



Common Ground Relief was formed in the wake of Hurricane Katrina to provide immediate aid to residents in the Gulf Coast region and long-term support in rebuilding their communities in just and sustainable ways.

Hurricanes and flooding of 2005 devastated much of Gulf Coast. Because of historic under-investment in public infrastructure, poor Black, Asian and Native American communities were hardest hit.

In the days, weeks and months following Katrina, government and official relief organizations have failed to meet basic needs for shelter, food and health care in these communities. Long-standing injustices of racism, inadequate health care, education and housing, ill designed levees, and police harassment and brutality have been exposed. Common Ground is working to meet the immediate needs of these communities while initiating long-term strategies to address these problems and stabilize these communities.

Since Sept. 2005, Common Ground, a grassroots, volunteer organization, has an average of 150-300 volunteers on the ground at any time and a network of over 8000 volunteers. We have provided relief to 70,000 residents in seven Parishes including Orleans, St. Bernard, Plaquemine, Terrabone, St. Tammany, St. Charles and St. Mary's.

Every day Common Ground volunteers support operations in Algiers, Mid City, the 9th Ward and the Houma area. Our vision of building a sustainable community has expanded in the **Woodland Apartments** where we have secured management rights to a 361-unit apartment complex on 13 acres. With a strong Tenant Association setting the plan, the residents are building a safe community--rents have been reduced, clean up and repairs begun, the community center, kids program, community garden and computer lab being planned.

“Common Ground is restoring hope and teaching civic responsibility.”

Malik Rahim, Co-founder

COMMON GROUND PROJECTS

- **Distribution Centers:** We have helped initiate 7 distribution centers in New Orleans area where residents receive free food, water, baby care supplies, cleaning supplies, clothing, protective gear, tools etc.
- **Free Health Care:** There is free primary care clinic, which has grown into its own organization in Algiers. It provides doctors, nurses, pharmacists, herbalists, acupuncture, massage therapy, counseling and a Latino Healthcare Outreach Project. The is a new health clinic opening in the 9th Ward.
- **Emergency Home Repair:** Volunteer crews assist residents in tarping, cleaning, gutting and mold work in homes, churches and community centers.
- **Legal and Eviction Defense Work:** Free lawyers and legal advocates counsel residents on their rights, organize against evictions, offer free legal clinics every Sat. and work to address police abuses.
- **Media Center:** Provides free fax, phone and computer access with internet, service, a video

collective and hosts “*Breaking Ground*” newspaper and the Post-Katrina Portraits project.

- **Lower 9th Ward Project:** hosts a computer center, temporary resident housing, a community kitchen, organizes with residents to clean up and rebuild including a health clinic opening July 2006.
- **Women’s Center:** Provides a space for women and children in need of shelter; and offers trainings, counseling and resources for women and transgender community members.
- **Dulac Project:** Provides a children’s free breakfast program, a community center, distribution and gutting work.
- **Mid City:** Hosts volunteer housing, is cleaning up schools and working to restore a community recreational center.
- **Meg Perry Bioremediation and Community Garden Project:** Is using natural processes – with plants, mushrooms and compost teas to clean up toxins in the soil. We also support community gardening efforts.
- **Kids and Community:** Provides support to area schools and programs with after school programs, tutoring, and other alternative programs for youth.
- **Wetlands Conservation:** Provides education and action to prevent the destruction of the wetlands while supporting restoration efforts.
- **Cooperatives:** Common Ground is forming worker cooperatives to train laborers and create jobs.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** We are making provisions to support resident who cannot or choose not to evacuate, as well as those who do.



WE NEED YOU!

VOLUNTEER!

Anyone with commitment, heart and some extra time can help rebuild New Orleans!

We Need:

Carpenters	Legal volunteers
Plumbers	Office Support
Electricians	Educators
Gardeners	Researchers
Computer techs	Health care workers
Bike Repair	and Organizers!

Join a Work Crew Any Day at 6:45 am

2225 Congress St. St. Mary of the Angels

Register to Volunteer Online at:

www.commongroundrelief.org

Questions? Contact:

commongroundvolunteers@gmail.com

(504) 218-6613

DONATE!

Through your help with labor, money, materials, tools, gift cards, special events and concerts we are rebuilding the New Orleans area in just and sustainable ways!

You can find an updated wish list on our website. Call (816) 589-1444 or email: commongroundpartners@gmail.com.

Donations can also be made online at www.commongroundrelief.org.

*A project of
Community Futures Collective,*

THANK YOU!

CONTACT US

9th Ward Distribution Center

4316 N. Robertson, 504-913-9691

Lower 9th Ward Distribution Center

1700 Deslonde St. 504-312-1731

Dulac Distribution Center

5741 Grand Caillou, 985-791-7001
504-913-8693

Mid City Project

1562 N. Miro St. 504-235-1729

Legal Clinic

Sat. Noon – 3:00
1415 Franklin St. 504-717-7324

Common Ground Health Clinic

1400 Teche St, Algiers 504-361-9800

Lower 9th Ward Health Clinic

5228 St.Claude. Opening July

Community Media Center

1415 Franklin Ave. 504-947-0270

Women's Center

1428 Franklin Ave. 504-717-5536

Meg Perry Garden and

Bioremediation Project

St. Denis and Havana St. Gentilly
504-913-5635

Kids and Community Project

504-717-5255

Common Ground Bike Shop

2225 Congress St.

Woodlands Apartments/CGC

3010 Sandra Dr. Algiers, 504-362-1932

COMMON GROUND RELIEF

1415 Franklin Avenue,
New Orleans, LA 70117
(504) 947- 0270



www.commongroundrelief.org

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