



PRESS RELEASE
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NFL CHARITIES AWARDS \$1.5 MILLION TO UNITED WAY

Grants Will Support United Way's Long-Term Recovery Work in Areas Ravaged by Hurricanes and Tsunami

Alexandria, VA – United Way of America (UWA) announced today that the National Football League has awarded \$1.5 million from NFL Charities (NFLC) to support United Way work in long-term recovery from disasters.

NFLC's Disaster Relief Fund was established immediately following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and helps to rebuild communities affected by large-scale tragedies. Commissioner Roger Goodell and NFL Players Association (NFLPA) Executive Director Gene Upshaw are co-chairs of the Fund. Goodell states, "For the NFL, football is about more than making plays on the field. We are active off the field as well, giving back by engaging in public service to help strengthen communities and assist in long-term disaster recovery."

United Way of America President and CEO Brian Gallagher said, "As a longtime United Way partner, the NFL stands as a strong ally in making a long-term commitment to rebuild communities. This generous gift will go far in making a difference here and the devastated areas of South Asia."

Two series of grants are being awarded for long-term disaster recovery:

- Ten United Ways that have served a large number of people displaced by the hurricanes will receive \$100,000 each. The grants will help meet ongoing needs in the areas of housing, healthcare, job training, education, mental health counseling and childcare assistance. United Ways that will receive funding are in the following cities: Atlanta, GA; Baton Rouge, LA; Charlotte, NC; Dallas, TX; Houston, TX; Jackson, MS; Jacksonville, FL; Houma, LA; Mobile, AL; and San Antonio, TX.
- United Way of America will receive \$500,000 for use by United Way International (UWI) in Mumbai, India. UWI's Southeast Asia Fund will match this donation with close to \$300,000. Funds will be used to work with United Way Mumbai and other government and private partners to build permanent, tsunami-proof housing for families in Poompuhar Village.

Brian Gallagher continued, "United Way has helped to restore the livelihoods of 327 fishing families in Poompohar. While 100 permanent houses have been built, the need is still great. The NFL's generosity will help us to build safe housing for 173 additional families." Gallagher added, "Along the United States Gulf Coast, the NFL donations will help to meet burgeoning needs in communities that have seen a large influx in population from people displaced by the hurricanes."

With this latest donation, NFL owners, teams, the NFLPA, individual players, and NFL fans collectively have contributed more than \$22 million to 2005 hurricane and 2004 tsunami relief.

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About United Way

United Way is a national network of more than 1,300 locally governed organizations that work to create lasting positive changes in communities and people's lives. Building on more than a century of service as the nation's preeminent community-based fundraiser, United Way engages the community to identify the underlying causes of the most significant local issues, develops strategies and pulls together financial and human resources to address them, and measures the results. United Way of America is the national organization dedicated to leading the United Way movement. While local United Ways tackle issues based on local needs, common focus areas include helping children and youth succeed, improving access to health care, promoting self-sufficiency, and strengthening families. For more information about United Way, please visit: www.unitedway.org.

About NFL Charities

Formed in 1973, NFL Charities is a nonprofit organization that enables NFL teams and their players to contribute collectively to charitable causes on a national level. NFL Charities, which has approved more than \$75 million in grants to more than 250 different organizations since its inception, donates approximately \$10 million in grants annually to support the work of current and former NFL players and to provide funding in the areas of education and youth services, and sports-related medical research.