your ideas? Do you have a suggestion for serving the needs of our local non-member brothers and sisters and community? Drop a note to: **Humanitarian Service Room**, Deseret Industries, 3750 W. Craig Road, N. Las Vegas, 89032, or call **702-649-8191**