Invitation for the Road Trip for Relief, Nov 20-27, 2005

The folks at Common Ground invite you to join an estimated 300 volunteers from around the continent to converge in New Orleans the week of Thanksgiving. We want to encourage those in attendance to arrive with building & clearning supplies, donated equipment and, if possible, funds that can apply directly to help rebuild and the 9th Ward.

Upon arrival, we will orient you to the long history of neglect and oppression in this area and offer tips on how to connect with the community in a respectful and effective manor. Then we will plug people into community projects in the 9th ward where we have just opened a new distribution center and where we are helping to coordinate efforts to challenge unjust city, state and national governments' policies and commercial exploits.

Common Ground will supply basic shelter and food, as well evening events throughout the week. Please read our page on <u>Basic information</u> to find out what to bring. On Thanksgiving Day, we will offer a Thank You feast, where we hope to feed all of the volunteers and residents of the community.

We want to encourage all participants to check out the <u>Roadtrip for Relief Forum Discussion</u>, or write <u>roadtripforrelief@gmail.com</u> to let us know where you are coming from, how many are in your convoy and when you will arrive! Feel free to call 504.339.5885 with further questions.

Basic Facts: Road Trip For Relief! Nov 20-27

Now you can register online! Please take a minute and fill out our simple **registration form**.

Common Ground Collective will provide basic shelter and food for all volunteers. Each day we will divide into working teams and focus on clean up and rebuilding projects. Each evening we will show films, provide entertainment and opportunities for you all to debrief your daily experiences each evening at several locations around the city. We will also offer a huge Thank You Feast on Thanksgiving Day, with great surprise performances from guest musicians and artists.

We are asking all participants to:

Come prepared. We are expecting around 300 people and will need your skills of self-organizing to orchestrate our powerful and effective week of work here!

Please check back here for an online registration form. We would love to confirm that you are coming, so we can better prepare for your arrival. Below are both a sample checklist for your own supplies, and a bigger list of the donations we need to make this project a great success.

Write commongroundvolunteers@gmail.com with questions or to make special arrangements. For questions relating to donations, please write cgcdistribution@gmail.com. Call 504-339-5885 to contact Kerul Dyer, Road Trip for Relief Coordinator. Thanks for all of your support.

What to Pack:

Bring a sleeping bag, a pad, flashlight, work clothes, closed-toed shoes, hand sanitizer, toiletries, specialty needs, and insect repellent. If you can, bring a N95 or higher respirator, tyvek suit, work

gloves, rubber boots, a box of 3 mm. contractor plastic bags and a camera. If you cannot afford protective gear, it will be provided for you.

Continue reading to access our Supply List for Roadtrip

Please choose from the following list for items to bring. Of course there are more items needed. Please write cdcdistribution@gmail.com to let us know what you and your community can offer, and to find out what other things are needed. Call 504.339-5885 with questions.

Solidarity, not Charity

9th Ward Clean-up:

5,000 contractor trash bags

50 rakes

50 shovels

10 pressure washers

10 diesel generators or solar

with battery

200 respirators

10 pair frs radios (walkie-

talkies)

200 large tarps

Community Center

Power Solar panels batteries

Tools:

inverters

Air Compressor

Air Hoses Water Pressure Screw Guns

Dry Wall Hammers 3 dozen dolly's

3 dozen appliance dolly's

Walls:

--4 pallets sheet rock 4x8

--4 pallets of texture

--Sheet Rock Knives

6" 4 boxes 8" 4 boxes

12" 4 boxes

tape/nails/gunk insulation

trim

paint/paint brushes/trays

sledge hammers

dry wall hammers screw guns air conditioner

Communications/Technolo

gy/Office

digital recorders with good

microphones

(i river ihp120 or 140) 5 digital still cameras 10 dv video cameras

tapes

external hard drives

mac g4s

laser printer 11by17

extra toner

printers and cartridges voip phones and service

contract scanner

uhf radios for emergency

situations cables headphones

rechargable batteries

Flooring: flooring

flooring equipment

(write

cdcdistribution@gmail.com

for more specific information)

Kitchen:

sinks refridgerator

freezer stove

Furnishings:

desks, chairs, tables

shelves

folding chairs filing cabinets

computers

office:

high volume copier, new

Community Garden/ Bio-

remediation:

rototillers chippers shovels

mycellium starts

worms

hand shovels

rakes hoes

hoses/sprayers

seeds

wheel barrows

5 gallon buckets

green house materials

pots starts saw clippers loppers

compost tea brewer 55 gallon drums

mollasses

paper shredders aquarium pumps vinyl tubing air stones

125 gallon water tank compost thermometer