THIS ISSUE Why donors still need to support hurricane recovery.

Three Mid South leaders receive emeritus trustee status at FMS.

Thanks y'all! FMS's 2006 contributors list.



WHERE HAVE **ALL THE FUNDERS** GONE?

"Adequate operational capacity is the basis for effective service delivery. After the hurricanes, it's increasingly difficult to secure funding for operational overhead expenses in southwest Louisiana." Jeanne Solis



PINCHED. Jeanne Solis, CEO / Executive Director, and O.J. Doré, board President, of Southwest Louisiana AHEC (pictured here and on the cover) were among the FMS grantees who shared what they are facing two years after the hurricanes. FMS grantees' concerns ranged from the lack of national attention on hurricane recovery (*especially Rita's devastation of southwest Louisiana*) to the dwindling support of hurricane-affected nonprofits.

"Insurance,
real estate,
and workforce
costs in
south Louisiana
have increased
dramatically over
the past 24 months.
We [nonprofit
organizations] are
feeling
the pinch."

Jeanne Solis
Southwest Louisiana AHEC

WILL YOU STAY WILL YOU

WHY DONORS STILL
NEED TO SUPPORT
HURRICANE
RECOVERY EFFORTS.

Even before Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, a debate was ongoing with regard to the needs of nonprofits and other community-based organizations in the Mid South; particularly, how foundations could better support and strengthen these groups. In many conversations that the Foundation for the Mid South has participated, the need for increased funding for both operating costs and to build these organizations' ability—or their capacity—to meet the needs of their communities has been noted among the chief ingredients that could bolster nonprofit growth, effectiveness, and sustainability.

After the hurricanes in 2005, the issues around foundation support quickly moved to the forefront when nonprofit organizations had to find unrestricted cash quickly to help pay for salaries, new equipment and offices, and other costs for re-establishing service to their communities. Many Mid South nonprofits had to search for new sources of revenue to meet

their budgets and post-hurricane needs when their communities (which had been a main source of their operating support prior to the storms) were devastated. It has been estimated that, excluding the surge of funding that was initially available for relief, these organizations should not expect to reach their pre-storm local fundraising goals for three to five years. Now that two years have expired, the questions that most are asking are "Why aren't more foundations stepping in to fund long-term hurricane recovery?" and "Why aren't more foundations offering grants for unrestricted, general operating support and capacity building to help nonprofits recover from the disasters?"

Immediately after the storms, foundations and corporations were asked to play a major role to help stabilize and strengthen this "not particularly robust" nonprofit sector and to provide the dollars, advice, and expertise that could help the sector recover and become

better equipped to deal with the root causes behind the region's persistent disparities.¹ Essentially, the devastation of the storms compounded with these unresolved issues have made recovery a more difficult and complex task. Many foundations and corporations answered, though many still have not. Some foundations and corporations have continued to fund in the region for the long term, while most—approximately 90 percent—made their contributions in the first twelve months of the disasters during the relief phase and did not expect to provide additional support for hurricane recovery. ²

Now at the two-year anniversaries of the storms, the outlook remains uncertain for our region's philanthropic and nonprofit sectors due in part to both a continuing decline in foundation and corporate hurricane-related funding and attention on the part of the national media and the national audience concerning the region's recovery. This outlook could improve if the thoughts and actions put forth to support the recovery efforts of Mid South nonprofits and foundations are innovative, thoughtful, and appropriately scaled and supported. A huge opportunity to make a lasting and profound change in the way Mid South foundations and nonprofits effect real, long-term change in the region might be wasted if our fragile sector does not benefit from the attention. expertise, and financial support of the greater philanthropic community.

The nonprofits and foundations—even those in the Mid South that were not directly impacted by the hurricanes—are at a tipping point. Will recovery efforts succeed or fail to produce more vibrant and

In December, the Center for **Effective Philanthropy created** a report that looked at increasing the effectiveness of foundation grantmaking based on a survey of 79 CEOs who oversee some of the most wealthy and influential foundations in the nation. The report found that half (49 percent) of the CEOs surveyed were inclined to solely offer programmatic grants, and only 16 percent chose not to place restrictions on their donations.3

effective organizations throughout our region? Some Mid South organizations might be back online and providing services in their communities, but what profound and monumental transformations and changes have they been able to make during this two-year period? While it is still too early to tell, the attention and support given during this early recovery period will set the direction and aspirations for Mid South nonprofits and foundations. When all is said and done, recovery will be seen as successful if organizations in the region are not only still functioning but stronger and better than they were before. This outcome is more likely to occur if investments are made in people, leadership, and potential in addition to those made in programs and bricks and mortar.

The board and staff at FMS had hoped that the disasters would serve as an opportunity to rally philanthropy and concentrate its tremendous resources in the region over the long term to make substantial, region-wide improvements to the services,

effectiveness, and leadership of Mid South foundations and nonprofits. FMS grantees support our assertion that while the initial response had been quick and generous, philanthropic support and attention has diminished greatly over time and that contributions for operating costs and capacity building have not been widely available in the region. While funding unrestricted costs may not be considered "sexy" and might not provide the results that donors seek to quantify and report, it is critical that foundations and corporations continue to fill these gaps during the recovery and rebuilding phases.

During these two-year anniversaries, we encourage foundations and corporations to revisit their decisions about funding Katrina and Rita recovery. Do not forget that these disasters are still affecting—and will continue to affect—the people of the Mid South. Also, we encourage donors to take a close look at how they support nonprofit partners—specifically, their grantmaking policies regarding operating cost and organizational capacity building. As the Mid South's nonprofit sector recovers, foundations' actions and policies could be the difference between Mid South nonprofits receiving what they need to become more "robust" and Mid South nonprofits simply re-established to perpetuate the status quo.

¹ Quote taken from Tony Pipa's Weathering the Storm: The Role of Local Nonprofits in the Hurricane Katrina Relief Effort. The Aspen Institute. 2006.

² Giving in the Aftermath of the Gulf Coast Hurricanes: Report on the Foundation and Corporate Response. Foundation Center. August 2006.

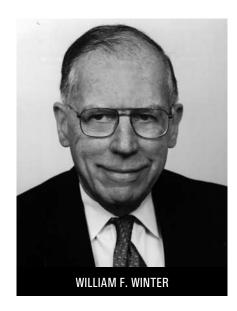
³ "Foundations Urged to Help Charities Pay Operating Costs" *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*. March 22, 2007.

FOUNDING FATHERS

THREE LEADERS HONORED WITH EMERITUS TRUSTEE STATUS

Three of the Foundation for the Mid South's founding board members, William F. Winter, Don Munro, and Ted Kendall have recently earned emeritus status for their length of service and dedication to the Foundation for the Mid South. Each has served as chair of the FMS board in addition to having served in other officer positions and on various committees. Since 1990, their vision and determination helped to shape the foundation in its formative years and developed it into the major regional philanthropic institution that it has become today.

All three of these unique leaders were committed to the idea of working together across geography and race to address some of the shared needs of the three states caused by decades of poverty, inadequate schools, and social neglect. Their tireless efforts have resulted in the building of a network of philanthropic initiatives that are pointing the way to a better quality of life in many communities across the Mid South. During their tenure, the Foundation for the Mid South leveraged an initial donation of \$1 million from Entergy Corporation with more than \$100 million in new resources that have been brought to the region. These funds were used to provide grants, technical assistance, and leadership development opportunities to the region's nonprofit organizations in addition to developing new and innovative initiatives in the region.



William F. Winter served as Governor of Mississippi from 1980 to 1984. He has been a long-time advocate for public education, racial reconciliation, and historic preservation. His presence on the Foundation for the Mid South board has served as a guiding light for the organization and has influenced many positive developments including his participation on the Mid South Commission to Build Philanthropy and his work to establish the Raised Up Right Fund for children and youth. "In its almost twenty years of existence, the Foundation for the Mid South has filled the vital role of identifying and responding to the needs of countless individuals and communities in the region. With a diverse and dedicated board and a deeply committed and resourceful staff, the Foundation for the Mid South is now poised to be an even more effective force for

constructive and dynamic change," said Winter.

Winter served as chairman of the Southern Regional Education Board, the Southern Growth Policies Board, the Commission on the Future of the South. the National Civic League, the Kettering Foundation, and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. He was a member of President Clinton's National Advisory Board on Race. An attorney in the firm of Watkins Ludlam Winter and Stennis in Jackson, Mississippi, he is a graduate of the University of Mississippi School of Law.



Don Munro, a native of Boston, Massachusetts, but now a long-time resident of Hot Springs, Arkansas, has been owner and Chairman/ CEO of Munro and Company, Inc. also based in Hot Springs since 1972. A distinguished member of the FMS Board, Munro has received a number of awards for his philanthropic service to the region including the Holly Award from the Two/Ten Foundation, the American Philanthropy Award from the Columbus Foundation, the **Arkansas Community Foundation** Roots and Wings Award, two Paul Harris awards from Rotary International, the Arkansas Business Hall of Fame, and the Footwear News Hall of Fame. According to Munro, "For 17 vears the Foundation for the Mid South has been making the case-by-example, for promoting philanthropy in the region. Not only has the Foundation brought attention to philanthropy through its own programs, but it has also spread that word widely by the inclusion of so many people in its activities. Its ever-widening circle of friends and supporters will carry the message in ever-expanding ways to the benefit of the entire Mid South."

Munro continues to serve or has served on a number of other boards including Arkansas Nature Conservancy, Mid-America Arts Alliance, MDC, Inc., the Hot Springs Area Community Foundation, Arkansas Council on Economic Education, and the UAMS Psych Department Advisory Board. He has served as chair of the Arkansas Community Foundation, American Apparel and Footwear Association, and National Park Community College Foundation. He graduated from

Yale University and served in the U.S. Army from 1945-1946.



T.H. Kendall, III, is currently President and General Manager of Gaddis Farms in Bolton, Mississippi. He is also Chairman of the Board of the Merchants and Planters Bank in Raymond, Mississippi. A leader in business and in agriculture, Kendall brought a unique perspective and understanding of the needs of the rural South to the board. He formerly served as Chairman of the Board of Trustmark National Bank in Jackson, Mississippi. He currently serves on the Hinds County Farm Bureau Board and is president of the Hinds County Livestock Association board. He has served on the National Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board, Mississippi Cattlemen's Association, the Mississippi Cattle Industry Board, the Mississippi State University

Alumni Foundation Board, and the Executive Board of the Andrew Jackson Council Boy Scouts of America.

Kendall said, "My service on the board of the Foundation for the Mid South has made me keenly aware of the many needs of our region that can be met with private philanthropy. It is my hope that the Foundation can build on the work that has been done and greatly increase the level of giving in our region to address these needs."

Kendall has received numerous awards and recognition including the Mississippi Cattlemen's Hall of Fame, the Cattle Businessman of the Year by the National Cattlemen's Foundation, and the Mississippi Farmer of the Year. Kendall graduated from Mississippi State University.

Each of these distinguished civic, government, and business leaders have made significant intellectual and financial contributions to the Foundation for the Mid South. Saying good bye to board members of this caliber is not an option after the impact they have made on this institution and in the entire region. We are honored to bestow the emeritus trustee status on these truly outstanding citizens and founding members of the Foundation for the Mid South.





RAISING FUNDS RIGHT THE RAISED UP RIGHT FUND KICKS OFF \$1 MILLION CAMPAIGN

Established just two years ago, the Raised Up Right Fund (the Fund) is connecting people from all over the country to stand up for our children and to provide them with a better outlook and better opportunities in the Mid South. The effort is working—and it is making a difference for thousands of children in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

The initial hub of this activity has been in Chicago, and the network of expatriates has hosted events and activities to raise money for the Fund. In just two years, the Raised Up Right Fund has provided \$61,000 in grants to 22 different nonprofits and K-12 school-based programs.

Currently, we are working to expand the Fund to reach a wider audience through a national and a Mid South regional outreach campaign. We are calling on you to become involved. Regardless of where you live, you can help support the innovative programs that are creating new opportunities for our children.

Our expatriate network is composed of people who come from the Mid South and now live elsewhere, but maintain strong ties to the region and provide donations back home through the Raised Up Right Fund. With a donor base firmly established in Chicago and recent efforts to expand our reach to include other expatriates in the U.S. and around the world, the opportunity for touching the lives of even more children and youth in the Mid South is right in front of you.

How do you get involved? It is easy. First, support the Raised Up Right Fund with a donation. You can make an annual donation of \$100 or more that will be combined with thousands of donations from other expatriates and regranted to support organizations working to improve the lives of children and youth in the three states. You can also earmark your donation to build the Fund's endowment through our 1,000 For A \$1,000 Campaign. These donations will ensure that the Raised Up Right Fund will continue to grow and remain a permanent resource in the region

Secondly, you can contact the Foundation for the Mid South to learn more about how your family, school, church, social, or fraternal organizations can pool their resources to award grants to programs in specific Mid South communities of interest that meet the criteria established by the Raised Up Right Fund. Similarly,

for our children—forever.

this Fund is a perfect vehicle for those who already have donor advised funds or participate in giving circles to provide grants to worthy and innovative organizations.

Lastly, you can spread the word about the Raised Up Right Fund. You and your friends, family, and colleagues can host special events and organize other activities that will promote both the Fund and this new form of grassroots philanthropy.

If you were raised up right, we are asking for your help to ensure that all children in the Mid South have the same opportunity. Whether you are in New York, Los Angeles, or even here in the Mid South, your donation to the Raised Up Right Fund is important because it is an investment in something great—our children and youth.

Learn more about the Fund at www.raisedupright.org.

THIS JUST IN!



FMS is excited to announce an opportunity that can significantly boost the Raised Up Right Fund, but we need your help! Over the next two years, donors who contibute to the Raised Up Right Fund can have their donations matched dollar for dollar!

This donor challenge has the potential to raise up to \$280,000 for the fund, which will be used to provide grants to nonprofit organizations working with youth in the region.

Those interested in having their contributions matched **dollar for dollar** should be sure to <u>designate</u> the Raised Up Right Fund on the return envelope provided.







WOMEN OF FAITH ON THE RISE GATHERING HELD TO CONNECT AND EQUIP FEMALE LEADERS

For many centuries, clergy and church leadership were exclusively male. Through struggle and opposition, however, the roles of women in church leadership positions have expanded. Today, many seminaries like Wesley Biblical Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi, have an overwhelming number of female students who are preparing themselves to better serve God, their communities, and vulnerable people across the globe.

"Even with seminary training, many women lack the support systems and practical training they need to effectively serve congregations with limited resources and communities mired in poverty, discrimination, and tradition," says Visionary Leadership Institute (VLI) Director, Steven Cooper. "We are committed to serving these visionaries."

> Bishop Hope Morgan Ward United Methodist Church, Mississippi



MID SOUTH GATHERING OF WOMEN IN MINISTRY **LEADERSHIP SEPTEMBER 13-15, 2007** BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

To this end, the VLI will sponsor its 4th gathering to connect, celebrate and cultivate the gifts and leadership skills of women on the frontline of ministry. The learning and sharing event is designed to reach across racial, denominational, and geographical lines to all women—not just female pastors—who are leaders within their churches, nonprofits, or communities. The Gathering will be organized to include focuses on (1) inreach: through training, connecting, worshipping, and mentoring and (2) outreach: where participants work together to meet the holistic needs of local women affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Thursday, September 13th

Pastor Barbara Rogers—a Katrina evacuee who has relocated her ministry to Baton Rouge, Louisiana—will speak at the Gathering's kickoff worship service. No stranger to adversity, Rogers will challenge and inspire peers to rise above their challenges to serve hurting people. Pastor Rogers will be joined by gospel great Vanessa Bell Armstrong, Ballet Magnificat, the 150 member Hope 3 Mass Choir, and other special guests.

The VLI and the YWCA will also offer a Leadership Spa for Women

on the Rise at the Baton Rouge Area Foundation Conference Center. The Leadership Spa will serve 50 women of faith thirty-five years of age and under who want to hear from seasoned female leaders, assess their leadership abilities, and experience an hour of relaxation/ wellness.

Friday, September 14th

"The Church Rising from Silence to Action Regarding Health Disparities" Bishop Hope Morgan Ward, the first female Bishop of the Mississippi United Methodist Conference, will talk to female pastors about their personal and congregational health at the Pastors of Wellness Breakfast. Later, Dr. Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, President and CEO of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, will share a keynote address about how the church can more effectively tackle health disparities.

Ward and Lavizzo-Mourey will join the VLI in presenting the Bridge Over Troubled Water Awards to churches, businesses, nonprofits, and programs that have successfully addressed health disparities in Mid South communities. The Mary Moody Finer Woman Award will also be given to a Mid South woman who most embodies health and wellness. grace, compassion, resilience, and faith.

For group registration discounts and information, call 601.863.0492 and visit www.fndmidsouth.org.



IRVIN NAMED 2007 HULL FELLOW

Necole S. Irvin, program officer at the Foundation, was recently selected into the 2007 class of the Hull Fellows Program. The Southeastern Council of Foundations' (SECF) program, named after Robert H. Hull—SECF's second president—was established in 1999 from a fund created to honor his service to the Council and to the field of philanthropy.

The Hull Fellows Program is intended to benefit young and new foundation staff and trustees who have demonstrated strong leadership capabilities in their careers and communities. This opportunity for professional development is the only program of its kind in the country aimed at inspiring the region's next generation of philanthropic leaders.

"I am excited to participate in this wonderful program that facilitates the learning of members of our region's young philanthropic community," said Necole. "I'm encouraged by everything I've heard about the program."

Necole participated in a retreat earlier in August and will later finalize her participation in a special session during SECF's Annual Meeting in Hot Springs, Virginia. Congratulations, Necole!

FMS WINS AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING COMMUNICATIONS

The Foundation for the Mid South has been named a Gold award winner for excellence in communications by the 2007 Wilmer Shields Rich Awards Program. Sponsored by the Council on Foundations, the awards program recognizes effective communications efforts to increase public awareness of foundations and corporate giving programs. FMS received Gold for its special report, *Reflection*, on the one-year anniversaries of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

"We are extremely grateful to be recognized for our efforts to share our work with the people of the Mid South, our donors, and those who care about the Mid South," said Chris Crothers, director of communications for the Foundation. "The hurricanes directly affected where we live and work. We are dedicated to reminding people in our country and the world that much work and support is still required to help our Gulf Coast communities rebuild and recover."

This year 174 entries were submitted to the awards program. Chris accepted FMS's award at the 58th Annual Conference of the Council on Foundations in Seattle on April 30, 2007.

MORE STAFF STUFF

Tanya Ray, program assistant, at the Foundation, was selected to participate in Class III of the Mid-South Delta Leaders (MSDL) program. The program operates in the 55 Delta counties and parishes in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi to deepen community leaders' understanding and appreciation of the Delta's socioeconomic and cultural realities and offers them techniques to bring about change in their communities.

Class members of MSDL are chosen because of (1) their interest and potential to create positive change and (2) their expressed commitment to the region.

Communications Fellow. Julius Rainey, Jr., was selected to participate in the 2006-2007 Association of Black Foundation **Executives Connecting Leaders** Fellowship Program. The yearlong experience is designed to sharpen the skills and strengthen the leadership capacity of foundation staff, donors, and trustees who are committed to assisting Black communities through philanthropy. The fellows learn from seasoned grantmakers how to become more effective change agents within their institutions and participate in a network that focuses on innovative solutions to community challenges.

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The Baxter International Foundation Annie E. Casey Foundation The Ford Foundation Robert Wood Johnson Foundation W. K. Kellogg Foundation Lilly Endowment, Inc. Walton Family Foundation

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The Atlantic Philanthropies BancorpSouth The Enterprise Corporation of the Delta The Humana Foundation Trustmark National Bank

\$1,000 - \$9,999

The Wapack Foundation

"We contributed to the Foundation because we believe in investing in our community. FMS shares our belief that leadership is important on all levels."

John D. Calhoun, Ph.D | CEO Integrated Management Services

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\$100,000+

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"I donate to the Foundation for the Mid South's Raised **Up Right Fund because** it identifies and supports organizations that make a difference and keep possibilities alive for the children of Arkansas. Louisiana, and Mississippi. I know that my donation will make a difference."

Emily Dabney | Chicago, Illinois Mid South expatriate

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"The collaboration with FMS has allowed us to assist with hurricane disaster relief directly, due to FMS' expertise in serving local communities. This partnership furthers our objective to increase access to healthcare and make a difference in the lives of people in need."

Celene Peurye | Executive Director The Baxter International Foundation



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