

Mission Grant Story

NOLA 4H: Hearts for the Hungry, Homeless, and Hurting — \$100,000

Hurricane Katrina changed everything. After the worst residential natural disaster in United States history New Orleans is still devastated. But there is hope. Six inner city Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) churches, part of the Black Clergy Caucus, have banded together to rebuild their communities and their lives.

So many people left as a result of the flooding. Those that came back were faced with the monumental task of starting over. Part of the problem is just that – one in five didn't come back. Neighborhoods have been lost.

Six pastors of churches that experienced incredible flooding are reaching out to their friends and neighbors with the help of the NOLA 4H grant. This grant will help fund the mercy ministries as the pastors serve Christ by serving their neighbors. They will be offering hot meals, food pantries, food bag distribution, homeless sheltering, homeless emergency care, health care, and counseling for hurting hearts. The grant will pay for the food, emergency care, scripture items, and toiletries as the pastors minister to their

friends and neighbors.

The pastors have found many hurting people in their congregations and communities, struggling with anxiety and depression and poor health. They are reaching out to them and with the aid of this grant will be able to expand their outreach.

These NOLA 4H churches will partner with several organizations and schools to help clean up, to repair; to train lay health advocates, and to provide students to help staff the food pantries and soup kitchens.

Jesus told his disciples ... For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink ... “Truly, I say to you as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.”

NOLA plans to spread God's love and care to the Hungry, Homeless and Hurting of New Orleans with this grant and we can help them with our prayers and our mites.