

“NO Place Like Home” Frequently Asked Questions

What is NO Place Like Home?

[NO Place Like Home](#) is a new United Way campaign to build a house a week in New Orleans between now and on August 29, the fifth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina’s landfall.

How many people in New Orleans are still in temporary housing?

As the fifth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina approaches, 970 New Orleans families are still living in FEMA housing.

Will everybody who needs permanent housing get it through this project?

Right now this project runs through August 29, the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina’s landfall. We hope to raise enough awareness to be able to continue the work til all 970 families are once again in safe and secure housing. That’s why we’re inviting everyone to join, by advocating, volunteering and giving.

Why is United Way involved in rebuilding houses?

Safe and secure housing is not only part of long-term recovery from disaster, it’s an essential first step toward financial stability, one of the building blocks of a good quality of life. United Way continues to work to help communities recover from Hurricane Katrina, because the long-term recovery isn’t complete until people’s homes and lives are rebuilt.

What impact has the oil spill had?

The recent oil spill in the Gulf has made long-term recovery even harder. Many people along the Gulf Coast whose livelihoods were immediately impacted by the oil spill were still struggling to recover from Katrina, and there’s no way to predict the ultimate impact throughout the region. This raises yet another barrier to the Gulf Coast’s struggle to recover and move forward. 2-1-1 is already playing a critical role in the response to the oil spill; calls for assistance have spiked by 300 percent since the disaster occurred on April 28. United Way also has provided a trained Volunteer Center professional to assist with volunteer management along the Gulf Coast.

Who is United Way working with?

For No Place Like Home, United Way Worldwide is working with United Way of Greater New Orleans and the St. Bernard Project, which has coordinated thousands of volunteers to build hundreds of houses since fall 2005. Other organizations such as Habitat for Humanity may be part of the project as well.

How can I get involved?

You can give, volunteer and advocate as part of NO Place Like Home. Here are some of the ways:

- From the Gulf Coast Project web site send action alerts to people in your address book giving them the latest information about recovery activities in the Gulf Coast, as well as the forecast for this year’s active hurricane season.
- Volunteer opportunities include construction, painting, landscaping, and other work involved in getting a house ready for move-in. Volunteers must be at least 15 and able to do physical labor for six to eight hours a day. You can create a team or volunteer as an individual.
- Provide financial support by making a donation at www.rebuildnola.unitedway.org. Your donation will be matched by a generous gift from the owners of the NFL’s Jacksonville Jaguars. With their support as well as that of UPS, United Way has already raised almost half of the \$500,000 goal.

How can I learn more?

To learn more about the Gulf Coast Project and how you can join the campaign, go to www.rebuildnola.unitedway.org.

You can also contact Randy Punley, United Way Worldwide Director of Corporate and Media Sponsorships, at randy.punley@unitedway.org or Linda Daily, United Way Worldwide Director of 2-1-1 and Disaster Response, at Linda.daily@unitedway.org.