

EVACUEE OUTREACH/ASSESSMENT PROJECT UPDATE

March 6, 2006

PROJECT GOAL

The City of Austin's project goal is to facilitate evacuees' self-sufficiency by conducting assessments where evacuees are residing in hotels and apartments to insure those individuals are making arrangements for permanent housing or are making plans to relocate back to the impacted areas as soon as possible. This includes identifying needs and making appropriate referrals to the community for those individuals/households needing additional assistance.

City Outreach Efforts To Assist With Hotels

FEMA is now responsible for hotel evacuees while the City Team is assessing evacuees at apartment complexes. The City team can provide assessments if asked. After visiting 65 hotels, the City's hotel visits ceased on 12/19/05. All services for hotel evacuees are coordinated by and managed through FEMA

FEMA Hotel Update – Based on FEMA NPSC Hotel Room Counts 3/3/06

- ❑ 14 hotel rooms in Travis County are reported to have evacuees living in them. The report didn't indicate the number of evacuees in the 14 rooms.

Apartments – As of 3/3/06

NHCD provided a final list of 350 eligible apartment complexes/single unit dwellings with a total occupancy of 1,685 eligible evacuee households. HHSD has conducted assessments with 1,105 of the 1,685 eligible evacuee households.

The remaining 580 households fall under one of the following categories:

- 162 households identified as having moved back to Louisiana or another city (no assessment completed)
- 67 no shows and 26 households refused to be assessed
- 26 households have temporarily gone back to Louisiana to take care of personal business but plan to come back if their housing situation hasn't changed in Louisiana
- The remaining 299 are households the assessment teams have either scheduled an appointment, have sent out a second flyer and are awaiting contact by the household or have just sent out the first flyer due to recent assignment of apartment list.

Scheduled Completion

To close the project by March 31st teams will continue to conduct assessments until March 17th after which time staff will focus on completing case files, reviewing and updating information in Service Point. One to two assessment teams will be on standby to conduct assessments on requests received after March 17 on a case by case basis.

As assessments are completed, households needing follow-up case management are referred to community organizations. United Way and other community funding supports the Best Single Source Evacuee Project (Any Baby Can, Family Eldercare, Caritas, AIDS Services, Arc, Meals on Wheels, Safe Place, and Goodwill.) Salvation Army, A/TC MHMR, and other agencies also have case managers available.

171 households have been identified as needing follow-up case management and/or other services. As of 3/3/06, the special needs team has transitioned 163 households for case management services and 8 are pending transition.

- 31 ATCMHMR
- 50 Evacuee "Best Single Source" Project

- 4 Foundation Communities
- 4 Caritas of Austin
- 10 Family Eldercare
- 5 Travis County Health and Human Services
- 1 Any Baby Can
- 6 AIDS Services of Austin
- 4 TIDR
- 4 Meals on Wheels & More
- 22 No contact number, flyer mailed out to household
- 18 EASP Social Worker determined case management services not needed
- 4 Declined Referral

Number of Households Assessed as of 2/17/06		Number Remaining	Assessments Planned
Hotel Households	102	N/A	FEMA will help evacuees with Individual Assistance. COA staff are available as needed for assessments
Apartment Households	843	299 est.	Number remaining adjusted to reflect non-responsive evacuees
DRC Households	160	None	City Teams concluded assessments at DRC 1/11/06
TOTAL	1,105		

Evacuee Housing Plans

- 56% plan to stay in Austin
- 13% don't know what they plan to do
- 7% plan to return to Louisiana or leave Austin
- 24% unknown/did not respond

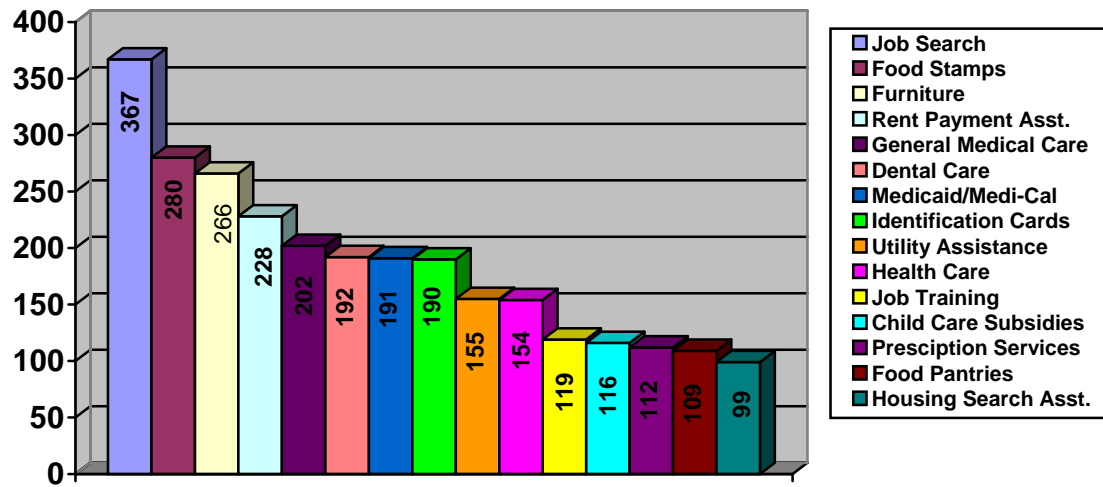
Evacuee Individuals Reporting a Disability

- 149 with a physical/medical disability
- 83 with physical/mobility limits
- 60 with mental illness
- 39 vision impaired
- 97 other – speech, hearing, substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, MR, learning, cognitive

Evacuee Employment Status

- 715 evacuees report being unemployed and 474 of those who are unemployed report looking for employment
- 190 report being employed
- 497 report needing assistance finding a job or job training. HHSD refers evacuees to Work Source for job assistance and/or training.

TOP 15 IDENTIFIED PRIORITY NEEDS THROUGH March 3rd (household count)



Furniture & Taxis– As Of March 3, 2006

- ❑ 1,019 orders have been placed with Gage Furniture
- ❑ 908 households have received their furniture
- ❑ 139 taxi vouchers used for hotel evacuees & 27 taxi vouchers used for apartment evacuees