



NEWS RELEASE

HANDS ON DISASTER RESPONSE • P.O. BOX 546 • CARLISLE, MA 01741

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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HANDS ON DISASTER RESPONSE SENDS TEAMS TO US GULF COAST AND HAITI IN THE AFTERMATH OF HURRICANE IKE

CARLISLE, MA 9/16/08 – Hands On Disaster Response (HODR), a volunteer-driven 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, has sent assessment teams to the Gulf Coast of the US and Haiti to evaluate the damage of Hurricane Ike and other recent storms. The assessments will determine if HODR can be of assistance in recovery in these areas. HODR is now accepting donations to support the organization's efforts.

Hurricane Ike made landfall in Texas on Saturday, September 13, 2008, causing wind damage and flooding in many communities along the Gulf Coast of Texas and Louisiana. Officials estimate that as many as 100,000 homes have been affected. Haiti has recently been hit in succession by Tropical Storm Fay, and Hurricanes Gustav, Hanna and Ike, affecting an estimated 800,000 people. HODR will assess the damage left in these storms' paths and determine if the organization's volunteer resources can be utilized to assist in the aftermath of these disasters.

HODR relies on the support of donors to carry out its effective disaster relief work; more than 90% of donations go directly toward HODR's response efforts, and all donations are tax-deductible. Please give generously to support HODR and the disaster-affected communities they assist. An anonymous donor has pledged to match the first \$500 of every donation made to HODR through September 30, 2008, up to \$30,000. Visit www.HODR.org to make a secure tax-deductible donation.

Among HODR's nine deployments around the world, HODR responded to Hurricane

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Katrina in 2005, mobilizing more than 1,500 volunteers to assist Katrina survivors along the Gulf Coast of Mississippi. HODR is currently deployed in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in response to the historic flooding of June 2008. More than 1,700 volunteers have assisted in the recovery efforts thus far, through HODR's Project Cedar Rapids. The project will run until October 25, 2008.

For updates on HODR's relief efforts, volunteer information or to make a tax-deductible donation, please visit www.HODR.org, or contact Rebeca Howard at 781-570-9412 or Beca@HODR.org.

ABOUT: Hands On Disaster Response (HODR) is a US-based, 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, dedicated to timely disaster response and relief around the world. HODR provides a platform for interested individuals to assist those in need by supporting volunteers with housing, meals, tools, and organized work at no charge. The HODR model responds to the unique needs of each community, while encouraging maximum volunteer engagement. Previous projects: USA (2008 Missouri tornadoes), USA (2008 Arkansas tornadoes), Bangladesh (2007 Cyclone Sidr), Peru (2007 Pisco Earthquake), Philippines (2006 Typhoon Reming), Indonesia (2006 Jogjakarta Earthquake), USA (2005 Hurricane Katrina), and Thailand (2004 Southeast Asian Tsunami). Donations made to HODR are tax-deductible. Tax ID #20-3414952.

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