

Honours

## The Good Samaritans responding to Hurricane Katrina *“You’re Being An Angel”*

**H**urricane Katrina was the first Category 5 hurricane of the 2005 Atlantic hurricane season. It first made landfall just north of Miami, Florida on August 25, 2005, then again on August 29 along the Central Gulf Coast near New Orleans, Louisiana.

Its storm surge soon breached the levee system that protected New Orleans from Lake Pontchartrain. Most of the city was subsequently flooded by the lake’s waters. This and other major damage to the coastal regions of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama made Katrina the most destructive and costliest natural disaster in the history of the U.S.

The death toll to date is 1,130; the damage more than \$200 billion, making it the most expensive natural disaster in U.S. history. Over a million people were displaced—a humanitarian crisis on a scale unseen in the States since the Great Depression.



**INDIVIDUALS ACTING AS ANGELS:** Volunteers with *Charity in Action*—based in Bryn Athyn, PA—stand in front of their first truck loaded with supplies headed for Mississippi, September 6.

During and after the hurricane some residents helped not only their neighbors, but strangers, too. They were acting like the Good Samaritan mentioned in the book of Luke in the Bible...

A Jewish lawyer asked Jesus *who is a neighbor?* Jesus answered the lawyer with a parable:

A person was robbed and injured outside of Jerusalem. A Priest and a Levite both passed by the man, but they ignored him in his state of need. Then a Samaritan (a mixed race person considered less than human by the Jews) walked towards the injured person and helped him with medicine, food, and money even though the injured person wouldn’t have liked that if conscious.

*To perform the works of love and charity without receiving recognition of your good deeds is to act as the angels of heaven do.*



Good Samaritans of Hurricane Katrina,  
because of your self-less, charitable attitude in helping the victims,  
you showed others how to *become* angels as yourselves.

Thank you!

*Candace Frazee*

Candace Frazee - Madam Chair of *SILA*  
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