

**THE
CUBAN
AMERICAN
NATIONAL
FOUNDATION**

***HURRICANE ANDREW
RELIEF EFFORT
August/September 1992***

7300 NW 35th Terrace
Miami, Florida 33122
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CANF HURRICANE ANDREW RELIEF EFFORT



In August of 1992, Hurricane Andrew struck South Florida with devastating fury. In the short span of only a few hours, thousands of south Floridians were left homeless, without medical care, food or water and unable to communicate with the outside world.

The Cuban American National Foundation responded rapidly to this emergency. Within 24 hours, CANF relief supplies were being shipped to those in the devastated areas and over a dozen CANF delegations in other cities throughout the country had been contacted to aid the relief effort. Within 48 hours, CANF had established a base of operations and distribution center in the heart of the affected area. Mobile units that were equipped with food, water, baby food and medical teams ventured into the remotest areas of devastation to offer relief to those in greatest need.

During the course of the critical first week of operations when federal and state government had yet to establish an organized presence in the area, the CANF effort had sent 171 missions of one or more relief vehicles into the disaster zone and distributed over 1,000,000 pounds of canned food, more than 15,000 gallons of potable water, and provided free health care and medicine to more than 600 people.

CANF efforts continued for several weeks thereafter, cooperating in the reconstruction phase of the operation with building and construction materials. In conjunction with the City of Homestead, a transportation network was set up that provided aid to the destroyed mass transit system and a processing center for federal relief aid was established with the cooperation of the government's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

CANF helped establish advisory committees with numerous community organizations for the purpose of facilitating

As of Friday (4 days after the hurricane), only the Cuban American National Foundation and the National Guard had arrived in Leisure City... "The first to arrive was the foundation," said Amneris Ruiz, a 49 year-old Cuban woman. "On Monday, they were already here with sandwiches, juice and canned foods. For the rest of the world, it's as if we don't even exist."

-Miami Herald, August 29, 1992

U.S. government grants and loans to enable local small businesses to get on their feet again and for ensuring that local businesses received

Water? People handed it out free by the roadside. Food? Help yourself to a pre-packaged bag of groceries, adult or child size, at the Cuban American National Foundation's all-purpose center on the Dixie Highway.

-Washington Post, September 3, 1992

a major share of government contracts for the reconstruction of the area's infrastructure.

CANF efforts received extensive coverage and were commended in local and national publications throughout the United States.



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SUMMARY: Miami Cubans Lend a Hand to Poorer Hurricane Victims

AP Photos MH101,MH102,MH103

BYLINE: By JESUS RIVERA, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: MIAMI

Miami's large and powerful Cuban community has spent more than three decades pooling its resources in anticipation of the day Fidel Castro's government falls.

That day has not yet arrived, but Hurricane*Andrew*has given south Florida's Cubans a test run at organizing the kind of emergency relief that the fall of communist Cuba might require.

"This experience will help us be better prepared when the time comes for the reconstruction of Cuba," said Francisco J. Hernandez, president of the *Cuban*American*National*Foundation*(CANF), the leading Cuban organization in the country.

Mainly working through CANF, Miami's Cuban exiles have put their nationwide relief network to work on behalf of the storm's victims. "We want to show that Cubans are willing to help their neighbors," Hernandez said.

Soon after the storm struck on Aug 24, CANF mobilized its more than 20 chapters nationwide for food, clothing and medicine donations.

It also secured the use of several vehicles from car dealerships for food and clothing distribution, and has sent up to 150 volunteers a day to help with everything from cleaning to roof repairs.

"They're in a position to lend a hand. They have the resources and they were one of the first out there to help," said two-term Mayor Xavier Suarez, who was born in Cuba.

With help from City Hall, agencies like the Little Havana Activities and Nutrition Center have served hot meals and provided shelter for the storm's older victims.

"It has done a hell of a job these last two weeks," Suarez said of the center. "And we have started to channel some of the help through people like them."

Because they live mostly in areas that were out of the direct path of the storm, including Coral Gables and the Little Havana section of Miami, the Cuban population here was relatively unscathed.

But the disaster has put many relatively affluent Cubans for the first time in direct contact with poor farming centers to the south, Hernandez said.

"It has opened our eyes to the realities of those areas," he said. "Because of this catastrophe we have developed a greater capacity of understanding of the suffering" of those communities.

According to Hernandez, CANF has distributed 17,000 gallons of drinking water in the worst-hit areas and is serving more than 600 hot meals a day in a farm labor camp in southern Dade County. The camp houses about 500 immigrant

families, mostly from Mexico. He said he expects the number of meals to grow to 1,500 by the end of the week.

For people who lost their homes or jobs to the hurricane, CANF began a federally-funded job program that will pay \$6 per hour for 40 hours of work per week in the Homestead area, 30 miles south of Miami.

Along with other Hispanic organizations, CANF is also pressing federal and state agencies to steer contracts for the reconstruction of southern Dade County toward Hispanic-owned businesses.

Because of Hurricane*Andrew,*one of the CANF's long-term goals is to develop more efficient disaster-relief programs to respond faster without having to rely exclusively on government aid.

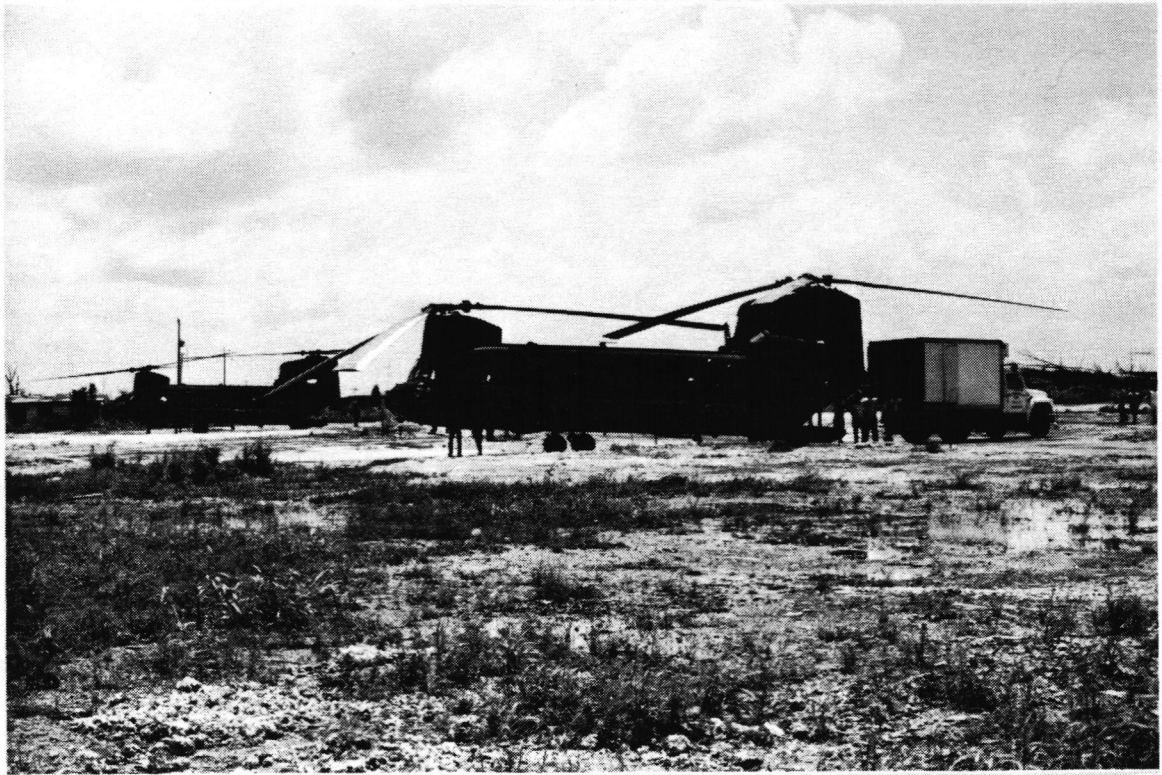
"There was some initial apathy from government agencies towards areas that could be considered socially and economically marginalized," Hernandez said.

"As Hispanics we need to have programs that increase our participation in the social services of this country."

PRIORITY: RUSH

FILE-NAMES: a0584 of 09-10-92







Volunteers in South Florida kick into gear

By JOSEPH TANFANI
Herald Staff Writer

The first day, there was shock. The second, grief. On the third day after Andrew, South Florida got busy.

Tom and Lauren McAloon, waiting out the storm Sunday night in Hollywood, made a silent pledge to help if they were spared. They made good on the promise: Wednesday, they went to the Broward Mall, loaded up their black Chevrolet Silverado pickup with water, diapers and canned beans and drove to the Everglades Labor Camp in Florida City.

"This is devastating," Lauren McAloon said over and over.

Around the nation, people dropped off food, charcoal and jugs of water for the new wastelands of South Dade. The United Way scrambled to patch together a social-service system left in tatters. And companies and agencies organized convoys and collections for storm victims.

"It all gets down to people," said Dade United Way president Harve Mogul. "Money and food right now doesn't seem to be as much of an issue as getting some people in there."

HOW TO HELP

The following organizations are looking for volunteers or donations to help with the hurricane relief effort.

■ **American Red Cross:** People wishing to volunteer should call 324-2511 or 1 (800) 842-2200 (English); 1 (800) 257-7575 (Spanish). In Broward, call 763-9900. They need 100 family service counselors, health workers, shelter workers and support staff. Red Cross encourages cash donations for hurricane victims. But they cannot handle individual in-kind contributions.

■ **The United Way:** The agency needs thousands of volunteers to pack and sort food, answer telephones, and work in daycare centers. They also need medical personnel, construction workers and truck drivers. Call 579-2300. To donate money call 579-2200.

■ **Archdiocese of Greater Miami:** To

donate time, food or clothing, contact your neighborhood Catholic church. St. Mary's Cathedral Hall, 7525 NW Second Ave., is the drop off point for nonperishable food, portable generators, brooms, shovels, rakes, saws, batteries and lanterns. Volunteers needed at the hall to load and unload trucks. No clothes or food. Send monetary contributions to the Archdiocesan Hurricane Relief Fund, Catholic Community Services at Archdiocese of Miami, 9401 Biscayne Blvd., Miami, Fla. 33138.

■ **City of Miami:** Vendors who have equipment, services or supplies they can share with the city are asked to call 575-5174.

■ **The Jaycees** need volunteers and also are collecting goods at the Miami International Distribution Center, 2005 NW 70th Ave., from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. today. Nonperishable and canned foods, candles, matches, manual can

openers, bottled water, ice, paper goods, nails, lumber, hand tools and generators are needed. Call 868-1232.

■ **Salvation Army:** Donations of clothing and nonperishable food and water should be taken to The Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center, 2236 NW Miami Ct. To volunteer, call 624-7087 in Dade and 524-6991 in Broward. Donations of money should be sent to The Salvation Army, P.O. Box 270848, Tampa, Fla. 33688.

■ **South Florida Food Recovery Program:** Emergency food and other assistance will be available to churches and organizations in South Dade. Representatives of these groups should call North Miami Beach Councilman Jule Littman at 624-2273 between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

can get to and the charges will be covered."

■ **Cuban American National Foundation:** delegations in Puerto Rico and seven U.S. cities are preparing to send food, water and relief items. They're accepting donations from Dade at the CANF offices at 7300 MW 35th Ter. No cash contributions will be accepted, and no one from the CANF will be asking for money. Call 592-7768.

■ **Tom Schroder,** a spokesman for the American Automobile Association — Florida, said the agency will be in South Dade Saturday with a convoy of trucks filled with water and food. The distribution point has yet to be determined.

"We've opened our offices around the state, taking donations of canned food, candles, baby supplies, diapers, anything people can use," Schroder said. "We've got about 10 offices outside Miami. At some, they're having difficulty walking around because of all the food."

Herald Staff Writers Liz Balmaseda and Gail Epstein contributed to this report.

Food was pouring in, but there was as yet no system set up to distribute it, Mogul said. He was calling for help and advice from United Ways in Charleston, S.C., that have hurricane experience under their belts.

Ryder Truck Co. is donating trucks, but volunteers are needed to drive them, Mogul said.

Private industry chiefs, large and small, dug into their pockets and pulled out well over \$2 million in cash and kind donations. The largest included Humana Inc. and the Anheuser-Busch Charitable Foundation with \$1 million each.

Also generous was Annie Catz, of the Crab House Seafood Res-

taurant and Captain Crab's Take-Away. Her company pledged a minimum of \$10,000 from its post-Andrew sales.

Challenged Catz: "On behalf of the little guy, small corporations, look into your hearts, dig into your pockets and let's get thing moving in the right direction."

The United Way set up two hot

lines: Call 579-2300 to volunteer, or 579-2200 to make a cash donation.

Other agencies cranked up relief efforts on Wednesday:

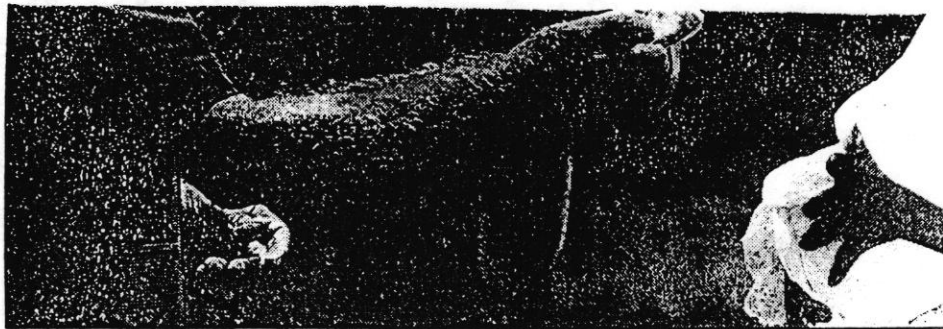
■ **Humana CEO David Jones** said clients in Dade who need health care should not worry about finding a Humana center. Said Jones: "Go to any place you

ment Office, 37-4000. Child care is available near some tent cities.

- **Miami-Dade Children's Resource and Referral Center**, 37-1731, or call the Preschool Laboratory at 237-1451.
- **YMCA**, 576-9622 or 76-9623. There are several temporary centers in South Dade:
 - **A.L. Lewis Elementary**, 505 SW Eighth St., Homestead.
 - **Florida City Elementary**, 364 NW Sixth Ave.
 - **Campbell Drive Elementary**, 15790 SW 307th St., Leisure City.
 - **Homestead Middle School**, 650 NW Second Ave.
 - **Harris Field Park**, 1034 NE Eighth St., Homestead.
- **Catholic Community Services** has opened these centers:
 - **Centro Hispanic Day Care**, 141 NW 27th Ave., 649-7266.
 - **Centro Mater Day Care**, 318 SW Fourth Ave., 545-6049 or 545-7720.
 - **Little Havana Child Care**, 970 SW First St., 324-5424 or 324-6828.
 - **Notre Dame Day Care**, 130 NE 62nd St., 751-6779 or 751-6879.
 - **San Juan Day Care**, 144 NW 26th St., 576-3461 or 576-7757.
- **City of Miami Parks and Recreation Department** will open the following day-care centers Tuesday:
 - **Eaton**, 60155 NE Fourth Ct., 751-0047
 - **Lemon City**, 27 NE 58th St., 751-5614.
 - **Moore**, 765 NW 36th St., 635-2739
 - **Shenandoah**, 1800 SW 21st Ave 868-5350.

DISASTER RELIEF

- Call the **American Red Cross** at (800) 498-0755 for information on services. In Broward, call 763-9900. People living in the following Zip codes can get help at the corresponding center. (Bring identification, preferably a driver's license or utility bill.)
- **Berkshire High School**, 28800 SW 152nd Ave., Homestead, for 33032, 33033, 33035 and 33039.
- **West Homestead Elementary School**, 1550 SW Sixth St., Homestead, for 33030, 33031 and 33034.
- **Point Royale Shopping Center**, 19105 S. Dixie Hwy., Suites 110-113, for 33170, 33177, 33187, 33189 and 33190.
- **St. Louis Catholic Church**, 7220 SW 120th St., for 33133, 33142, 33143, 33146, 33155, 33156 and 33158.
- **Alper Jewish Community Center**, 11155 SW 112th Ave., for 33165, 33173, 33176, 33183, 33186, 33193 and 33196.
- **Southwood Middle School**, 16301 SW 80th St., for 33157.
- **The Red Cross** has opened a drop-off and pickup site for food, water, ice and clothes in Coral Gables at **Storage Plus**, 129 Miracle Mile. Call 447-8576.
- These new **Red Cross** service centers open today at 9 a.m.:
 - **Martin Memorial AME Church**, 14700 Lincoln Blvd., Richmond Heights.
 - **Mjlander Auditorium**, 4800 Palm Ave., Hialeah.
 - **Anthony Abraham Building**,



A HELPING HAND

At Harris Field in Homestead, John Fazlo gives \$10 to Aquilina Muñoz and her 11-day-old baby, Nataly. Fazlo, 76, of Miami Shores, on Saturday was giving the \$10 bills to needy families with children.

The money is from his Social Security check. He needs it more than he does to pay his county traffic court.

■ **Street Community Center**, 2100 Washington Ave., Miami Beach; and **City Hall**, 600 W. Ocean Dr., Marathon.

■ **Switchboard of Miami** provides assistance in finding food, shelter, water and counseling, seven days a week, 24 hours a day, at 358-HELP.

■ **The Cuban American National Foundation** has established a relief center at U.S. 1 and Southwest 293rd Street in Leisure City with doctors and nurses. The foundation also distributes food, water, ice and clothing. Call 592-7768.

The foundation plans to open a second relief center at the Republic National Bank branch, 207 Washington Ave., in Homestead.

■ **Temple B'nai Israel**, 16260 SW 288th St., Homestead, is donating disposable diapers, bedding, nonperishable food and baby items.

FOOD & WATER

■ **U.S. Army kitchens** are serving three free meals daily in South Dade.

Breakfast is served from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.; lunch and dinner from noon until 6:30 p.m. The kitchens will continue to serve meals and water as long as there are people waiting.

Here is an updated list of kitchen sites:

■ **Southwest Dade**: Southwest 173rd Street and Southwest 104th Avenue.

■ **Mays Middle School**, Southwest 216th Street and U.S. 1.

■ **Colonial Elementary**, Southwest 160th Street at 107th Avenue.

■ **Naranja Elementary**, 26210 SW 139th Ave.

■ **Cutler Ridge Mall**, Southwest 210th Street and U.S. 1.

■ **Robert Morgan Vocational Technical Institute**, 18080 SW 122nd Ave.

■ **Homestead**: Campbell Drive Middle School, 31110 SW 157th Ave.

■ **A.L. Lewis Elementary School**, 501 SW Eighth St.

■ **Richmond Elementary School**, 16929 SW 104th Ave.

■ **Florida City**: Sixth Avenue and Davis Parkway.

WHERE
to turn
for
HELP

Street and U.S. 1.
■ **Krome Avenue and Southwest 248th Street.**

■ **Old Cutler Road and Southwest 205th Street.**

■ **Krome Avenue and Southwest 200th Street.**

■ **South Dade residents should boil or purify tap water before drinking it. Bottled water is available at most food, shelter and kitchen sites.**

■ **Water spigots are at Leisure City Plant**, 15225 Harding Lane; **Alexander Orr Water Treatment Plant**, 6800 SW 87th Ave.; the intersection of Southwest 127th Avenue and 248th Street; and the intersection of Southwest 127th Avenue and 268th Street. Bring your own containers and remember to boil or purify the water.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

■ The hot line for **Metro-Dade employees** is 375-5454. Hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Call to find out if you have been reassigned for special hurricane-related duties.

■ The hot line for **federal**

■ **community Health Center**, 10300 SW 216th St., open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

■ **City Hall**, 404 W. Palm Dr., Florida City.

■ **Perrine Health Center**, She herd Building, 17623 Homestead Ave., from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

■ **People With AIDS**, 573-601

HOME REPAIRS

To report an unsafe structure, call 375-2920.

■ **The Florida Department of Professional Regulation** is running a hot line from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 to 6 p.m. Sundays. Call (800) 362-1519 or (800) 342-7940.

■ **The American Institute of Architects** offers the Hurricane Reconstruction Hot Line at (800) 392-9297 between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. weekdays.

■ **The American Subcontractors Association of South Florida** has a hot line offering referrals of licensed contractors and price quotes for specialty work. Call (800) 399-7377 from 8 a.m. to 5

USA TODAY

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NOTES: AFTER HURRICANE*ANDREW*

SHARED TROUBLES BRING DIVERSE PEOPLE TOGETHER

HOMESTEAD, Fla. - Before Hurricane*Andrew,*Maria Marques had never even spoken to a Cuban here in Miami's Cuban-rich Dade County.

But Tuesday, the Mexican-born Marques was filling a bag with food and clothes at the *Cuban-American*National*Foundation's* emergency relief center in Homestead.

"We're all in this together," Marques says.

From the devastation of last week's hurricane has come an unexpected blessing: Dade County's famously fractured community now seems infused with unprecedented unity.

In recent years, the area's complex racial and ethnic mixture - nearly half the county's 1.9 million residents are Hispanic, about 400,000 are black - has struggled to get along.

Aside from the obvious differences, Miami has a dozen more distinctions that help keep people apart.

Hispanics here hail from all over the map: Cuba, Nicaragua, Colombia, Mexico. Each group has its own culture.

Then there are African-Americans, Haitians and immigrants from the Caribbean islands. All are black, but that's the only characteristic many have in common.

Add social class and religion, including a big Jewish population, and Miami's melting pot can sometimes hit the boiling point. But now it's different.

Black neighbors Elvis Maldonado had never met were driving down his street delivering water to those without.

"It takes a disaster to pull everyone together," says Maldonado, from Colombia.

Says Cuban-born Leonardo Estopinan, 34: "Chinese people drove from Miami to hand out matches. We've had help from all kinds of people."

In racially mixed Cutler Ridge, Jane Baldwin says she rarely even spoke to neighbors.

After the hurricane, Baldwin, a white Baptist, joined with Jewish neighbors for a cookout with thawing food. A Cuban neighbor hooked Baldwin's house up to his generator. A black neighbor made sure everyone was all right.

The Baldwins have no doubt they will rebuild here. But the privacy fence they had thought they needed is another story.

"I'm at the point where I don't want it to go back up," Baldwin says.

A cross section of Dade County's ethnic mix is now side-by-side at emergency kitchens, medical centers and supply lines - where no one is too

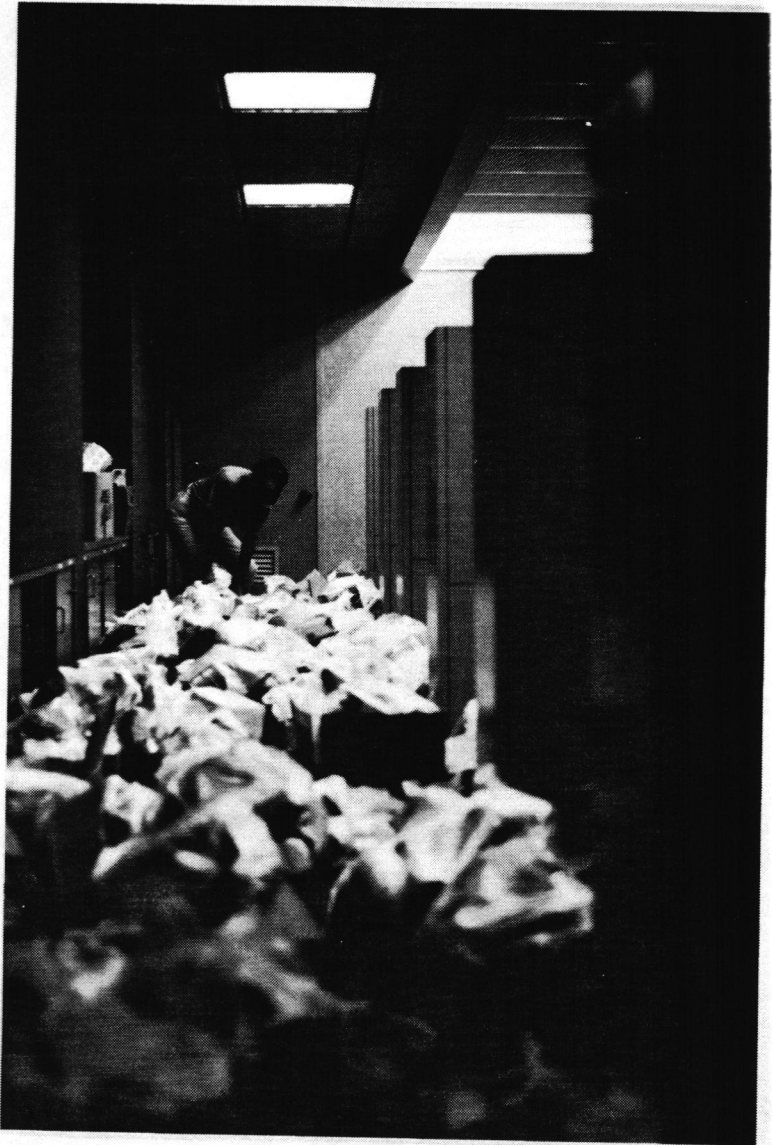
proud to ask for help or give it. "It doesn't matter where you're from ... they help," says Lucy Zamir, 47, at a mobile kitchen in Cutler Ridge.

Throughout the hurricane zone, spray-painted graffiti on houses threatens looters to stay away. But on one window, there is a peace sign and this message: "One World."

West Indian immigrant Lilian Joseph hopes Miami hears the message: "We're all in the same boat. ... God is talking to us, if we're only listening."

SUBJECT TERMS: HURRICANE DISASTER FLORIDA HISPANIC RACE RELATIONS

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HURRICANE SPECIAL / ANDREW'S AFTERMATH

Miami's 'sister city' mobilizes aid

By TOULA VLAHOU
Special to The Herald

UNION CITY, N.J. In a display of compassion and solidarity, Cuban-Americans are boarding buses to Miami, stockpiling supplies and emptying their wallets to help hurricane victims in their "sister city."

Arrangements are under way to airlift water, food and supplies to Dade County. A New Jersey National Guard cargo plane is scheduled to arrive in Miami on Monday or Tuesday. Two collector centers are already filled with supplies.

"We consider ourselves to be sister cities," said Mayor Robert Menendez, whose office is coordinating what he hopes will become a statewide campaign. "The community has been pent up wanting to do something."

Union City is 75 percent Hispanic — mostly Cuban — and many residents have relatives in Miami or own vacation homes damaged by the hurricane.

In Menendez's office a placard beseeches visitors to contribute to the Hurricane Andrew Fund. Called "Operation Miami," the relief effort here includes an all-day Spanish-language radiothon today and a telethon on Sunday. A trust fund also has been established.

Menendez began to organize his relief aid after participating in a broadcast on Spanish-language Radio Mambi, on which Mayor Xavier Suarez's deputy asked for water, evaporated milk, baby food and formula, nonperishable goods, batteries and flashlights. With many telephone lines down, Union City residents are also using the station to try to reach relatives in South Florida.

Organizer runs for Congress

"I was in Miami two weeks ago raising money for my congressional race, and Mayor Suarez and I spoke about the urban problems in our cities. The last thing he expected was a hurricane," said Menendez, the son of Cuban immigrants who also is a state senator and favored to win a U.S. House seat in November.

The call for help is being answered by the Hispanic community in Union City and surrounding areas.

"I want to help them very much," said Ecuadorean immigrant Antonio Roditti, after dropping off three bags of groceries at St. Anthony's Church, one

'We have to remember that this tragedy could have happened to us. They are all Americans and they are suffering at this moment. The Cuban communities and other ethnic communities up here, like the Italian and Jewish, are all being affected.'

The Rev. RAUL COMESANAS,
at St. Anthony's Church, Union City, N.J.

of three sites stockpiling food and supplies to be transported by plane or truck.

Roditti left with a stack of hurricane relief fliers he said he will distribute in his neighborhood.

"We really have to work hard," said the Rev. Raul Comesanas of St. Anthony's.

"We have to remember that this tragedy could have happened to us. They are all Americans and they are suffering at this moment. The Cuban communities and other ethnic communities up here, like the Italian and Jewish, are all being affected."

The donations include 10,000 gallons of water from the New England Water Co. A similar donation is expected from the Saratoga Water Co. in upstate New York.

Trucks, drivers provided

More than a dozen regional firms have pledged support, three trucking companies have donated rigs and drivers, and several organizations are involved. They include the

Cuban American National Foundation, Association of Cuban ex-Political Prisoners, Puerto Rican Civic Association, American Red Cross and Catholic Charities.

The city has an added incentive for rushing to help South Floridians get back on their feet: to stem the migration of Cubans to already overburdened Union City.

Many go looking for kin

Bus loads of worried Union City residents are heading for South Florida to look for relatives or appraise damage to their properties.

"It's full every day," said Miriam Cordova, co-owner of Astro Eastern Bus, whose buses have been packed with residents and cargo for the 24-hour trip to Miami.

But nearly three times as many hurricane victims are heading north.

"Where will they go? There is a housing shortage here," said

mayor's aide Jose Alvarez.

Astro Eastern has rented two additional buses to accommodate people leaving Miami for Union City. But relief officials are pleading for people to stay put.

"Travelers [to Miami] could quite possibly become part of the problem," said John Huffman, executive director of the American Red Cross in New Jersey. "I've had 25 people contact me to go down. I've begged them not to go down."

He added: "Any victims in Florida please stay there. You'll be serviced much quicker if you stay there."

The city is the first to undertake a relief drive, but it's among dozens of other groups around the country coordinating relief efforts.

The Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce in Brooklyn, N.Y., will meet with community leaders this weekend to organize its own relief drive.

In New York, churches and the Red Cross are on the streets collecting donations. A contingent of volunteers left from Long Island Friday morning in vans packed with supplies.



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RADIO BEAMS NEWS OF U.S. KIN TO CUBA
FAMILY BULLETINS FILL AS PHONE LINKS FAIL

The family bulletins from Florida have been riding the radio waves to Cuba every hour, every day, each one broadcast in the hope that some relative, or anyone else on the island, will get the news and pass it on.

Urgent and sometimes plaintive, these missives from the Cuban community in Florida have become the most effective way of transmitting personal news in the wake of Hurricane *Andrew,* which has made normally tenuous telephone links with the island even weaker this week.

Andrew's indiscriminate destruction affected millions of Floridians, and there is no way of assessing how one group in the multi-ethnic region fared compared to another. But with a population that in 1990 numbered 675,000 in Florida, Cubans are trying to contribute to the general recovery, address their community's needs and assuage the concerns of relatives in Cuba.

Among the dead was Francisco Sospedra, 74, a Cuban who was visiting his brother and was planning to seek political asylum this week. Hundreds of migrant workers, many of them Hispanic, were left homeless and jobless by *Andrew,* and Cuban relief organizations are mobilizing in several communities nationwide to try to aid them as well.

Radio Marti', which has been broadcasting to Cuba 24 hours a day since 1985, has been overwhelmed with callers trying to get on its "Family Bridge" program. Expanded from one to four telephone lines just a week before *Andrew,* the program has recorded thousands of messages on its toll-free line and is now beaming them to Cuba all day long.

It is the same with La Voz del CID, a Miami-based station whose 24-hour broadcasts are beamed from Latin America to Cuba, and at La Voz de la Fundacion, which broadcasts to Cuba under the auspices of the powerful *Cuban*
*American*National*Foundation.* Huber Matos, the director of La Voz del CID (Cuba Independence and Democracy), said his station's five telephone lines were getting 300 calls an hour.

Yesterday morning, technicians at Radio Marti's studio in Southwest Washington methodically edited the morning's messages and prepared them for broadcast. Many callers addressed relatives by their nicknames or only their first names, which made listening seem more like eavesdropping on a private conversation.

"Jesus, it's your mother speaking," one woman, who did not identify herself, said in Spanish. "Nothing happened to any of us. Tell your sister and the children."

Aside from carrying personal messages, the independent radio stations and

Radio Marti' have extensively covered the hurricane and its aftermath. TV Marti' did not broadcast for two days because its balloon-borne antenna had to be lowered to spare it damage from*Andrew's*164 mph gusts, but since midweek it has been dedicating its half-hour news segment exclusively to reports about the recovery efforts.

Rolando E. Bonachea, Radio Marti's director, said all of the station's employees in Miami were sent out to report on the hurricane. Cubans who were injured and those who had extensive property losses have been among those interviewed by the station. Its own workers have not escaped the destruction: The brother of one employee was killed, and several other employees lost their homes, Bonachea said.

Cuba's communist government uses electronic signals in an attempt to block broadcasts from the United States, and Cubans here and in Miami said yesterday that the interference appears to have increased since the hurricane hit early Monday morning.

There were also accusations that the government-controlled media in Cuba have been misrepresenting and exaggerating the news-in particular, reports of violence and price gouging. That, several Cubans said, made the U.S.-generated broadcasts even more important.

"Cuba is giving a distorted image of what's going on," said Ninoska Perez, director of Voz de la Fundacion. "They are saying people are dead on the street, people are starving."

Rafael Dausa, of the Cuban Interest Section here, called such reports "calumnies." Dausa said the Cuban media have reported extensively on the hurricane but not on the Cuban angle in particular because it is a tragedy that affected everyone.

Dausa said the Cuban government had expressed its "grief" through diplomatic channels and offered to share what he called the country's "modest" resources, including its experience in dealing with hurricanes.

KEYWORDS:

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SUBJECT: Florida; Cuba; Radio; Hurricanes, typhoons; Hispanic Americans

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END OF DOCUMENT.



World Vision Relief &
Development, Inc.
Project Andrew

September 24, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM: Thomas Van Hare, Director, World Vision Project Andrew *Thomas Van Hare*

SUBJ: INFORMATION--Highlights of Project Andrew

Within 72 hours of the landfall of Hurricane Andrew, World Vision Relief and Development commenced operations in South Florida. The first of many shipments of World Vision relief cargo, including cooking sets, medical supplies, water purification tablets, plastic sheeting, blankets, and other disaster related items arrived by truck and was airlifted into the disaster zone on board U.S. Army CH-46 Chinook helicopters. These initial shipments, worth over \$2 million, constituted World Vision's first steps in what was to become an extensive and dramatic relief effort.

Recognizing the extent of damage in the disaster zone, World Vision began an intensive program aimed at assisting those who were the most helpless victims of the hurricane. With significant donations from Baxter Medical Care, Upjohn, Burroughs-Wellcome, Kimberly-Clark, World Opportunities, Whitehall Labs, and thousands of caring Americans, World Vision's program moved rapidly ahead. Early efforts in airlifting the relief could not have been accomplished without the landmark cooperation between the U.S. military and all the private agencies in South Florida.

Noting the need for more and improved distribution sites, World Vision opened contact with Hispanic communities in Homestead and Florida City. Encouraging and supplying cargo to the Cuban-American National Foundation and the Miami Medical Team, World Vision worked to expand the distribution capacity throughout the neighborhoods of Homestead and Florida City. In World Vision's experience, these two organizations, the Cuban-American National Foundation and the Miami Medical Team, proved to be the best distribution agencies working in the disaster zone.

Recognizing that fully 52 percent of Dade County is Spanish speaking, and that many of the victims of Hurricane Andrew are Hispanic, World Vision concentrated its efforts in those neighborhoods, and the results of the partnership arrangements with both agencies continue today. In this regard, Radio Mambi's Carlos Perez was very helpful, in advising the hurricane's victims through his radio program, and later, in limited distribution of water supplies.

The Cuban-American National Foundation made a dramatic impact, and World Vision was able to continue directing significant quantities of relief supplies to their facilities, which allowed the Foundation to further expand their efforts. The network

quickly grew from their headquarters site, for the sorting and preparation of cargo, to two sites within the disaster zone. The Cuban-American National Foundation model was based on the route system, in which over 60 neighborhoods received house to house service, consisting of balanced bags of food, water, and other relief supplies. This method has proven to be the most effective distribution system in the disaster zone.

At its high point, the Foundation was handling up to eight (8) 48 foot trailer loads per day from World Vision, of food supplies, water, and medical cargo. The Foundation also opened up a free medical clinic at its primary site, in Homestead. On September 7, 1992, the Lt. Governor of Florida made a short visit to the Foundation site, during which one truckload and one helicopter load of World Vision cargo arrived for distribution.

The Miami Medical Team, with its long history of operating medical clinics in harsh overseas environments, proved to be an excellent medical base in Florida City. The Team expanded its operations in conjunction with World Vision, and even set up a helicopter landing zone beside its main clinic to handle relief supplies when surface transportation assets were halted in the heavy traffic flow. Thousands of patients were treated, and the Team also distributed extensive quantities of emergency food and water. The Team has moved its operations to the Centro Campesino, where many migrant workers, who would otherwise be without any medical care, are now receiving aid.

It is often the smallest shipments which have the greatest impact. One of the most dramatic successes of World Vision in the response to the hurricane has been aid to the Miccosukee Indians, termed the "Forgotten Victims of Hurricane Andrew" by the media. Specialized cargoes of baby food, water, diapers, canned food and other disaster assistance products were built onto USAF 463L pallets for airlift aboard C-27 cargo aircraft. The C-27s, on orders from the United States military's Southern Command in Panama, extended their duty period in Florida for the purpose of supporting World Vision's efforts on behalf of the Miccosukee. Nine (9) sorties delivered over 88,000 pounds of relief cargo to Page Field, Ft. Myers, Florida. Through a collaborative arrangement with the Lee County Sheriff, John McDougall, the cargo was further distributed to the Indians.

Furthermore, on the invitation from the previous director at Opa-locka Airport, World Vision took on the task of managing the sorting, packing, and distribution functions there on behalf of the Citizens' Relief Effort. Basing operations on the proven overseas relief principles, World Vision expanded the administrative staff and rationalized the floor operations to ensure accountability and increased relief cargo flow. During that period, over 600,000 pounds of disaster related cargo was shipped by surface means, including such items as medical supplies, water, canned goods, baby supplies, infant formula and personal hygiene items. In addition, approximately 200,000 pounds of other assorted relief cargo was distributed by airlift from the site.

Under World Vision's direction, the operation was executed in cooperation with the Lions Club of Florida, and the Lions International, as well as significant assistance from local community volunteers and the United Way. The relief center was operated

in close coordination with the U.S. Army 18th Airborne, and involved helicopter airlift and surface transportation assets in answering a dramatic need for immediate relief inside the disaster zone.

Additionally, World Vision has played a role in advising FEMA and the Red Cross of the privately managed distribution network in place throughout the disaster zone. Over fifty sites were logged for FEMA's use in further distribution and played a key role in the emergency relief stages of the effort.

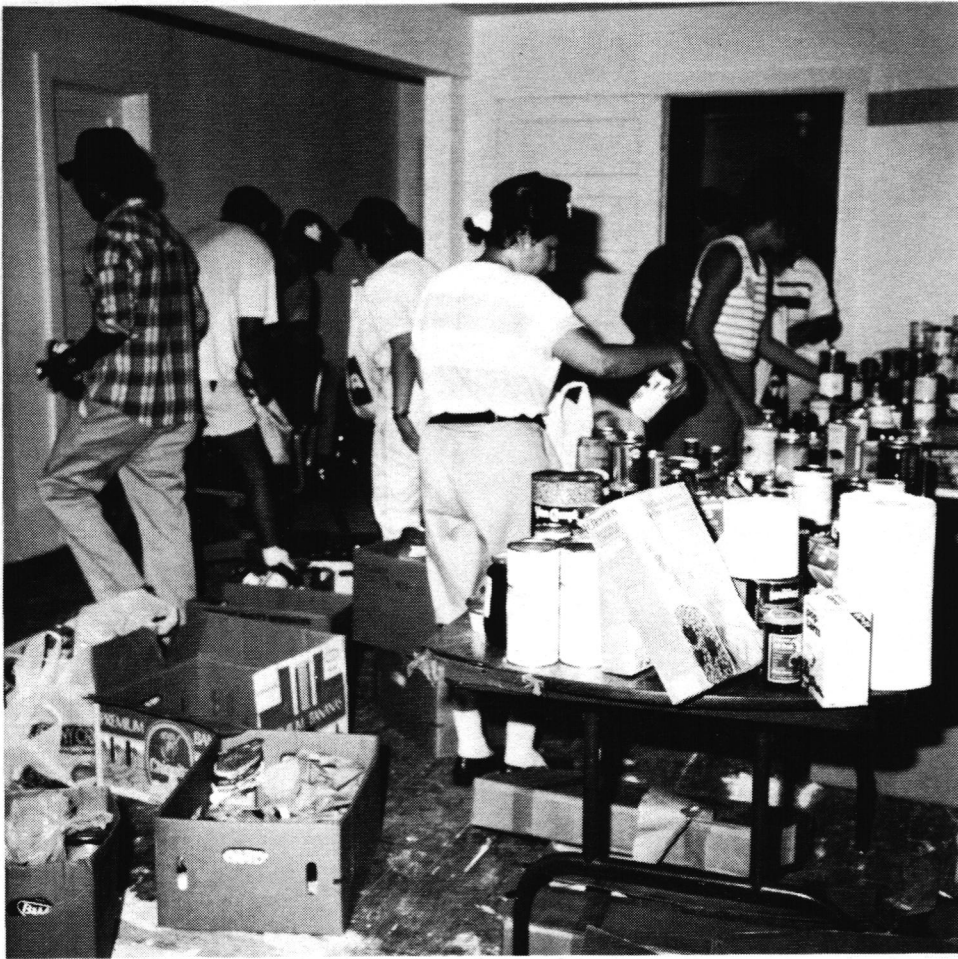
World Vision's capabilities on the ground have been extensive. Seven (7) World Vision staff were in South Florida at peak involvement, with an additional three (3) local full-time volunteers on staff. Fully sixteen (16) headquarters and other personnel have been dedicated to support the project from California, Pennsylvania, and Arizona. World Vision's staff has been carefully designed to include extensive logistics management and materials handling experience, warehousing, and distribution planning capabilities.

With the shift in needs from immediate relief to longer term reconstruction and rehabilitation, World Vision has changed its role as well. World Vision is now setting up a distribution network for construction supplies and is advising the Hispanic community on the changes in the Dade Housing Code. World Vision has published a Spanish text version of the most critical changes in the building code, to ensure the widest dissemination. Utilizing the existing distribution network, World Vision is making the Spanish text available to homeowners throughout the disaster zone who would otherwise be unaware of the changes taking place now on an almost daily basis.

Finally, World Vision is studying and planning to assist families in temporary or permanent resettlement, as necessary. With over 50,000 homeless families now struggling to survive in the wake of Hurricane Andrew, World Vision recognizes that for many, a holiday season in Florida is not a realistic possibility. Easing the stresses of relocation is now a primary focus of World Vision's headquarters staff, and World Vision feels that family sponsorship, in the model of our highly effective Home Again Program, may be the best answer to the needs of the victims in Dade County.

World Vision's efforts in answering the massive cry for help in South Florida have been extensive. Yet despite the scale of the effort, administrative costs were kept to approximately one percent of the value of the aid shipped. With relief cargo values now approaching \$4 million, and not counting the impact of assisting Hispanic homeowners in understanding the changes in building code, the efforts of World Vision's staff have been one of the great success stories in the disaster zone.

In the coming days, as relief operations finally wind down, and all the private agencies shift their efforts to the reconstruction of Dade County, World Vision's final contribution is the planned writing of a U.S. relief voluntary agency program guide. Such a book, written in conjunction with the Jaycees, the Lions, and other voluntary agencies, will capture the lessons learned from Hurricane Andrew, and will be in place as a guide for when the next disaster strikes.



THE WASHINGTON POST

DATE: THURSDAY September 3, 1992

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SOURCE: Guy Gugliotta; William Booth
Washington Post Staff Writers

DATE-LINE: HOMESTEAD, Fla., Sept. 2

MEMO:

STORY-TYPE: NEWS NATIONAL

AID CATCHING UP WITH NEED IN S. FLORIDA
ACROSS DEVASTATED AREA, BASICS APPEAR BOUNTIFUL

If you needed help, you could get it today in south Dade County, a lot of times for free.

Ten days after Hurricane*Andrew*sliced through South Florida, the most heavily damaged areas were saturated with merchants, soldiers, police, politicians and volunteers from an alphabet soup of federal, state and local agencies.

Vast convoys of food flowed south, turning Red Cross outposts into grocery stores, and churches into supermarkets. Drinking water, doctors, medicine and shelter were readily available. Basic needs, and then some, were being met easily.

The people of south Dade County know that, even with the federal government willing to pick up the full tab for recovery and rebuilding, it will take months, probably years before their property, neighborhoods and towns begin to look as they did before*Andrew.*Many remain homeless and without power.

But traveling in disaster areas around Homestead and Florida City today was like a riding into a drive-through bazaar.

Water? People handed it out free by the roadside. Food? Help yourself to a prepackaged bag of groceries, adult or child size, at the*Cuban-American*National*Foundation's*all-purpose center on the Dixie Highway. Not feeling well? Pharmacies were open on generator power, and scores of volunteer doctors, nurses and health care workers offered everything from tetanus shots to minor surgery, free.

The five-star Boca Raton Resort and Club had free beef stew, mashed potatoes, rice and beans on the menu at its roadside cafeteria. Taco Bell offered free Tex-Mex, and McDonald's gave away hamburger Happy Meals at mobile trailers next to its gutted restaurants.

Need a place to stay? The Army's tent city opened here, with beds, hot meals, showers, laundry and even movies.

At a Barnett Bank branch in the heart of Homestead, automatic-teller machines, generator driven, gave customers crisp, new \$20 bills, with a free bag of ice thrown in for good measure. In shopping center parking lots, insurance agents waited to deal with claims for even "minimal damage," as one put it. MCI offered free telephone service in the comfort of an air-conditioned trailer.

All along U.S. Route 1, merchants opened their doors to sell auto parts, new cars, gasoline, lanterns and Chinese food. They were giving away propane,

clothing, new shoes and advice on everything from loan applications to treatment of athletes' foot.

In a sign that life eventually would right itself, a small, stringy man appeared at an intersection with a bucket of cut flowers for sale.

In Third World nations, relief workers often struggle for months with death and disease. In America, disaster has provoked an outpouring of do-goodism, armed forces can-doism and pure unbridled capitalism. At first, helicopters flew over Dade County searching for desperate people. Today, they hunted lost pets. When found, they could be taken to the Florida Hurricane Pet Relief station for shots, surgery or treatment of hurricane-related stress.

If you could not find help today, help found you.

"Oh, they're so nice," said Eva Parker, who lives in government-subsidized housing in devastated Naranja a few miles north. "They keep coming into the neighborhood, every day, every way. I ain't got a car, but the Army and the people keep coming, bringing food and water and what all. I even got my blood pressure checked."

Parker said she and her family have plenty of food and water and a working telephone. But they lack electricity and mail service. Parker receives Social Security disability checks.

She went to local pharmacy to refill her prescription for blood-pressure medicine. Although she had no money, the pharmacist told her that he would bill the state of Florida.

Because communication remains a problem, the military distributed thousands of free transistor radios, and the federal disaster zone got its own Army radio station—"This is Radio Recovery, 1610 AM on your dial"—which broadcast a 400-watt signal in English, Spanish and Creole from an abandoned steak house in Homestead.

Army authorities also planned to alert victims about available services by dropping leaflets from helicopters. As early as Thursday, public health officials said, large, helium-filled balloons are to be lofted above disaster-relief sites—red for medical, blue for food and white for information. Goodyear has volunteered a blimp to advertise disaster-relief messages in three languages.

At an open-air office in a shopping center, State Farm insurance agents were issuing drafts for \$5,000 or more to people who lost home. Area banks honored the drafts, which could be used to pay for temporary roofs, to rent apartments or secure hotel rooms.

The recovery effort relief, however thorough, did not erase class differences. People with money tended not to spend the day in line. People without money, who could not simply go to hotel or grocery store, stood for hours, awaiting welfare checks, vouchers and boxes of free food, water and clothing.

Donna Sanchez estimated that she would need two hours in line to reach the Salvation Army tent where canned goods awaited her. Earlier in the day, she had waited two hours for a certificate that would pay her rent for two months.

"There's food, there's help," she said. "They just make you work damn hard to get it."

Among major highways, where Sanchez waited in line, everything was motion and commotion. But off the beaten track, pleasant surprises abounded for

anyone with the savvy or perseverance to hunt them.

At the Red Cross relief station at South Dade High School in Naranja, 36 refugees slept comfortably in an auditorium designed for 100.

John Peach, a Key West cook and boat captain who showed up there last weekend, cooked a turkey dinner Sunday, roast beef Monday and hamburgers Tuesday. "Coffee," he said cheerfully today, "will be ready in about 15 minutes."

Nearby at Redlands Christian Academy, Principal Don McIver had been unable to find people to unload trucks full of food and construction equipment at his gymnasium. So a few days ago, he hailed a patrol of paratroopers from the Army's 82nd Airborne Division.

Now the paratroopers come each day to unload rental trucks crammed with canned-this and dried-that. Then they shelve it.

"Who's got peanut butter?" yelled one soldier from midcourt today. "Peanut butter here!" yelled a paratrooper underneath the basket. "Comin' at you," replied the first, tossing the jar overhand across the room.

McIver's operation handles donations from Church of Christ congregations nationwide.

Emilio Garcia, a Mexican migrant worker with seven children, appeared at 8 a.m. to ask whether McIver had a generator. McIver did, for \$479-at cost. Garcia offered \$400. McIver closed the deal, saying, "\$200 now and the rest next week, or whenever you can get it to me. Please don't rush."

Garcia paid. But as he turned to leave, his wife paused and asked: "Do you by any chance have a cooler, for ice?" McIver handed her one. She thanked him and departed, beaming.

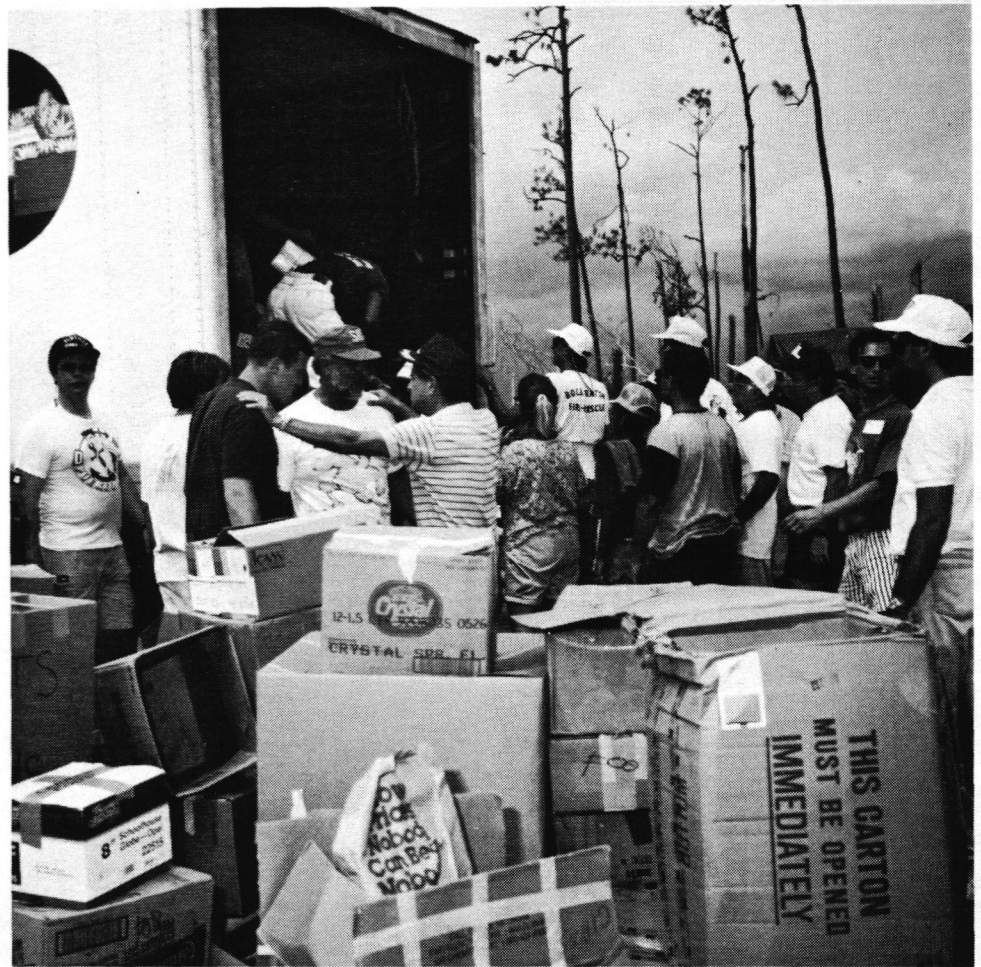
Before dawn today, a Metro-Dade police officer escorted West Palm Beach volunteer Bob O'Brien to the academy because no one at tent cities could unload his truckload of supplies. But McIver had the 82nd Airborne.

So at 9 a.m., O'Brien was able to climb into his truck cab and proclaim, "I'm outta here," as he left to pick up more. Behind him were 35 soldiers preparing to play a three-hour game of catch with groceries.

KEYWORDS:

ORGANIZATION: dale county; hurricane*andrew;* american red cross; dade





ATLANTA CONSTITUTION
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SOURCE: By Christina Chekalos STAFF WRITER

HUMBLED BY DISASTER, SOUTH FLORIDIANS ACT LIKE NEIGHBORS

Perrine, Fla. - The black Jamaican man watched suspiciously from the entrance of his ruined home as the white American man walked toward him, smiled and handed him a cooked chicken and a jug of water.

"He just stared at me for a long time," said Jack Brown, 34, who came to the mixed community of modest homes - now destroyed - to help victims of Hurricane*Andrew.*"Then he took my offering and he said, 'I never believed until now that white men had hearts.' "

Metropolitan Miami, despite the sleekest image tourism tax dollars can buy, has always been an area divided: by language, color, culture, class and politics.

The wealthiest walled themselves inside enclaves and the middle class bought orange barricades and blocked the public entrances to their neighborhoods. The poor - from native white Miamians to U.S. blacks to each new wave of immigrants - were forced to settle near each other, but rarely socialized.

But the hurricane seems to have cut through those social and ethnic divisions. School bus driver Carolyn Riggins calls it "the greatest human relations tool Miami ever saw."

"People are coming together like I've never witnessed here. They're talking and listening to each other and meeting eyes instead of looking away," said Mrs. Riggins, who cowered with her three children inside her Richmond Heights home that*Andrew*leveled.

"Rich is poor and poor is poorer and everybody needs water, food and someone to hug them and say it'll be all right."

HISTORY OF ANGER, DIVISION

Miami is the only American city that has erupted into major race riots four times in one decade, all the result of white or Hispanic police officers beating or shooting black men to death.

When Nelson Mandela came to the United States two summers ago, he was feted by the president and given the keys to every city he visited - except Miami.

Mr. Mandela's unforgivable act to many Cuban exiles - including radio talk show hosts and politicians - was that he said nice things about Fidel Castro. So Mr. Mandela was just another Communist enemy.

Black Miamians were incensed at the snubbing of the man they consider a hero, and they retaliated with a tourism and convention boycott that continues today.

That same summer, Miami's Haitian community rose up in protest after a

violent argument and beating involving a Cuban shop owner and a Haitian shopper. The incident ignited days of demonstrations, frustration released by Haitians who feel Miami's Cubans receive all the city's attention and services.

The Miami area's Cuban-exile community still is reacting strongly to a report released last month by Americas Watch, an organization that has denounced human rights violations by the Castro regime.

This time, the human rights organization turned its attention on Miami.

In this U.S. city, the report found, freedom of speech "suffers as much as it does in other countries in Latin America - or throughout the world - where violence reigns."

And everybody, it seems, hated the hometown newspaper, The Miami Herald. Haitians believe the newspaper ignores their community and the plight of their countrymen seeking freedom in the United States. Many whites and blacks believe the newspaper panders to Cuban exiles. And many of Miami's Cubans believe the newspaper is a leftist publication that tolerates the intolerable: Castro.

Until a recent kiss-and-make-up session between the *Cuban*American*National*
Foundation's Jorge Mas Canosa and Herald publisher David Lawrence, cars, buses and newspaper machines were slapped with bumper stickers that declared: "I don't believe The Miami Herald."

NEW COLORBLIND KINDNESS

But all that animosity was before *Andrew.*

Suddenly strangers became families and parishioners became "real Christians," said Father Seamus O'Shaughnessy, looking exhausted last week as he oversaw a massive relief effort at his Christ the King Church in West Perrine, a lower middle-class area that took a direct hit from the hurricane. The church windows were all broken and the roof leaked. Still, thousands were being fed and offered canned goods and clothing.

"Even churches in Miami are segregated," said Father O'Shaughnessy, whose congregation is a rare exception, with 62 nationalities gathered together. "We had a lot of whites leave the parish because they believed we were giving too much attention to the minorities. After the storm, many came back to help those they'd left to get away from."

His parishioners, who include many of those living in the mixed neighborhoods of Perrine and Richmond Heights, lost their modest homes. Father O'Shaughnessy himself was homeless until Edmond Chin from China took him in.

"I never went to his church, but he lived next door, and so now I have him and a Haitian priest sleeping at my house," Mr. Chin said. "My sister, who has been visiting neighbors after the storm, found a minister, a black man, living with his daughter and her baby in a destroyed house around the corner. We are feeding and caring for them. I never knew he lived by us."

Another priest at Christ the King Church, Father Jorge Sardinias, a Cuban-American who arrived in Miami in 1960, joined the relief effort.

"A disaster, unfortunately, brings out the best in people," said Father Sardinias. NOT Photo: mug of Nelson Mandela

THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES
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AND

WHITE PHOTO, Reuters

SOURCE: CRAIG PITTMAN; LISA FREDERICK; JACK ROWLAND

DATELINE: MIAMI

RAIN SOAKS FLAGGING SPIRITS

On the seventh day after Hurricane*Andrew*smashed South Florida, the first signs of a particularly American reaction to disaster appeared on U.S. 1.

Three vendors set up roadside stands to sell T-shirts emblazoned with the slogan: I SURVIVED HURRICANE*ANDREW.*

But the question facing Dade County residents Sunday was whether they could survive what has come after the storm - the lack of food, water and a dry place to sleep; the rising threat of disease; widespread traffic tie-ups; telephone system gridlock; and a growing frustration with the disorganized relief effort.

"The challenge of rebuilding our communities is massive - I think greater than this country has ever faced," Gov. Lawton Chiles said during a statewide television address Sunday evening.

He praised the courage of the storm's survivors. "Yes, the trees and the houses may be down, but the people are still standing."

Some of those people would like to sit down. With their homes demolished and their lives disrupted, the thought of another day of coping with long lines and heavy rain is almost too much to bear.

Gwen Bullock, an official in hard-hit Florida City who lost her home, has been sleeping in the trailer that now serves as a makeshift City Hall.

"I'm hot; I'm tired," she said. "My wire is getting shorter and shorter."

Officials tried to put the best face on the situation. Months will pass before life ever gets back to normal, they said, but over the past week conditions in South Florida have improved.

"We are not getting into a deepening crisis," Dade County Manager Joaquin Avino told reporters Sunday.

"I think everybody who had a problem with food and shelter, we got to them," Avino said. "So things have got to be better."

Avino estimated that "100,000 or so" of the people left homeless by the hurricane have found temporary or permanent shelter, and predicted the U.S. Army would have tents for many of the other 150,000 starting Sunday - a prediction that turned out to be wrong.

Heavy afternoon thunderstorms hampered the Army's efforts, leaving the tents nothing more than a promise.

Bill Hale, who is heading the cleanup effort in Florida City, led a two-day

drive to clear a site for the tents. Seeing them delayed was, for him, the last straw.

""The hell with the Army," he snapped. ""Let them go back to Iraq."

But more troops arrived in South Florida on Sunday, and the Pentagon said 20,000 might be in place by Tuesday to help storm victims.

And instead of Army tents, Florida City got sort of an air strike Sunday. Low-flying planes sprayed plumes of pesticide across the area, trying to hit every puddle of water where insects might breed. Mosquitoes still swarmed around a campground bathroom that offered the only hot showers in town.

Although the winds of Andrew are long gone, the storm still threatens to harm thousands through disease and illness. Volunteer doctors and nurses from all over the state have set up clinics in tents, schools and even damaged homes in an attempt to deal with escalating health problems.

""What we foresee is a lot of gastroenteritis and infected wounds," said Dr. Anthony Pizarro, who was working out of a clinic set up by the Cuban American National Foundation.

Outbreaks of communicable diseases are likely because ""there are some really unsanitary conditions out there," he said.

""The problem is that many of the people were poor to start with, and now they're below that," said David DiPaolo, an emergency medical technician with the state's Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services.

DiPaolo was part of a team of 25 volunteers who had set up a clinic in a tent in Florida City. Their patients came pouring in, their ailments ranging from minor cuts to chest pains. Diarrhea and respiratory problems were common.

""We've found people who are still drinking contaminated water or they're bathing in water that's piled up in the streets," he said. ""They're doing what they think is right, and we're going in trying to educate them."

Heavy rains have damaged some of the supplies for hurricane victims, and now some officials fear that those cans and boxes of food might spoil and cause food poisoning.

There are more basic problems, too. Carole Novielli, a nurse from Fort Lauderdale working at a clinic in Homestead, watched over a group of about 30 toddlers sitting on blankets near two overflowing trash dumpsters. The children were ""almost too still," she said.

""The main thing is we've been pumping them with fluids because they're very dehydrated," she said.

Relief officials also warned that there would be plenty of injuries during the cleanup.

""Most people haven't been getting a lot of sleep," Metro-Dade Fire Chief David Paulison said. As a result, he said, they have grown careless about using chain saws and cut themselves. Also, he said, they're falling off ladders and roofs.

And as Florida Power & Light starts turning the power back on, Paulison warned, there will probably be a ""large amount of electrocutions."

In fact, the local official who has been the county's most visible spokesman during the storm, emergency management director Kate Hale, was hospitalized briefly Saturday night when her hair dryer shorted out and shocked her.

But officials said over and over Sunday that the biggest problem the relief

effort is facing is Dade County's gridlocked traffic.

Gawking tourists and well-intentioned but misguided Good Samaritans are slowing the flow of food and other supplies to those areas hardest hit by the storm, they said.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson leapfrogged over the traffic jams Sunday by taking a helicopter tour of the battered areas. He said most people seemed thankful just to have made it through the storm.

"It's better to be lining up for bags of ice and food than lining up at the morgue to identify next of kin," Jackson said.

Some people may have been lining up for more than the bare necessities. Soldiers who were guarding a distribution center in Florida City said they had seen some residents come back time and again and leave with enormous quantities of donated goods.

"I don't know for a fact, but I do suspect we have people coming in and getting more than they need and selling it," said Roy Vess, one of the guards. "There's not really a whole lot you can do, because you don't want to get too forceful with them."

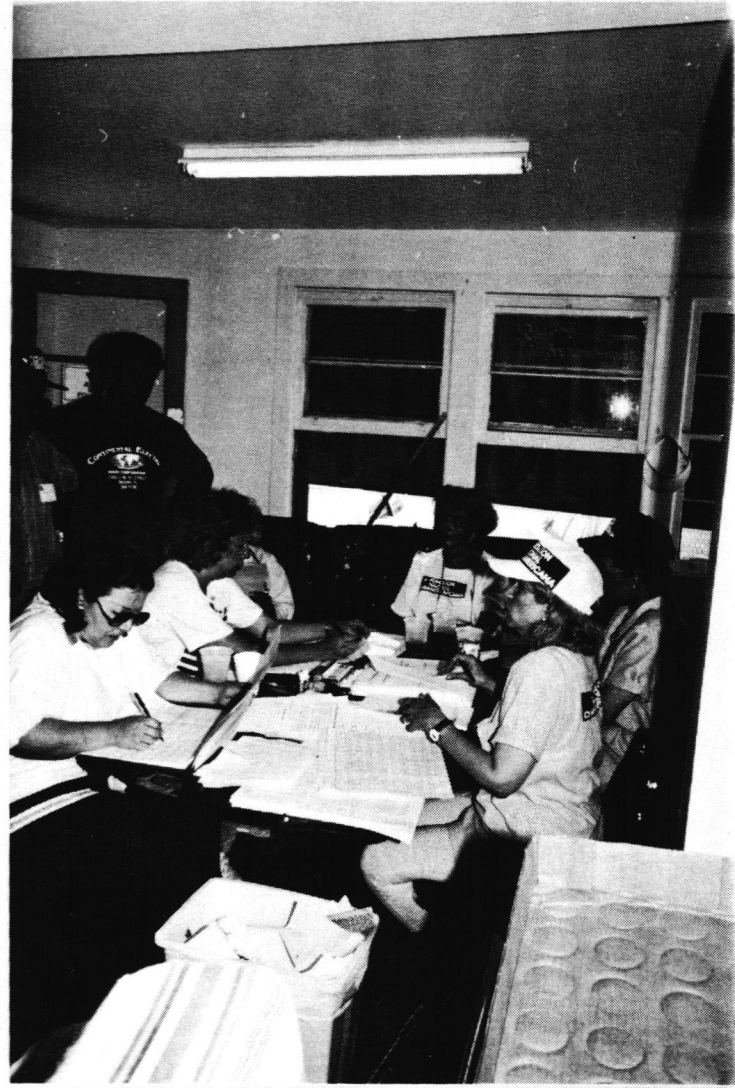
And then there are entrepreneurs like Jack Mayo.

Mayo, from Ohio, set up a stand in Coral Gables to hawk his "I Survived Hurricane*Andrew"*T-shirts - which also feature an odd picture of the storm hovering over Naples, not Miami - for \$10 apiece. Motorists on U.S. 1 veered off to check out the merchandise, further complicating the traffic problems.

Mayo swore at least part of the proceeds would go to the American Red Cross.

- Information from staff writer Jack Rowland and the Associated Press was used in this report.

CAPTION: As the Rev. Jesse Jackson tours the devastation in Florida City he pauses over a pair of baby shoes pulled from the rubble. Jackson is accompanied by the city's mayor, Ottes Wallace; Roslyn Tompkins prays at Hope Ministries in Perrine; Holly Jordan and her brother David eat lunch near a field kitchen set up by the U.S. Army in Miami



THE PALM BEACH POST
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SOURCE: Sally Swartz

TREASURE COAST VOLUNTEERS 'FEEL GOOD' HELPING

Pete Lopilato of Sewall's Point was there because, "It's payback time."
"Thirty-five years in the building business gave me a good life," he said.

Nearby was Michael Spotts of Essex, Conn., who volunteered because, "It makes me feel good I'm able to help."

Then there was Gerrit Bruins, 65, who took a vacation day from his Port St. Lucie Building Department job.

They were among more than 40 volunteers from the Treasure Coast who traveled to Homestead last week to help rebuild a migrant housing project where roofs were blown off and windows blown out by Hurricane*Andrew.*

"I know what it was like during World War II," Bruins said Thursday, the first day of a weeklong project at the Redland Center. "Five years we were in need in the Netherlands. People helped us. I remember. I want to give something back."

The project, organized by former Stuart Commissioner Joan Jefferson and Gail Kavanagh, director of the Treasure Coast Builders' Association, continues through Wednesday.

Pros from the builders' association repaired and replaced roofs on 10 houses and window glass in more than 20 in a half day.

Ed Mullett, 17; Chuck Long, 20; Thomas Thompson, 16; and Joe Lamb, 17, were among eight students recruited from a dropout retrieval program that teaches building trade skills at Spectrum High School in Stuart.

Billy Mounts and Bill Loughlin work for competing firms in Port St. Lucie. But they were co-workers on this project.

When the builders' association announced plans for the project, Treasure Coast residents donated money to help pay for building supplies. That money will be returned, association members said, because the Homestead Housing Authority will pick up the tab.

Arriving at Redland before noon Thursday after a six-hour trip in a motorcade, builders and volunteers unloaded trucks and set up a glass-cutting operation and roofing crews.

Resident Armando Rios was so grateful to have his windows replaced he joined the builders, serving as translator to explain to others what the men were doing and later helping the glass crews haul materials.

"We gotta help," he said.

Some builders were angry the migrants weren't more helpful, and complained when they learned Housing Authority administrator John Frederick plans to pay residents \$5 an hour to help the volunteer crews.

It served as an example of how Hurricane*Andrew*has brought out the absolute best and worst in people.

None of us on the trip were quite prepared for the reality of miles of houses without roofs and windows, piles of stinking, rotting rubble and dead power lines draped through twisted trees. It was unnerving to see soldiers with guns directing traffic and Army helicopters hovering overhead.

"It's overwhelming," Dr. David MacMillan of Stuart said. "As you get closer and closer, you get quieter and quieter."

MacMillan brought medical supplies collected from Treasure Coast doctors to the camp clinic then went to work with a chain saw, clearing trees.

Army personnel had sawed up a lot of trees already. Bulldozers and crane shovels loaded semi-sized dump trucks lined up to haul away trash piled higher than houses. The rubble included clothes and food people had donated, now wet and rotting.

Eva Santeno, 80, a resident at the camp, was one of several women trying to salvage what they could from a pile of soggy clothes that had been dumped on a corner.

"This is sad," she said. "But I will wash them."

Doctors at the camp told of a 13-year-old boy who had been brought to their clinic with three gunshot wounds in his chest. Army helicopters took him away, and doctors thought he had died. Later they learned he had survived.

"They suspected he was a looter," said Dr. Richard Sabates of Miami, a volunteer. "Even if he was, he was a child. People are nervous, and they are armed. They are on edge because they are exhausted. They are paranoid about their property."

Volunteer Harry Yates, director of the Martin County Children's Services Council, said he was amazed at "how kids tend to survive."

"They're playing as usual," Yates said. "One kid was moving around debris with a toy dump truck."

Harry was popular with kids and dogs as he helped remove broken glass from windows. He was carrying candy in one pocket and dog biscuits in the other.

"Why would I come down here? I think the question is why wouldn't I come? The need is so great-- and I feel so great helping out."

CAPTION: DAVID LANE/Staff Photographer

Francisco Garcia watches as volunteers repair the roof of his Homestead house. He and his wife live in a migrant camp with their four children and a grandchild. At the Cuban American National Foundation's free clinic, Dr. Richard Sabates treats Maria Sanchez's leg, infected by mosquito bites.

NEWS AND SUN-SENTINEL
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GODSEND

Mere hours after the last gales of Hurricane*Andrew*-- and days before the first military supplies arrived -- church agencies were deploying their own troops to the aid of South Floridians.

Working with the American Red Cross, using methods designed originally for Third World countries, the workers brought food, water, building supplies and a growing army of volunteers. Their quick response was made possible largely by their constituent churches, which have supplied scouts and forward bases for the assault on suffering.

"The churches were there long before the disaster happened," says Kenlynn Schroeder, director of disaster response for Church World Service, the relief branch for the National Council of Churches. "And they'll be there long after the volunteers and the media go home."

The variety of religious bodies showed up plainly at an interfaith meeting last Saturday at the Red Cross volunteer center in Miami. Present were members of Presbyterian, United Methodist, Mennonite, Southern Baptist, Brethren, Christian Reform, Seventh-day Adventist and Lutheran groups. Many were veterans of the San Francisco earthquake and Hurricane Hugo, both in 1989.

The Southern Baptists arrived in south Dade on Monday, hours after the hurricane struck, with six mobile kitchens, and since have added six others. On any given day, 400 to 500 Baptists are working in the area, and coordinators have sent out a call for 1,000 more.

Operated by the denomination's state Brotherhood associations, the kitchens stop first at the Pembroke Road Baptist Church in Miramar to receive their assignments. Then, with food purchased by the Red Cross, they fan out to Kendall, Richmond Heights, Homestead and other areas.

Church World Service, which coordinates the work of the National Council of Churches' 32 member denominations, sent \$41,000 worth of goods last week, including 3,000 blankets and 250 "family-size" tents that can shelter up to 12 persons. Also being donated are 3,000 "health kits," which contain soap, washcloths, toothpaste, toothbrushes and other items.

CWS is coordinating with the Orlando-based Florida Council of Churches, setting up a toll-free hotline for information on relief efforts. The group is also getting help from overseas: Last week, \$10,000 came from the World Council of Churches, its global counterpart based in Geneva, Switzerland.

World Vision, the evangelical relief agency, last week sent South Florida two of its pre-packaged "Flyaway Kits" containing nonperishable foods, blankets, plastic sheeting, water purification tablets, baby food, cooking

utensils and first-aid equipment. The kits, each of which can serve 500 people, were designed originally for disasters in countries like Somalia.

In South Florida, coordinator Tom Van Hare is adding 15,000 pounds of baby food and enough plywood boards to fill 10 trucks. He is working with Miami Medical Teams and the Cuban American National Foundation in central and northern Miami, and with radio station WAQI in southwestern Miami.

"Spanish-speaking communities are often the hardest-hit and the last to get help," says Van Hare, a Boca Raton resident.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief, working through the Lakeland-based Florida Conference, has sent \$15,000 in start-up funds, with \$25,000 on the way. By last weekend, the church's Volunteers in Mission program had fielded 20 work teams of eight each -- a number that could swell to 1,000 workers by late September.

The Rev. Anne Burkholder, director of Miami Urban Ministries, found a warehouse near Miami International Airport for the flood of supplies on the way from two dozen church districts. True to the Methodist name, she also drew up an elaborate seven-point plan of action -- with items ranging from child care to "relief clergy," who would help run a church while pastors rebuild their homes.

The 1.1-million-member Catholic Archdiocese of Miami -- long accustomed to handling periodic waves of Caribbean refugees -- has trucks coming in from dioceses in Buffalo, N.Y.; Mobile, Ala.; Camden, N.J.; and elsewhere. The archdiocese also can expect support from Catholic Charities USA, which is launching a national fund drive for the hurricane victims.

Meanwhile, the archdiocese has asked South Florida parishes to "adopt" the 14 churches that were severely damaged. At St. David in Davie, work crews have left at about 5:30 each morning, spending 10 hours a day on repairs and food distribution at Sacred Heart parish in Homestead.

The St. David members also donated small flashlights for mothers. "When their babies cry at night, the mothers can find and comfort them in the dark," Pastor Gabriel O'Reilly explains.

St. Rita in the Wellington area near West Palm Beach paired itself last week with St. Joachim in South Miami Heights, patching up the social hall, bringing in nurses and handing out 30,000 pounds of food. This week, St. Rita is doing the same for Christ the King parish in Perrine.

The parish even delivered six large tents -- including a 20-by-40-foot tent used for church festivals -- to a migrant worker community in Naranja. "We heard a report that people had to sleep in trees," says Mary Ellen Gula, parish council president.

The Mennonites have put their famous barn-raising skills to good use. The day after the storm, Lowell Detweiler, the director of Mennonite Disaster Service, drove to Homestead from his home in Sarasota to coordinate crews ranging from 15 to 40 a day.

By Wednesday of last week, they had patched the roof of the Homestead Mennonite Church, then used it as a base of operations. By week's end, they had "dried in" -- temporarily re-roofed -- 27 of the 30 Mennonite houses in Homestead. The other three homes were past repair.

Detweiler says the Mennonite repair crews plan to help other homes as well, with a rapid build-up from around the country starting in October.

For the Presbyterian Church U.S.A., it has been a matter of holding back the nationally proffered help until local officials can find out where to use it. One bit of quickly used aid was three truckloads of bottled water from supermarkets in Asheville, N.C.

The Tropical Florida Presbytery, which includes 67 South Florida churches, has sent food and work crews to Cutler Ridge, Homestead and South Miami. Executive Presbyter John Rickard also has taken a leading role toward forming a religious relief coalition, offering a month's salary for setting up a coordinator's office.

"The geography (of the disaster area) is so huge, none of us have even known where each other was working," Burkholder says. "Coordination would really be helpful."

Although the federal government has stepped in, the church groups still have plenty of work, leaders say. Church World Service is seeking out those who may be overlooked: the poor, the elderly, the disabled. CWS is especially concerned with undocumented immigrants, who likely will stay away from federal agencies.

The organization is also trying to round up "ethnic identity foods," such as black and red beans and long-grain rice for migrant workers. "When they've been through a disaster, they don't need the extra problem of a diet they're not used to," Schroeder says.

Church disaster workers already are looking toward long-term needs. The Mennonites expect to be bringing in vanloads of volunteers for about two years. Church World Service plans to bring in "grief counselors," who will help people get over the pain of having lost their homes and jobs.

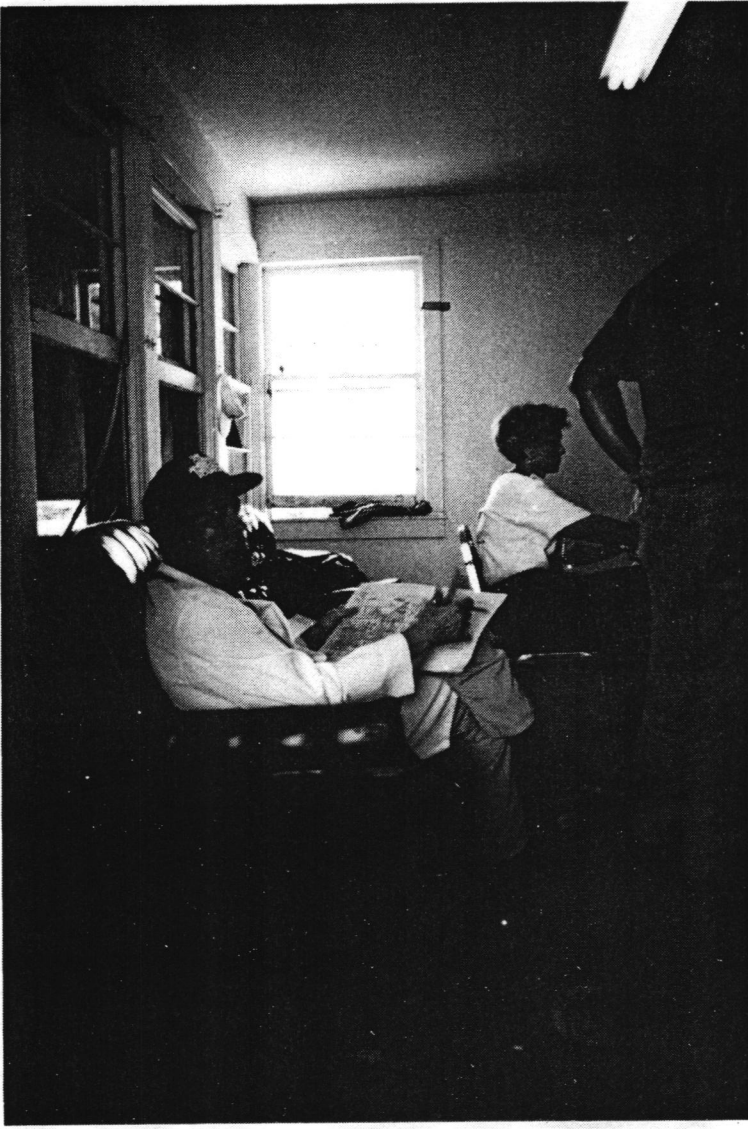
Although the church groups were among the first after the hurricane, the workers note the wide variety of people who have begun to help. The Rev. George Acevedo of Christ United Methodist Church, Fort Lauderdale, says he noticed an area strip joint collecting canned goods for the storm victims.

"I don't agree with their lifestyle," Acevedo says. "But it shows that at heart, we're all the same people. And we can identify with each other's pain."

CAPTION: (Staff photos/JOE RAEDLE)Micky Sweet of Pompano Beach helps relief efforts at First Baptist Church of Cutler Ridge. (C)

Thomas Ruiz of Miami, right, passes supplies through a church window to hurricane victims. (C)

KEYWORDS: HURRICANE*ANDREW* AFTERMATH RELIEF FLORIDA WEATHER





LA FUNDACION Y EL HURACAN ANDREW

La Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana ha montado una inmensa operación de ayuda para los damnificados del Huracán Andrew.

El Huracán golpeó con fuerza demoledora al Condado Dade en la madrugada del lunes 24 de agosto. Al pasar el ciclón y poder asesorarnos de la destrucción causada, la Fundación inmediatamente creó un Equipo Coordinador para desarrollar un plan de acción que le brindara la ayuda necesaria a las comunidades más fuertemente afectadas en el sur del Condado Dade.

El Equipo Coordinador decidió enfocar sus esfuerzos en las necesidades de mayor urgencia: alimentación, agua potable, ropa y tratamiento médico. En la mañana del martes 25 de agosto, a sólo 24 horas del desastre, los primeros cargamentos de agua y comida salían de las oficinas de la Fundación en Miami. Conjuntamente con este esfuerzo, representantes de la FNCA iniciaron una serie de visitas con asistencia médica y alimentos a los centros de ancianos en las ciudades de Miami y Hialeah.

Además, se decidió hacer un llamamiento a todas las delegaciones de la FNCA en los EE.UU. para que apoyasen este esfuerzo humanitario. Nos pusimos en contacto con las delegaciones de Jacksonville, Orlando y Naples en la Florida, cuya ayuda era más factible dada la distancia. Se establecieron contactos con los capítulos de New Jersey, New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Atlanta, Dallas y San Juan, solicitándoles su respaldo.

Ante la imperiosa necesidad de mano de obra generosa y capacitada, movilizamos a cientos de voluntarios para ayudar en la labor de los cargamentos que nos llegan y su clasificación y distribución inmediata.

El miércoles 26 de agosto, el pastor de una pequeña iglesia protestante en Leisure City localizada en la SW 293 St. y la U.S. 1 --una de las áreas más devastadas--cuyo modesto edificio sobrevivió el desastre, nos brindó el uso de sus dependencias y decidimos establecer una base de operaciones en la zona de Homestead que ha servido como centro de distribución de los productos y servicios que nos llegan.

A través del Pan American Hospital y la Ciudad de Miami, creamos un equipo de asistencia médica que comprende a médicos, enfermeras y medicina de todo tipo. El equipo médico tiene siete unidades móviles que salen a las zonas más afectadas cuyos habitantes no tienen transporte y una clínica permanente en el centro de

operaciones de la FNCA en Homestead. Se les ha ofrecido este servicio gratuito a miles de los damnificados del huracán.

También el miércoles la Oficina del Sheriff de Broward County bajo el liderazgo de Nick Navarro nos brindó su cooperación, ofreciendo materiales, transporte y voluntarios. En el transcurso del día 26, pudimos enviar 21 misiones con uno o más vehículos repletos de provisiones a diferentes sectores del área afectada.

El jueves 27 de agosto recibimos 4 camiones con alimentos, agua y ropa. Estos se unieron a una caravana de 12 vehículos, incluyendo varias rastras repletas, provenientes de la Oficina del Sheriff de Broward y fueron transportados al centro de distribución de la FNCA en la zona del desastre. Durante el transcurso del jueves, se enviaron 29 misiones de provisiones y servicio médico.

El viernes 28 de agosto ya nos encontrábamos desarrollando nuestras actividades a plenitud. Más de cien voluntarios recibían a rastras y camiones con donaciones de comida, agua y ropa, las cuales se descargaban, se clasificaban en su categoría correspondiente, se preparaban en bolsas para adultos, niños o bebitos, se cargaban en camiones más pequeños, autobuses o automóviles y se distribuían en las zonas que nuestros "exploradores" determinaban eran de mayor urgencia. Durante este día, el centro de distribución envió 30 misiones con cargamentos a las poblaciones afectadas.

El sábado 29 de agosto otras 30 misiones repartieron comida y agua y el domingo 30 de agosto volvimos a mandar 36 misiones. La labor del lunes 30 y del martes 31 de agosto comprendió otras 25 misiones adicionales.

En la primera semana de operaciones, la Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana realizó un total de 171 misiones, haciendo llegar a las víctimas del Huracán Andrew más de un millón de libras de comida y más de 15,000 galones de agua potable, además de suministrar medicinas y primeros auxilios a más de 600 víctimas.

La tragedia aún continúa y asimismo la necesidad de prestar ayuda humanitaria a los damnificados. Gracias a la voluntad y generosidad de miles de personas en el país entero, hemos podido aliviar el sufrimiento de nuestros hermanos desamparados. Tal como ocurrió con los cubanos varados en terceros países, hemos respondido ante el desastre del Huracán Andrew con la prontitud, la generosidad y la compasión que caracterizan a los miembros de la Fundación.

Si usted desea hacer una contribución especial para los damnificados del Huracán Andrew, por favor envíe su donación a:

CANF HURRICANE RELIEF

P. O. Box 440069

MIAMI, FL 33144

Cuba rechazó llamadas de Miami

Por ANA E. SANTIAGO
Redactora de El Nuevo Herald

Durante las primeras 24 horas después del paso del huracán Andrew por el Sur de la Florida, las operadoras cubanas no contestaron las llamadas de exiliados ansiosos de informar a familiares en la isla, dijeron el martes operadoras de AT&T.

"Nosotros estábamos realizando las llamadas a Cuba ayer, pero las operadoras allá no contestaban", dijo Catherine Galbraith, gerente de AT&T. Según una de las operadoras, Cuba cesó de contestar llamadas el lunes por la mañana.

La medida de las autoridades cubanas acrecentó la ansiedad de los familiares en Cuba que deseaban conocer la suerte de los suyos en Miami, según dijeron exiliados en esta ciudad.

"Esto es increíble. Y de allá no pueden llamar, así que la gente está desesperada", dijo Ninoska Pérez, directora de La Voz de la Fundación.

El vocero de la Sección de Intereses de Cuba en Washington, Rafael Dausá, negó que Cuba dejara sin responder las llamadas.

"Esto es falso totalmente", subrayó Dausá. "Nuestras operadoras son muy profesionales".

Pérez y Angel De Fana, director de la radioemisora La Voz del CID, de la organización anticas-

'Nosotros estábamos realizando las llamadas a Cuba ayer, pero las operadoras allá no contestaban?'

CATHERINE GALBRAITH
Gerente de AT & T

trista Cuba Independiente y Democrática, señalaron que habían recibido cientos de llamadas de exiliados cuyas llamadas no fueron respondidas del lado cubano.

"Estamos brindando información y alivio a los cubanos de la isla", dijo De Fana.

Ya el martes por la tarde, las llamadas se estaban realizando normalmente, informó Marge Boberschmidt, vocera de AT&T.

Aun así el martes era casi imposible comunicarse con Cuba, debido al volumen de llamadas y a las averías en el servicio del sur de la Florida.

Miles de exiliados acudieron entonces a las radioemisoras miamenses que transmiten a Cuba, para enviar sus mensajes.

Según Pérez, hasta el martes habían enviado a la isla más de 800 mensajes por sus ondas.

De Fana explicó que la pizarra rotativa de cuatro líneas de su emisora no había parado de sonar.

tente especial del subdirector de la Oficina de Transmisiones a Cuba. Ya el martes, agregó, habían perdido la cuenta.

Lista de teléfonos de las radioemisoras que envían mensajes a Cuba.

- Radio Martí: 1-800-MARTI.
- La Voz de la Fundación: 477-4411 o 599-3019.
- La Voz del CID: 551-8484.

En Radio Martí, se recibieron alrededor de 300 llamadas el lunes, dijo Josie Graziadio, asis-

Organiza la FNCA ayuda a damnificados

La Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana está organizando un esfuerzo de ayuda humanitaria para los damnificados del huracán Andrew en el sur del Condado de Dade.

Delegaciones de la Fundación en Orlando, Jacksonville, Atlanta, Puerto Rico, New Jersey, New York, Naples (FL), Chicago, Los Angeles, y Dallas, entre otras localidades, están coordinando el envío a Miami de comida enlatada, agua embotellada, catres, frazadas y otros materiales de necesidad urgente que serán repartidos entre las familia que residen en las áreas que fueron más fuertemente afectadas durante el ciclón del lunes 24 de agosto.

La Fundación también está organizando una colecta especial en Miami. Dos contenedores de rastra estarán estacionados en frente de las oficinas de la Fundación a partir de las 10:00 a.m. del miércoles 26 de agosto pa-

ra recibir donaciones de los comercios y del público locales.

Le pedimos a todos aquellos del exilio que se han visto menos afectados por este desastre que ayuden a sus hermanos en las áreas de mayor necesidad. Si usted puede donar comida enlatada, catres, frazadas, "sleeping bags", o tiendas de campaña que cobijen a estas personas necesitadas, por favor lleven sus donaciones a las oficinas de la Fundación a partir de las 10:00 a.m. mañana miércoles 26 de agosto.

Las oficinas de la Fundación están localizadas en el 7300 NW 25 Terrace en Miami, al este de la salida de la NW 26 Street en el Palmetto Expressway.

No se aceptarán donaciones de dinero ni se autoriza a nadie recaudar fondos para este proyecto en nombre de la Fundación.

Para más información: Fernando Rojas (305) 592-7768

Maratones canalizan ayuda a necesitados

Por MARIA A. MORALES
Especial para El Nuevo Herald

Tienen diversos nombres: Telemaratón de la Caridad, Expedición de Amor, Convoy de Esperanza. Pero la misión es la misma: Ayudar a las víctimas del huracán Andrew en el sur del Condado de Dade.

Miles de personas del sur de la Florida se han movilizado para ayudar a aquéllos que perdieron mucho más que el sueño y la tranquilidad durante la noche del huracán.

Armando Rodríguez y el resto del equipo de WSU-Radio Suave comenzaron a reunir artículos de primera necesidad el martes para enviarlos a residentes de Homestead y Florida City.

"A través de su programa católico matutino, *Amanecer*, Rodríguez coordinó la primera expedición de 5 camiones que llevaron el miércoles agua, comida enlatada y compotas para niños, entre otras cosas.

"Comenzamos a hacer estos esfuerzos viendo la necesidad de nuestros hermanos en las comunidades más afectadas", dijo Rodríguez.

Con el apoyo de la Arquidiócesis de Miami y otros grupos religiosos, Rodríguez organizó el jueves una segunda caravana de tres rastras refrigeradas repletas de carne, y cinco camiones llenos de comida enlatada, arroz, frijoles, compotas, pañales y artículos sanitarios.

Para distribuir esta ayuda, el grupo llevó a unos 200 voluntarios a Homestead y Florida City, añadió Rodríguez.

"Sabemos que esto no será una operación a corto plazo. Estamos comprometidos por meses", dijo.

Para continuar ayudando, Rodríguez dijo que necesitan la cooperación de quienes salieron ilesos de la tormenta. Todas las personas que puedan donar comida enlatada, agua o dinero, pueden llamar al 285-1260 o dirigirse a las oficinas de Radio Suave, 2100 Coral Way.

Otros centros que están aceptando donaciones son las iglesias St. Stevens, en Miramar; Sta. Mónica y Madre de Nuestro Redentor, en Miami Lakes; Per-

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petuo Socorro, en Opa-locka; San Vicente de Paul, St. Dominique, La Divina Providencia, St. Agatha, Mother of Christ, St. Timothy, en Miami; y Corpus Cristi, en Hialeah.

Toda la ayuda es distribuida en la Misión Sta. Ana, en Naranja, y las iglesias Sagrado Corazón y San Martín de Porres, en Homestead.

Otra radioemisora que ha montado una campaña de ayuda a los damnificados es la WQBA-La Cubanísima. A partir de hoy, la emisora comenzará un radiomaratón "indefinido", dijo Lázaro Megret, director de eventos especiales de la emisora.

"Tenemos que ayudar a nuestra comunidad en todos los malos momentos, las catástrofes", recaló Megret.

El telemaratón se efectuará con la colaboración del Barnett Bank y la Cruz Roja Americana. Todas las personas interesadas en contribuir pueden hacer sus cheques a nombre de Barnett Bank/Red Cross Disaster Relief Foundation. Estos cheques pueden ser dejados en cualquier sucursal de Barnett Bank o en las oficinas de La Cubanísima, 2828 Coral Way.

Empleados de la radioemisora también distribuyeron comida y agua en Homestead el jueves. Tres rastras, con más de 150,000 latas de agua, y un camión con 4,000 bloques de hielo de 10 libras cada uno, llevaron provisiones para distribuir las en la escuela intermedia Homestead, 650 NW 2da Ave. Megret dijo que espera repetir el viaje pronto.

La Fundación Nacional Cubanoamericana se ha instalado en el centro de la zona más perjudicada para brindar servicios a las víctimas del ciclón. Su Centro de Ayuda de Emergencia en la Iglesia de Jesucristo, calle 292 y avenida 160 del SW en Leisure City, servirá como sede de distribución de comida, agua y artículos de primera necesidad. La Fundación también establecerá un centro de atención médica y de primeros auxilios para la población.

"Más que todo queremos proveer comida y agua a las personas necesitadas", dijo Roberto González, vocero de la Fundación. La organización está aceptando donaciones en sus oficinas en el 7300 NW 35 Terrace, en Miami.

Otros esfuerzos en el área incluyen:

■ La radioemisora Y-100 y WTYI-Canal 4 han montado una campaña de recolecta de alimentos y agua potable en los Condados de Dade y Broward. Las donaciones son aceptadas en los centros comerciales Broward, Galleria, Coral Square, Pompano Square en Broward, y Aventura en Dade.

Según Marina Angelton, vocera del Canal 4, su estación y Y-100 han entregado más de 700,000 libras de comida en día y medio al Daily Bread Food Bank en Miami. Esta entidad, a su vez, se ha encargado de distribuir la comida y el agua a las personas afectadas por el huracán.

Otro proyecto del Canal 4 incluye a la compañía de videos Blockbuster. Ambas entidades se han unido para recaudar dinero a través del Sun Bank. Si desea cooperar, haga su cheque a nombre de Channel 4/Blockbuster Video, c/o Sun Bank, 777 Brickell Ave., Miami, FL 33131.

■ El Centro de Emergencia del Condado de Dade también ha montado una campaña para recaudar agua, comida y dinero. Si puede cooperar, llame al 1-(800)-682-3362 o al 596-8729.

■ El Consulado de Nicaragua en Miami, con la cooperación del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores en Managua, ha instalado una línea telefónica para facilitar la comunicación entre residentes de esta ciudad y sus familiares.

Los mensajes serán transmitidos desde mañana a través de Radio Nicaragua, dijo Mario Sacasa, cónsul de Nicaragua en Miami. El teléfono es 011-50-52-662578.

■ Unos 100 miembros del Comité de Nicaraguenses Pobres en el Exilio limpiarán los escombros de parques en el noroeste de Miami, para ayudar a acelerar el proceso de reconstrucción en esa zona, dijo Cristóbal Mendoza, presidente del comité.

"Hago un llamado a otros nicas para que se unan a este grupo y ayuden a limpiar Miami", dijo Mendoza.

Añadió que el grupo necesita guantes para trabajar entre los escombros y la vegetación. El grupo partirá de la Plaza de la Cubanidad, calle Flagler y avenida 17, a las 9 a.m.

■ La Primera Dama de la Florida, Rhea Chiles, ha organizado una campaña para niños pobres de Miami. Si desea, envíe su contribución a Hurricane Relief for Miami's Foster Kids, Governor's Mansion, c/o First Lady Rhea Chiles, 700 North Adams Street, Tallahassee, FL 32303.

En Leisure City sobrevivientes salen del horror y piden amparo

Por ANDRES REYNALDO
Redactor de El Nuevo Herald

En el cómodo baño de la familia Pérez la luz se multiplica en un límpido espejo. Los cepillos en su sitio, los pomos alineados en la repisa. La cortina plástica no tiene, como es frecuente en estos climas, un trazo de humedad. El claro tono de las toallas combina con las losas, el inodoro y el lavabo; todo de un leve color crema. No hay manchas en las llaves del agua. Huele a colonia y a sol. Este baño habla del amor por el detalle y los deseos de perfección de la gente que vive en la casa.

Pero la casa no existe.

Pocas casas amanecieron en pie en Leisure City, una barriada al norte de Homestead, después que el huracán Andrew arremetió el lunes por la madrugada contra el sur de la Florida.

"El baño fue lo único que aguantó, el resto de la casa ya lo ve", dice el viernes Pilar Pérez.

En la sala desmantelada ya se puede caminar a través de unos pocos muebles, algunos rotos. Adentro del cuarto principal hay un amasijo de telas, pedazos de techo, vidrios rotos y alfombras. Toda una intimidad en ruinas.

"Aquí fue donde primero nos encerramos, pero la ventana explotó y tuvimos que ir corriendo de un lado a otro de la casa", agrega Pilar, de 36 años, y todavía le tiemblan las manos finas y los labios donde quedan descuidados restos de creyón rojo.

"La noche del ciclón", que es como todos mencionan las tres horas en que el huracán se hizo sentir con toda su fuerza, las hijas de Pilar se enfermaron de

LEISURE CITY, DE 1A

terror.

"Mis hijas se descontrolaron. Iban gritando de un lado a otro", dice Reynaldo Pérez; tras la voz ecuánime, los ojos húmedos. "Usted sabe, son niñas. Nunca habían visto nada así".

Las niñas se avergüenzan un poco. Elizabeth, de 15, está sentada junto a la puerta del cuarto. Vivian, de 12, permanece de pie, aguardando a que por la 154 Court del SW pase alguien que no acaba de pasar. En el cuarto de ellas cae el descarnado sol del mediodía. El equipo de sonido está manchado de barro y de un inexplicable *confetti* de hierba.

"Yo tenía miedo. El viento era tremendo", dice Elizabeth, con los gestos de Pilar y la entonación suave y meditativa de Reynaldo.

Cuando se quebró el ventanal del cuarto, Reynaldo y su suegro Carlos Sainz trataron de contener el vendaval con un colchón. Entonces, el techo estalló en un remolino ceniciento. Así, de habitación en habitación, la familia de ocho se batió en retirada, perseguidos por el centrifugo estruendo del viento y los muebles deshaciéndose unos contra otros y todos contra las paredes.

"Fue muy difícil. Creía que no íbamos a poder hacer el cuento", comenta Sainz, de 56 años. "Teníamos que ponernos fuertes para mantener la calma en medio de ese infierno".

A Octavia Genes, la madre de Sainz, no le sirvió de nada la experiencia como sobreviviente de dos de los mayores huracanes que han azotado el Caribe: los de 1926 y 1944.

"Nunca en mi vida he visto un ciclón así", dice Octavia, de 88 años, quien según sus nietas sólo dejó de gritar durante el huracán para rogar a la familia que se mantuviera unida.

Al amanecer del domingo, los Pérez oraban acurrucados en el baño. Cesó la última ráfaga y todavía oraban. Finalmente dejaron de orar; menos Octavia, que no oye bien. Para ella, la pesadilla fue menos estrepitosa pero mucho más larga.

En esta casa de gente humilde había ventiladores de techo, sobrecamas de buen gusto, losas blancas en el piso de la sala, y una cocina de delicadas formicas. Los lujos del ahorro y del cuidado durante 12 años. Reynaldo, de 39 años, trabaja como supervisor en la Dirección Metropolitana de

Tránsito. Faltaban 13 años para cumplir con los pagos de una segunda hipoteca. Habían tomado todas las precauciones. Ahora, su futuro techo y quizá su futura felicidad, depende de la primera de todas las precauciones: el seguro.

"Aquí no podemos quedarnos, pero cuando el seguro me pague quiero volver y reconstruir", dice Reynaldo, apoyado en la esquina de un pasillo.

Hasta el viernes, a Leisure City sólo había llegado la ayuda de la Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana y de la Guardia Nacional, según los vecinos que se agolparon en la casa de los Pérez.

"Los primeros en llegar fueron los de la Fundación", dice Amneris Ruiz, cubana de 49 años. "Ya el lunes estaban aquí con sandwiches, jugos, comida en lata. Para el resto del mundo es como si no existiéramos".

Ruiz encoge los hombros y frunce los labios cuando se le pregunta si la barriada ha sido visitada por funcionarios municipales o estatales. A su lado, Mercedes Mantilla, cubana de 49 años, dice: "Por aquí no ha pasado nadie".

Los vecinos de Leisure City hablan orgullosos de dos cualidades del barrio: la tranquilidad y el tesón que las familias ponen en mejorar sus propiedades. La casa de Mantilla también fue desvenecijada por el huracán. Sin embargo, ella se lamenta principalmente de haber perdido su hermosa terraza. "Se la llevó, se llevó la terraza, se la llevó", repite con las manos en la cabeza y el rostro pálido desencajado por las malas noches y la mala suerte.

Su esposo Evelio vuelve a revisar una y otra vez la verja de la puerta. Andrew hizo saltar, con un corte perfecto, uno de los barrotes soldados a una ancha barra de hierro.

"Es increíble la fuerza que traía este maldito", dice Evelio en medio de la sala donde se amontonan una mesa, una cómoda, butacones, espejos velados con una vieja sombra y un enorme fragmento de escombros que parece pertenecer a otra casa.

Este Leisure City tampoco parece pertenecer al que aún sobrevive en la memoria de los vecinos. Excepto que en cada casa sigue abierta la puerta.

"Gente como la de aquí", dice Pilar, "ya no hay en ningún lado".

Continúa asistencia a damnificados

Fumigan contra plagas de mosquitos. Piden limitar llamadas telefónicas.

Por FLORIDANO FERIA

El comisionado de Agricultura Bob Crawford dijo que los damnificados del huracán "Andrés", continuarán recibiendo alimentos el próximo mes por dos programas del Departamento de Agricultura de Estados Unidos.

Crawford expresó que el Programa de Alimentos para Situaciones de Emergencia del Departamento de Agricultura de Estados Unidos y el programa de Cocinas Económicas (Soup Kitchen Food Bank) continuarán ofreciendo suministros durante el mes de septiembre. El Departamento de Agricultura de la Florida y la Oficina de Servicios a los Consumidores, que administran los dos programas federales, distribuirá los alimentos a las familias damnificadas.

Además, los alimentos almacenados en prisiones, escuelas y organizaciones no-lucrativas en el área del sur de la Florida, también serán entregados a las víctimas del huracán.

Toneladas de alimentos han sido distribuidos por el Departamento de Agricultura de la Florida y el Buró de Servicios a los Consumidores. También el Departamento de Asuntos Comunitarios de la Florida informó que el domingo varios aviones fumigaron el sur del condado de Dade de 6:00 a.m. a 8:00 a.m. para evitar las plagas de mosquitos debido a las fuertes lluvias.

La Bell South Mobility exhortó a los usuarios de los teléfonos celulares que solamente hagan las llamadas que sean estrictamente necesarias.

El volumen de llamadas que se hacen por medio de teléfonos celulares ha aumentado en forma extraordinaria, debido a la llegada de grupos de emergencias que usan continuamente este medio de comunicación.

A una semana del paso de Andrés

Por RAUL VERRIER

Lentamente las principales comunidades del condado Dade están recuperando su aspecto normal y el tránsito en la mañana de este lunes alcanzó proporciones casi rutinarias en un lunes, pero más al sur la vida es un poco más difícil, para decir lo menos, y decenas de miles de personas que han perdido sus hogares continúan en casas de amigos o albergues instalados por las autoridades y los servicios públicos en estas áreas siguen inoperantes, entre ellos el sistema de transporte que es imposible de funcionar en las calles que todavía están en muchos de los casos obstruccionadas por escombros o aisladas para que por ellas circulen los convoyes de vehículos que traen vituallas a la zona del desastre.

ACTUA EL GOBERNADOR

El gobernador Lawton Chiles, ante las denuncias de plagas de mosquitos y otros tipos de insectos y roedores ordenó que el domingo y continuando el lunes se regara insecticida desde aviones en la zona afectada por la plaga de mosquitos, sobre todo en el sector de Homestead y se toman medidas para destruir una plaga de ratas que están haciendo de las suyas entre las ruinas de casas y negocios destruidos.

LLUVIAS ENTORPECEN TRABAJOS

También un contratiempo vino a aumentar el sufrimiento de una semana de los vecinos de esa zona, una serie de tormentas eléctricas y de agua inundaron un sitio escogido en la zona de Homestead para la instalación de una de las tres ciudades de tiendas de campaña tan necesarias en estos momentos en que miles de personas, que no tienen donde ir viven al aire libre. Un vocero del cuerpo de ingenieros del ejército que son los responsables de la instalación de las ciudades de tiendas, dijo que ellos, si el tiempo lo permitía podrían tener lista la primera de esas ciudades para el miércoles y que cada una de

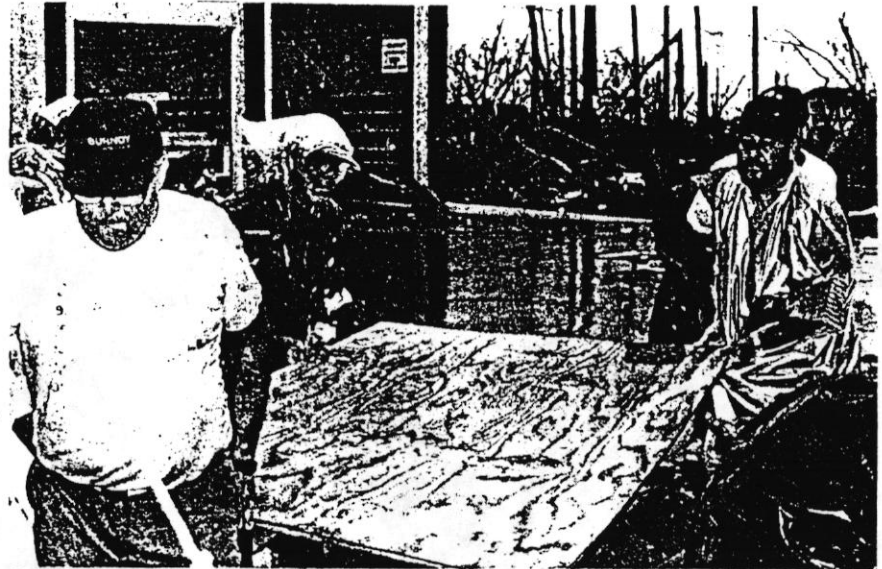
las carpas puede alojar 30 personas. Las tiendas serán instaladas en el llamado Campo Harris en Homestead, la zona de la calle 312 S.W. y la tercera se erigirá en la zona deshabitada del 650 N.W. de la segunda avenida.

En la noche de este domingo, el Administrador del condado Joaquín Aviñó dijo en una conferencia de prensa que de las 250,000 personas que habían quedado sin hogares como consecuencia del huracán Andrés, 100,000 ya están alojadas en albergues o en casa de amigos y familiares, pero el resto continúa viviendo en la intemperie o en casas que tienen peligros de derrumbes en sus estructuras.

Una de las plagas que más nos dejó como secuela el huracán Andrés, los agiotistas, está siendo controlada, pero las autoridades del condado de Dade dijeron que ellos han instalado los teléfonos 1-800-643-1190 y 1-800-435-7352, para que las personas que consideren han sido perjudicadas por una práctica ilegal de negocios que está sancionada por la ordenanza del condado de Dade, hagan la denuncia para proceder contra los infractores.

También el Departamento de Zonificación y Edificios de Miami, anunció que a partir de este lunes ellos estarán funcionando desde las siete de la mañana hasta las siete de la noche para la emisión de permisos de reparación de hogares afectados por el huracán. Se señala que cualquier trabajo de reparación mayor necesita un permiso oficial.

A las personas que tenían casos de cortes señalados para la semana pasada se les informa que a partir de la mañana de este lunes el sistema ha comenzado a operar normalmente. El Departamento de Salud y Servicios de Rehabilitación informó por su parte que las personas que reciben cupones de alimentos o servicios del Medicaid, pueden llamar entre las siete de la mañana y las siete de la noche a los siguientes teléfonos: 1-800-447-7181 (inglés) y 447-7960 (español). También el Departamento del



Voluntarios de la FNCA, en medio de la lluvia, cargan planchas de madera en un área de Homestead donde se labora intensamente para ayudar en dife-

rentes tareas encaminadas a mejorar las condiciones de los damnificados de Andrés. (Foto GORT)

Trabajo anunció que todas las oficinas de compensaciones por desempleo en el condado, con la excepción de las oficinas en Perrine y Homestead, que no funcionarán por ahora, están abiertas.

También la oficina de Administración de Desastres, anunció que en muchos supermercados con electricidad se está produciendo hielo, que es una de las necesidades más perentorias en estos momentos, pero señalaron el hecho que la casi totalidad de las fábricas de hielo en el condado han dejado de trabajar por la calidad del agua y hasta tanto no se dé la seguridad de que no existe peligro de contaminación, ellas no producirán hielo.

La Asociación de propietarios de apartamentos del Gran Miami, ha informado que un número limitado de apartamentos desahucados serán entregados libres de costo a personas que los necesitan en una forma provisional, para mayor información llamar

al 868-9579 en Dade y al (407) 8486 en Broward.

Una recomendación que se debe tener en cuenta muy principalmente es la necesidad de hervir el agua en las zonas donde hay peligro de contaminación. Los técnicos aconsejan que el líquido se hierva por lo menos cinco minutos o echar en el mismo cuatro tabletas purificadoras de agua por cada galón, también se logra el mismo resultado añadiendo 12 gotas de yodo por galón de agua. También se informa a la población que los que deseen agua sin contaminación y tengan envases para la misma pueden encontrarla en carros tanques que están establecidos en la zona del Parque Clemente, en la segunda avenida del NW y la calle 34, también en el Parque African Square en la avenida 62 NW y la avenida 15. En Miami Beach las personas que deseen agua pura pueden llevar sus envases a Centro de la Comunidad en la calle Seis y la avenida Meridian, a la

Liga Deportiva de la policía calle 11 y avenida Jefferson y a North Shore Band Shell en la Calle 73 y la avenida Collins.

Por su parte el departamento de transportes de Dade anunció que a las siete de la mañana de este lunes comenzaron las actividades en el Metrorrail y el Portagentes y que al igual que en los omnibus metropolitanos será gratis por ahora: observen los grandes carteles blancos que hay en los vehículos del servicio de transportes metropolitanos. El departamento también informó que en la actualidad están fuera de operaciones las siguientes rutas de omnibus: 1-35-38-52-56-57-65-70-71, B- R-V-W y la MAX de la avenida 27. También se informó que están en plena operación rutas de minibuses (Jitney) que operan legalmente, mientras que los que carecen de alguna de las exigencias del tránsito también circulan pero como emergencia en los problemas del tránsito.

Funciona en Leisure City centro de ayuda de emergencia de la FNCA

Por ARIEL REMOS

El Centro de Ayuda de Emergencia que abrió la Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana en Leisure City, al sur del condado de Dade, ha estado ofreciendo ayuda masiva a las víctimas del huracán "Andrés". Comida, agua, artículos de primera necesidad y atención médica y primeros auxilios suministrados por una unidad médica, se han estado dispensando desde el pasado día 27.

"Hemos recibido una ayuda significativa de la Oficina del Sheriff del condado de Broward, Nick Navarro, la cual ha proveído cuantiosas donaciones de alimentos y provisiones para abrir el Centro, dijo a DIARIO LAS AMERICAS el director ejecutivo de la FNCA, René J. Silva. Asimismo, las delegaciones de la FNCA de Orlando, Jacksonville, Atlanta, Naples, en la Florida, las de New Jersey, New York y Chicago, han hecho recogidas de ayuda múltiple y nos han suministrado también agua potable, alimentos, catres, ropas, frazadas, medicinas y tiendas de campaña.

El Centro de Ayuda de Emergencia de la FNCA está localizado en la Iglesia de Jesucristo, en la Calle 292 y la Avenida 160 del S.W. en Leisure City.

De acuerdo con Silva, ellos seguirán recibiendo donaciones de empresas y negocios locales y de individuos que deseen socorrer a las víctimas del huracán. A esos efectos, sugieren que las donaciones de comida enlatada, ropa y frazadas, sean llevadas a las oficinas de la FNCA, en la siguiente dirección: 7300 N.W. 35 Terrace, Miami. Informaciones en el (305) 592-7768.

Además la organización está urgida de voluntarios para ayudar en estas tareas, los interesados deben llamar al mismo teléfono.



En el centro de operaciones de la FNCA, el médico voluntario, Ricardo Sabatés, atiende al niño Edwin Castillo, del área de Homestead, que sufrió una herida en un brazo. (Foto GORT)

Fundación amplía operativo de ayuda

Por CYNTHIA CORZO
Redactora de El Nuevo Herald

Pese a un incidente con un sujeto armado, la Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana ha intensificado su ayuda a los damnificados por el huracán Andrew.

Está estableciendo un segundo centro de distribución en Homestead para proveer a los residentes de la zona devastada con las necesidades básicas: agua, comida, ropa.

"Se ha hecho una maravilla", afirmó Mignon Medrano, directora de proyectos especiales de la Fundación. "Tenemos una regia organización".

Desde la semana pasada, la Fundación ha llevado a cabo un esfuerzo masivo de ayuda a los damnificados llevando a las áreas más afectadas donativos de agua,

comida, pañales desechables, compotas y otros artículos.

El incidente con el hombre armado ocurrió el jueves, cuando el sujeto, acompañado por varios más, irrumpió en el centro de distribución de la Fundación, situado en el Redland Housing Authority.

El hombre, que no sacó el arma pero indicó que cargaba una, demandó que se le entregara más comida, explicó Medrano.

"La gente, a veces por intimidar, quiere exigir", dijo Medrano. "Más que nada quería meter miedo".

Directores y voluntarios de la Fundación solicitaron la ayuda de la policía de Homestead quien, según Medrano, respondió inmediatamente.

Para solicitar la protección de la Guardia Nacional, los directores de la Funda-

ción tuvieron que pedir al gobernador Lawton Chiles que diera la orden para brindar protección.

"Después de eso fueron allí y se quedaron un tiempo", dijo Medrano.

La Fundación continuará los esfuerzos de ayuda a los damnificados mientras sea necesario.

Pero el lunes advirtieron que por el momento no necesitan ni más comida ni más ropa, ya que están abarrotados. Alguna de la ropa se está echando a perder a la intemperie.

En estos momentos lo que más necesitan son: clavos, martillos, láminas de madera, artículos para reparar daños a las casas, abridores de latas, hielo y provisiones médicas.



María Gómez, voluntaria de la Fundación Nacional Cubano-Americana, ocupada en la distribución de alimentos para bebés. (Foto GORT)

Abre la FNCA otro centro de ayuda a damnificados

La Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana abrirá un segundo centro de distribución de ayuda para los damnificados del huracán Andrew en la sucursal del Republic National Bank, 207 Washington Avenue, en el distrito comercial de Homestead. A la vez, mantendrá abierta su sede original de la US-1 y la calle 293 en Leisure City.

Además de brindar ayuda a todos los damnificados del sur de la Florida, y en especial a los trabajadores migratorios del área, en un esfuerzo paralelo al ya existente, la Fundación ha identificado entre sus miembros a 538 familias que residen en ese sector tan abatido por la tormenta.

De una manera especial hace un llamado urgente a estas 538 familias para que visiten estos locales o llamen por teléfono a las oficinas de Ayuda al Exodo Cubano, 592-0817, para dejarnos saber cuáles son sus necesidades.

Con el respaldo del personal de la oficina del Sheriff de Broward, las ciudades de Miami, Hialeah y Homestead, la Arquidiócesis de Miami, World Vision, el Hospital Pan American, y la participación activa de cientos de voluntarios, la Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana ha prestado servicios de primeros auxilios a más de 600 personas y recibido y distribuido entre miles de damnificados, en 171 misiones durante esta primera semana, más de 15,000 galones de agua potable y más de un millón de libras de comida recibidas de generosos individuos y corporaciones, así como de nuestras delegaciones a través de todos los Estados Unidos.

MIAMI

La Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana ha dicho presente una vez más

En uno de los lugares más alejados y también más afectados por el paso del huracán Andrew, descubrimos la presencia de la Fundación Nacional Cubano-Americana. Fue alguien que pasó por nuestro lado y mencionó el nombre, lo que nos hizo reparar en la señal que anunciaba allí la presencia de esta organización.

Y aunque bien es cierto que toda nuestra comunidad ha cooperado y dado al máximo en esta humanitaria tarea de ayuda a los damnificados, también ésta vez la Fundación Cubana Americana ha dado muestras de su solidaridad y apoyo con todos los que la necesitan.

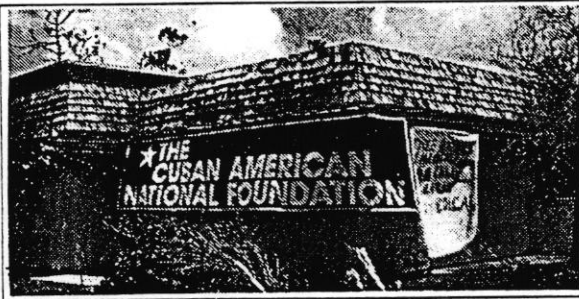
En tan sólo unos minutos que estuvimos en el área donde tienen establecido su improvisado centro de acopio y distribución, conversamos con Roberto Martín

Pérez y Pepe Hernández, ambos presidentes de dicha institución. Ellos nos hablaron acerca de la ardua labor que vienen desempeñando desde hace ya más de nueve días, apenas pasadas las últimas ráfagas de Andrew.

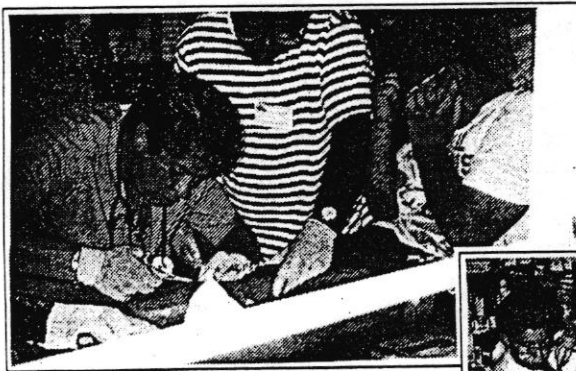
Diariamente reciben 8 camiones de alimentos y agua, procedentes de diferentes estados, que a su vez comparten y distribuyen hacia las zonas más alejadas y distantes de Homestead. Decenas de hombres y mujeres trabajan voluntariamente durante doce horas diarias en esta dura tarea. Un mapa colocado en la pared de la casa donde están radicados les sirve de guía para que la distribución de los alimentos y ropas sea eficaz y llegue a las zonas de más difícil acceso. También cuentan con un improvisado pero bien equipado cuarto de urgencia mé-

dica que funge como hospital, donde tres médicos y 5 enfermeras del Pam American Hospital atienden diariamente a decenas de damnificados que acuden al lugar en busca de asistencia. Estando allí pudimos apreciar la eficaz atención que le fue brindada a un niño que llegó herido, al cual le fue suturada una herida que le produjo un inmenso vidrio.

La sensación final que percibimos después de haber compartido con estos hombres y mujeres que durante días se han olvidado de ellos y de sus familias para dedicarse por entero a ayudar a los que los necesitan, fue reconfortante, por lo que nos decidimos a escribir estas líneas, un poco a manera de homenaje a todos los, que como ellos, han estado ofreciendo tan hermosos y solidaria labor.



El local de la Fundación Cubana Americana está localizado en la US1 y la 293 Ave, en Homestead



Un improvisado hospital que cuenta con tres médicos y 5 enfermeras ofrece servicios diariamente a decenas de damnificados



Este mapa les sirve de guía por una eficaz distribución de los alimentos y ropas a las zonas más afectadas y distantes



Centros de Ayuda

Centros de Ayuda Federales (FEMA), para solicitar dinero para alquiler, préstamos para reparaciones si no tiene seguro, pagos por desempleo, créditos a bajo interés para negocios afectados, etc. Centros abiertos de 8 a.m. a 6 p.m. en: Kendall Home Complex, 11025 S.W. calle 84 y Champaign Restaurant en el "downtown" de Homestead. Para más información puede llamarse al 1-800-462-9029.



Roberto Pérez Martín y Francisco Pepe Hernández, ambos presidentes de la Fundación Cubana Americana, enfrascados en la actividad diaria que vienen realizando desde hace más de 9 días

Atención de FEMA y servicios médicos en centro de ayuda de la Fundación Nacional Cubano-Americana

El centro de ayuda a los damnificados del huracán Andrew que tiene establecido la Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana en la U.S.1 y la calle 293, en Homestead, ahora cuenta con un

funcionario de la agencia F.E.M.A. (Federal Emergency Management Agency) que entrevistará a los necesitados y llenará sus solicitudes para recibir ayuda federal en la reconstrucción de

sus casas, sellos de alimentos, empleos, etc.

Además hay médicos, enfermeras, agua, hielo, ropa y alimentos. Para información, llamar al 592-7768.



Bajo la lluvia, en la sección donde operan voluntarios de la Fundación Nacional Cubano-Americana,

la voluntaria Sofía Jaramillo, organiza alimentos enlatados en bolsas plásticas. (Foto GORT)



Voluntarias de la Fundación Nacional Cubano-Americana trasladan una caja de alimentos, en medio de la lluvia, frente a las tiendas de campaña

de los soldados del Ejército, en la zona de Homestead. (Foto GORT)



ANDRES
REYNALDO

El factor Navarrete

La última ráfaga del huracán Andrew tardará años en pasar. Aún entonces, siempre quedará una rama quebrada en cualquier ventana, en el rincón de algún patio. Desde un punto de vista moral, apenas comienza la secuela.

La diversidad de culturas de esta comunidad impide con frecuencia establecer juicios morales. El puritanismo, la demagogia de minorías, el oportunismo político y el mediocre tejido cultural son alimentos favoritos de nuestra hoguera de vanidades. Somos los pestañazos del *American Dream*.

En medio de este sopor llegó la tormenta. La desgracia iguala. Si hubo alguna ventaja, fue que el viento echó a volar más de una máscara. Muchos líderes comunitarios, activistas de toda causa, funcionarios electos y próceres de exquisita fibra local brillaron por su ausencia a la hora del cuajo.

Comienzo por la parte que nos toca a los cubanos. Cientos de organizaciones suelen representar, generalmente sin consulta previa, al millón de exiliados que vivimos por estos lares. Semana tras semana, nuestros líderes cocinan un nuevo proyecto de unidad; o dictan cátedra sobre las normas morales y estratégicas a seguir en la lucha anticastro, sin contar los desvelos teóricos de nuestra izquierda catedrática. ¿Catedrática o catedralicia?

El problema de Cuba, dicen, está resuelto una vez que caiga Fidel Castro. Pasemos por alto el hecho de que Castro lleva 33 años en el poder y nadie ha resuelto lo que viene a ser la madre de todos los problemas. La transparente conclusión es que si tales patriotas no pueden disponer de un camión cisterna y 100 cajas de comida enlatada en Miami, ¿cómo van a ser capaces de acometer la reconstrucción de la isla? Sin poner en duda la buena voluntad de los individuos, no veo nada que me haga confiar en la eficacia de la mayoría de esas instituciones.

Mención especial merece esta vez la Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana. Tres días después del huracán, los residentes de Leisure City, por ejemplo, no habían visto pasar al primer funcionario local o estatal. Sin embargo, a las 24 horas llegó el auxilio de la Fundación. Ese vaso de agua, esa lata de frijoles, son una inversión política. Pero representa, sobre todo, un gesto de vocación social. Así es legítimo conquistar el reino, sea Miami o Cuba.

Algún suspicaz ya dirá que me han *enfundado*. Eso es lo de menos. Haciendo un aparte, vale la pena que nuestros revolucionarios de toda la vida, los socialdemócratas de cristalina conciencia, los democristianos de ay virgen, la izquierda unida que ya quedó vencida y todos los aspi-

rantes a salvadores de la nación, saquen la pajita de la Coca-Cola y se pongan a pensar en cómo buscarle a mi mamá en La Habana un par de libras de arroz y la pintura del cuarto. Lo concerniente a utopías y miopías ella se lo podrá leer por las tardes, mientras pasan los anuncios de las telenovelas. De momento, podrían comenzar por hacer algo más que comunicados para ayudar a sus compatriotas víctimas del ciclón. Bendito el político que pegue la oreja a la tierra, sea de la Fundación o del Circo Santos y Artigas.

En cuanto a los funcionarios electos, sospecho que en las próximas elecciones se puede imponer una justa lógica popular: cara que no vi en mi barrio, cara por la que no voto. Lo menos que se esperaba de comisionados, senadores, alcaldes y otros derivados, era dejarse ver en mangas de camisa por donde la gente que la estaba pasando cruda. Aguantar una puerta, poner un clavo, sentarse a conversar unos minutos, sinceramente, anónimamente, con el peón agrícola que perdió la casa y con la anciana que se quedó sin café con leche. Más que un trabajo, el servicio público es una sensibilidad. Quien no se considere aludido, que pase la página. Que después siempre habrá tiempo para el elogio merecido, y hasta para subirse el sueldo y posar en la crónica social. Da vergüenza que el primer rostro oficial que vieron muchos damnificados fuera el de un miembro de la División 82 Aerotransportada, con sede en Carolina del Norte.

Urbanizaciones de juguete

Mucha moralina, mucho banquete, muchas cámaras y recámaras de comercio, pero aquí los constructores venden urbanizaciones de juguete y los políticos se quedan de copas con sus amigos cuando el condado amanece con cerca de 80,000 viviendas arrasadas. Ciertamente, no teníamos que esperar por el huracán para pensar en nuestra reconstrucción ética.

Un trabajador de la construcción, Orlando Navarrete, llegó el pasado jueves a un centro de emergencia en Florida City con cajones de ropas y comida enlatada. Un gasto de cientos de dólares para un padre de siete hijos, cuyo hogar también sufrió los estragos del huracán.

Renunte a tomar crédito por su generosidad, este cubano de 34 años es la encarnada metáfora del esfuerzo altruista que en estos días nos ha convencido de que somos una gran comunidad, necesitada de mejores líderes.

Vote por el factor Navarrete.

Aumenta la FNCA esfuerzo de ayuda para damnificados

La Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana (FNCA) ha aumentado su esfuerzo para ayudar a los damnificados del Huracán Andrew en el sur del Condado Dade. Tres pasos concretos se han tomado con esta finalidad en mente.

1) El Centro de Operaciones de la FNCA en el área de Homestead (SW 293 St. y la U.S. 1) está aceptando solicitudes de ayuda federal para los damnificados a través de la Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), la agencia federal que se ocupa de dicha ayuda. Víctimas del ciclón pueden pasar por el Centro de Operaciones de la FNCA para llenar las solicitudes correspondientes.

2) A través de la ayuda federal, la FNCA tiene empleos para personas que hayan perdido sus casas o empleos a causa del Huracán Andrew. La remuneración será a razón de \$6.00 la hora por 40 horas semanales y las labores se realizarán en la zona de Homestead. Aquellas personas interesadas en solicitar empleo deben visitar al Centro de Operaciones de la FNCA (SW 293 St. y la U.S. 1) o llamar a las oficinas de la Fundación al 592-0817 para más información.

3) En conjunción con la Asociación de Agentes de la Ford Motor Company y la Ciudad de Homestead, la FNCA iniciará un servicio de transporte para los damnificados en las áreas devastadas del sur del Condado Dade. Estamos buscando choferes con experiencia. Favor comunicarse con nuestras oficinas en Miami al 592-0817.

La Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana continuará su esfuerzo de ayuda de emergencia para los damnificados en el sur del Condado Dade hasta que se atenúe la crítica situación actual.

Para más información:
Fernando Rojas (305) 592-7768 Mirta Iglesias.



ROBERT KOLTUN / El Nuevo Herald

MERECIDO DESCANSO

Elio Capote descansa el martes en el campamento de la Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana en Homestead. Capote, que llegó de

Cuba hace siete meses, estaba desempleado antes del huracán y ahora trabaja como voluntario para la Fundación.



ANDRÉS
REYNALDO

Ráfagas

Breve etimología de los aires:

En la *Odisea* cuenta Homero que Eolo, soberano de los vientos, regaló a Ulises un saco de piel con los céfiros y alisios que avivarían sus velas.

Aferé burukú llaman los yorubas a los espíritus malignos de los vientos: Entre los pueblos indígenas de Las Antillas, Venezuela, las Guayanas y la cuenca del Amazonas, la palabra que designa al huracán significa cosa maligna o diablo.

Huracán es el nombre de la caótica muerte, expresado con la espiral, la sigma o la suástica, símbolos también de la revolución. Fernando Ortiz lo vio (ojos del corazón) como el signo propicio de los "alegorismos nacionalistas de Cuba". Fenómeno voraz y discolo; el mal potenciado por lo imprevisible. En cada uno de los años 1911, 1914, 1917, 1929 y 1930 sólo hubo dos ciclones en el área del Atlántico, Golfo de México y Mar Caribe; en 1933 llegaron a 21. Huracán, y no el sol, es el dios principal de Las Antillas.

"Mi vida es viento", dijo Job.

Aferé burukú, aferé burukú, es la despiadada canción del vendaval en torno al hombre y las bestias.

Una viñeta de horror

En Florida City vi paredes impregnadas de un insólito confeti de yerba. Al raspar con la uña las milimétricas partículas, también se levantaba la pintura. Combadas a uno y otro lado por ráfagas hasta de 164 millas por hora, las hojas cortaron a las hojas en un frenético duelo de cuchillas. Tras el sol de los primeros días, el verde de los parques era polvo entre el polvo.

Noticia nacional

El lector habitual de la mejor prensa estadounidense habrá notado la demora de algunos medios en mencionar la tragedia floridana. Por unos días, pensé que Miami era una parte no incorporada de la nación.

Después, todo el mundo se puso a tono. O cada cual buscó su tono en el desastre. Bill Maxwell, columnista del periódico *Gainesville Sun*, nos mostró su legítima preocupación por los trabajadores migrantes del sur de la Florida.

Maxwell cita las reales desventuras de Héctor Morales, trabajador mexicano de Homestead, que resiente con toda razón las gestiones tardías e incompletas de algunas autoridades.

Morales también se pregunta cuánto durará el esfuerzo solidario.

"La gente anda ahora de un lado a otro brindando su ayuda, pero cuando todo esté limpio, la gente volverá a ser

tan egoísta como antes", agrega.

Hasta ahí Morales.

En el próximo párrafo, Maxwell arremete gratuitamente contra los cubanos. Cada vez que viene al sur de la Florida, dice, se aterroriza de entrar al Miami cubano.

"Odio la rudeza, la falta de respeto", comenta. "Dondequiera que voy, los inmigrantes [...] son maldecidos y menospreciados".

De este modo, los cubanos somos culpables de la situación de los trabajadores migrantes. Por ser un ataque injusto no deja de merecer el respeto debido a toda opinión. Se comprende, además, que sea fácil y hasta motivo de prestigio cargar con los ojos vendados contra el Miami cubano, un Miami que no es *políticamente correcto*.

Pero encontrar el horror en otros Miami no lleva mucho tiempo. Basta que pasemos de noche por Overtown con las ventanillas abiertas, que hablando con acento latino tratemos de alquilar un apartamento en ciertos condominios de North Miami Beach, o que busquemos en la prensa de hace unas semanas la foto del inmigrante asiático que fue asesinado a patadas por un grupo de jóvenes *anglos*.

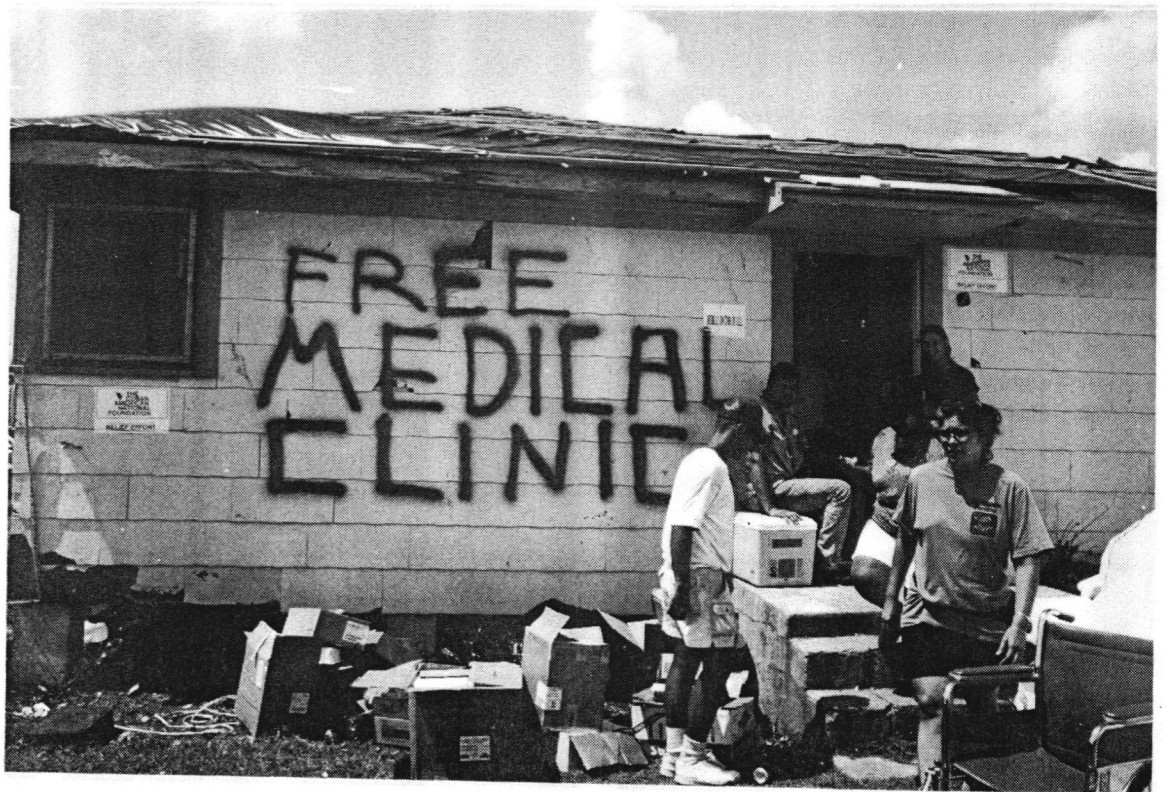
Miami es una ciudad multicultural. Para vivir en armonía no tenemos que amarnos. (De hecho, me niego a amar por decreto.) Basta con que no nos pisemos la manguera. Que cada cual pague sus impuestos y evite que su perrito se orine en el jardín del vecino. En ese aspecto, los cubanos no son peores que nadie. Por ejemplo, no se han visto cubanos entre los saqueadores que bajan cada noche a Homestead y Florida City a despojar a las víctimas del ciclón de sus pocas y maltrechas pertenencias.

Una pregunta inocente

A través de los mares, en los altos y ventiscos remolinos, sobre la cumbre de inexpugnables montañas o en un restaurante de Coral Gables, ¿ha visto alguien al alcalde Steve Clark?

Un chisme entre cubanos

Trinan algunos socialistas locales, los humanistas que quieren salvar los grandes logros sociales de la Revolución, los católicos por el socialismo, la izquierda que se mueve al compás del progreso y los parteros de la Tercera Opción (suena a fármaco contra la impotencia) porque la Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana, las radioemisoras y otras organizaciones tradicionales, ¡imagínense, esos derechistas!, han demostrado en esta calamidad tener más conciencia social que quienes guardan sellitos del Che Guevara en las gavetas de sus escritorios y se han prometido salvar a Cuba de las garras del capitalismo liberal. Ay, Quique, que el mundo está patas arriba.



LOCALES/ESTATALES

De la redacción de El Nuevo Herald

He aquí algunas soluciones, incluyendo recomendaciones y números telefónicos, para resolver los problemas causados por el huracán Andrew. Si tiene información complementaria a esta lista, envíe un fax dirigido a Richard Wallace, en The Miami Herald al 376-2287. La lista es actualizada todos los días.

BANCOS

Las sucursales de los principales bancos y asociaciones de ahorros y préstamos han vuelto a funcionar en sus horarios normales en la mayoría de sus sucursales. Algunos bancos como Barnett y First Union tienen sucursales móviles en el sur de Dade.

TOQUE DE QUEDA

En el Condado de Dade el toque de queda permanece en efecto en algunas porciones de Coconut Grove y al sur de SW 104 St. Dura de las 9 p.m. hasta las 5 a.m. En Miami Beach ya no hay toque de queda.

En Key Biscayne, las horas de toque de queda son de 11 p.m. a 5 a.m.

CUIDADO INFANTIL

■ **Metro-Dade Human Development Office**, 375-4670.

■ **Miami-Dade's Children's Resource and Referral Center**, 237-1731, o llamar al **Preschool Laboratory** al 237-1451.

■ **YMCA**, con varios centros provisionales en el sur de Dade:

■ **A.L. Lewis Elementary**, 505 SW 8 St., Homestead

■ **Florida City Elementary**, 364 NW 6 Ave.

■ **Campbell Drive Elementary**, 15790 SW 307 St., Leisure City

■ **Homestead Middle School**, 650 NW 2 Ave.

■ **Harris Field Park**, 1034 NE 8 St., Homestead

■ **El Catholic Community Services** ha puesto en funcionamiento los siguientes centros:

■ **Centro Hispanic Day Care**, 141 NW 27th Ave., 649-7266.

■ **Centro Mater Day Care**, 318 SW Fourth Ave., 545-6019 or 545-7720.

■ **Little Havana Child Care**, 970 SW First St., 324-5424 or 324-6828.

■ **Notre Dame Day Care**, 130 NE 62nd St., 751-6779 or 751-6879.

■ **San Juan Day Care**, 144 NW 26th St., 576-3461 or 576-7757.

■ **El Departamento de Parque y Recreación** de la Ciudad de Miami abrirá desde el martes los siguientes centros:

■ **Eaton**, 60155 NE Fourth Ct., 751-0047

■ **Lemon City**, 27 NE 58th St., 751-5614.

■ **Moore**, 765 NW 36th St., 635-2739

■ **Shenandoah**, 1800 SW 21st Ave., 868-5350.

33032, 33033, 33035, y 33039.

■ **Primaria West Homestead**, 1550 SW 6 St., Homestead, para 33030, 33031, y 33034.

■ **Point Royale Shopping Center**, 19105 S. Dixie Hwy., Sultes 110-113, para 33170, 33177, 33187, 33189, y 33190.

■ **Iglesia San Luis**, 7220 SW 120 St., para 33133, 33142, 33143, 33146, 33155, 33156, y 33158.

■ **Alper Jewish Community Center**, 11155 SW 112 Ave., para 33165, 33173, 33176, 33183, 33186, 33193, y 33196.

■ **Intermedia Southwood**, 16301 SW 80 St., para 33157.

■ **La Cruz Roja** ha abierto un centro de recogida y entrega de comida, hielo, agua y ropas en Coral Gables en la tienda **Storage Plus**, 129 Miracle Mile. Llamar al 447-8576.

■ Llame a la **Federal Emergency Management Agency**. Propietarios de casas con bajos ingresos, no asegurados, con daños mayores ocasionados por el huracán pueden recibir hasta \$11,500 en ayuda por el desastre. Las horas de oficina son de 8 a.m. a 8 p.m.

Para hacer la solicitud por teléfono, llame al (800) 462-9029. Las personas con problemas de habla o audición pueden comunicarse con el (800) 462-7585. Para información, llame al (800) 257-1407.

■ **FEMA** ha abierto varias oficinas para recibir solicitudes: **Kendall Home Complex Cafeteria**, 110205 SW 84 St.; **Champagne Restaurant** en Krome Ave., frente al departamento de policía de Homestead; 212 SE 1 St., Florida City; **Centro de Convenciones de Broward**, 1950 Eisenhower Blvd., 17th St. y la Intracoastal, Fort Lauderdale; **Cutler Ridge Mall**, U.S. 1 y el Turnpike.

También en el estacionamiento del **HRS Center**, 777 W. Palm Dr. y 8 Avenue, Florida City; 1450 SW 6 St., Florida City; en la esquina sureste formada por la U.S. 1 y la 280 Street del Southwest; **Sears**, Homestead Boulevard; **Escuela primaria Cutler Ridge**, 20210 Anchor Road, Cutler Ridge; **Naranja Park Baptist Church**, esquina de Moody y Pine Island; **Richmond Park**, Monroe Street, Richmond Heights; **Medala Baptist Church**, 15300 SW 288 St.

■ **Switchboard of Miami** da ayuda para encontrar comida, refugio, agua u orientación, los siete días de la semana, llamar al 358-HELP.

■ **La Fundación Nacional Cubano Americana** estableció un centro de ayuda en la US 1 y la calle 293 del SW en Leisure City con médicos y enfermeras. La Fundación también distribuye agua, comida, hielo y ropa. Llamar al 592-7768.

La Fundación espera abrir un segundo centro de ayuda en la sucursal del Republic National Bank en la 207 Washington Ave., en Homestead.

■ **Farmers Home Administra-**

mediodia hasta las 6:30 p.m., Los sitios incluyen:

■ **Southwest Dade**: Southwest 173 St. y Southwest 104 Ave.

■ **F.C. Martin Elementary**, 14250 Boggs Dr., Perrine.

■ **Southwest 205 St.** en la U.S. 1.

■ **Mays Middle School**, Southwest 216 St. y la U.S. 1.

■ **Colonial Elementary**, Southwest 160 St. en 107 Ave.

■ **26210 SW 139 Ave.**, Naranja.

■ **Southwest 280 St.** y la 152 Ave.

■ **Homestead**: Campbell Drive Middle School, 31110 SW 157 Ave.

■ **A.L. Lewis Elementary School**, 501 SW Calle Ocho.

■ **Richmond Elementary School**, 16929 SW 104 Ave.

■ **Florida City**: Sexta Avenida y Davis Parkway.

■ **Sexta avenida y Lucy Street.**

Allmentos y agua también pueden ser recogidos en estos sitios mediante coordinación con **Metro-Dade's Office of Emergency Management**:

■ **Florida City**: City Hall, 344 W. Palm Dr.

■ **Homestead**: National Guard Armory, 312 St. y la U.S. 1.

■ **Metro**: Naranja Lakes Shopping Center, U.S. 1 y 276 St.

■ **Winn-Dixie**, 171 St. y U.S. 1.

■ **Park and Ride**, 152 St. y 117 Ave. del Southwest.

■ **Miami-Dade Community College**, recinto de Kendall.

■ **Kings Meadow Park**, 100 St. y



Hispanic Coalition News

Superación de la Unidad Hispana

VOLUMEN VIII Año II

Miami Florida

SEPTIEMBRE 1992

Por Jazmin

El Huracán Andrés provocó gran destrucción, pero trajo consigo "Unidad y Amor al Próximo" que sí les importa el problema de su comunidad.

Les queremos contar que luego de muchas llamadas, preguntas y faxes, José Padró, CPA, Honorario de la Coalición Hispana, quien dedicó horas voluntarias en el campamento de la Fundación Cubana Americana nos llamó para informarnos que se necesita ayuda en ese campamento además de artículos de limpieza etc. Así llamamos a Mary Ann Odio, le comunicamos esta necesidad y cerca de 50 personas partimos hacia Homestead para servir una vez más.

A continuación mencionamos las personas que nunca antes nos habíamos conocido y unidos servimos a nuestra comunidad, estas son:

María Rodríguez, Juan Rodríguez, Blanky García, Mark y Debbie Greenberg, Norman Powell, Traci Sierra, Henry y Ana Orge, Erick Orge, Jonathan Orge, Hugo y Mirella Carballosa, María Ruiz, Eduardo Ruiz, Ricardo Ruiz, Marianne Odio, Rick Divita, Ray y Debra Goodstone, Pedro Fuentes, Yaney Abreau, María Santiesteban, Roberto Torricello, Jennifer Altman, Frank Vega, Lucy Hernández, Onil Martínez, Larry y Amina Ashe, Oficial Luis Cabrera, Mark Helse, Wallace Boota, Belinda Banick, John Fifield, Pierre Landrin, Carmen Friedland, Norberto y Mayra Sanchez, Cary López, Alina López, Willie Jiménez, Denise Martínez, Millie y Leopoldo Ramos, Fernie Ramos.



Voluntarios, Oficial Luis Cabrera y la Coalición descargando un camión de agua en el refugio de la Fundación Cubana Americana, Homestead, Florida.



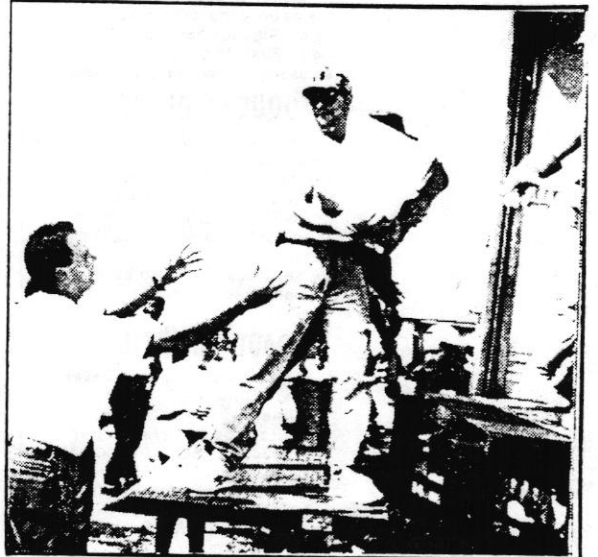
La Coalición Hispana trabaja por la salud de los Hispanos antes y después del Huracán, imágenes 4a. Feria de la Salud, Agosto 22, 1992, Florida City



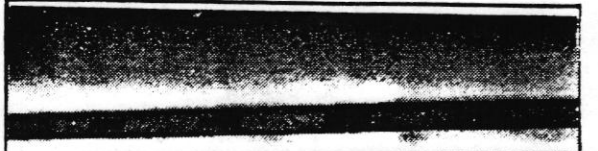
Las autoridades Consulares y organizaciones Mexicanas se hicieron presentes en Homestead, vemos a Cipriano Garza, Bernal Pacheco y al Administrador de la Ciudad de Miami, Sr. César Odio en labores de socorro a los damnificados.



El Comisionado Penelas en unión a su equipo de trabajo, también estuvo en el lugar de desastre desde el primer momento.



Empleados de la firma de Abogados Sack-Hanson & Tucker-P.A., laboran en favor de los damnificados, apreciamos en la foto al centro nuestro amigo Mary Ann Odio



Representantes estatales estuvieron asistiendo a los damnificados en unión a los voluntarios, captamos al Rep. John Cosgrove y al Sr. Angel Pagan.

OUR GRATITUDE TO ALL

The efforts of the Cuban American National Foundation (CANF) were made possible through the commitment and hard work of literally thousands of dedicated individuals. We wish to express our heartfelt appreciation to everyone who participated in the Hurricane Relief operation. This project could not have been undertaken without the cooperation of all of you.

The CANF wishes to recognize the special contributions of the following organizations and individuals:

* **World Vision and their Director for Project Andrew, Thomas Van Hare.** The indispensable cooperation of World Vision provided the relief effort with tons of food supplies, water, construction materials and medical supplies that were shipped in via U.S. Army helicopters and 48-foot tractor trailers for distribution to the hurricane victims.

* **Pan American Hospital and Dr. Alberto Hernández, Director of their medical relief effort,** responded within 24 hours to the medical emergency presented by the hurricane. They set up a clinic at the CANF distribution center and provided seven mobile medical teams with doctors, nurses and medical supplies that accompanied the CANF workers into the field. Special thanks to Dr. Ricardo Sabatés and Medical Assistant Alicia Suastegui, Dr. and Mrs. Francisco Suárez Mederos, Dr. Armando Cruz, Dr. Emilio Losada and Dr. and Mrs. Henry Castillo.

* **Metro Ford and its President Lombardo Pérez, the South Florida Ford Dealers Association, the Ford Motor Company and their Vice-President Modesto Burgos.** Thanks to their efforts, CANF was able to receive over a dozen brand new Ford vans and trucks for the duration of the relief operation which have been used to establish a mobile distribution network that covered all of South Dade. In addition, Ford donated \$10,000 to the hurricane relief effort and Metro Ford served as a collection point for vital relief supplies.

* **Republic National Bank of Miami and Dr. Luis Botifoll, Chairman, and Mario Del Valle, Vice-President,** who provided the CANF with a branch office of their bank at 207 Washington Avenue in the center of Homestead which was used as a warehouse, storage and food sorting facility.

* **Iglesia de Jesucristo and the Redlands Housing Authority** which donated their building and land respectively at Southwest 293rd Street and U.S. 1 in order to be able to set up the distribution and operations center in South Dade.

* **State Representative Rudy García and his humanitarian team** for their support in providing trucks and volunteers and serving as a liaison with state and federal officials.

* **Broward County Sheriff's Office (BSO), Sheriff Nick Navarro, Sgt. Mike Basak, Adrian Grey and the BSO team.** The Broward Sheriff's Office was the first to respond to the crisis brought about by the hurricane. In the first week of operations, BSO delivered over forty truckloads of food, water, medicine and clothing for those in the most dire need.

* **Federal Protective Police and their Regional Director Tom Woodall** who provided round the clock security for both CANF operations centers in South Dade.

* **Florida National Guard and Major Goicoechea** who provided protection and security in the early days of the relief operation when the overall situation was still rather tentative.

* **City of Miami, Mayor Xavier Suarez and City Manager Cesar Odio** for their assistance in providing volunteers, medical rescue facilities and solid waste retrieval at the CANF operations center.

* **Dr. Manuel Alvarez** for special delivery of emergency medical supplies from New York City hospitals for use at the CANF medical clinic.

* **Northwestern Meats and their President Elpidio Nuñez** for providing trucks, shipping vehicles, volunteers and food supplies.

* **Almar International and their President Alberto Mariño** for providing warehousing and storage facilities for goods to be shipped to the distribution site.

* **Kelly Tractor Co. and their President Patrick Kelly** for providing volunteers and also electric generators that allowed CANF to set up nighttime operations in the South Dade area.

* **Malone & Hyde Distributors** for donating foods and provisions to the relief effort.

* **Arnold Stores and their President Arnaldo Monzon** for donating bedding, mattresses, children's furniture and new clothing for the hurricane victims.

* **RIO-BAK and their President Enrique Rionda** who provided kitchen facilities of hot food for over 600 people per day and fed the volunteers that worked in the relief effort. Billy Rawls, David Sims and James Sims did a wonderful job cooking for everyone.

* **Delegations of the Cuban American National Foundation - New Jersey, Orlando, Chicago, Broward County, Jacksonville, New York, Dallas, West Florida and Atlanta -** that sent tons of food, water, clothing, medical supplies and provisions for the victims.

* **Volunteers of the CANF Mission Marti program and Ana Craft, Mission Marti Vice-President** for their assistance in loading, unloading, shipping and distributing provisions to the victims.

* **Staff of the Cuban American National Foundation** who put together and coordinated the entire relief effort (Mirta Iglesias, Marina Leon, Roberto Gonzalez, Mignon Medrano, Fernando Rojas, Mario Miranda, Eugenio Silva, Mati Quintana, Maggie Schuss, Lourdes Quirch, Adolfo Leyva, Joe Garcia, Virginia Diaz, Luz Rodriguez, Siomara Lezcano, Grecia Chantong, Alfredo Otero, Ninoska Perez, Carlos Cabezas, Teresa Mayans, Ana Maria Del Valle, Ela Pestano, Ileana Ferreira, Estrella Aguilera, Katy Soto, Michelle Pagliery, Pepe Martinez-Faura, Melba Lokpez, Rene Silva, Raul Rodriguez, Luis Zuñiga)

* **Directors of the CANF and their families** who participated in activities at the CANF hurricane relief center in the Homestead area.

* **La Voz de la Fundación** for its role in breaking Castro's information blockade in Cuba regarding the hurricane and sending thousands of messages to families in Cuba.

* **POINCIANA BUILDERS INC. and Southeast Health Systems Inc.** for a donation of \$5,000 each to the relief effort.

* **PAT BRINKLEY (OUTDOOR WORLD - ORLANDO RESORT)** for providing two trailers for the administrative headquarters of the hurricane relief effort.

The following businesses, organizations and individuals contributed provisions, funds and/or their time and energy in the relief effort. Our thanks to all.

**VOLUNTEERS FROM OCEAN BANK
VOLUNTEERS FROM REPUBLIC NATIONAL BANK
VOLUNTEERS FROM C.A.V.A. (CUBAN AMERICAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION)
GOYA FOODS, NICOLAS ALVAREZ
IBERIA FOODS
LA PREFERIDA (CHICAGO)
VIÑA & SON
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
U.S. ARMY
FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
JOSE PADRO
JOSEFINA CARBONELL
JOAQUIN AVIÑO
SOUTHERN BELL
ORESTES SANCHEZ
MATT VOLPE, ARMELLINI & SONS
BROWARD COUNTY MASS TRANSIT, DOMENICK BARTOLO
SPRING LITE WATER, HUMBERTO GONZALEZ
EL EBRO
HYDRAULICS SUPPLY, RICARDO SCHUSS
J & A DISTRIBUTORS, JULIO MOREIRAS
OMNI FOAM, MOISES SALAMA
CONSTRUCTION CATERING, MILLIE & STEVE BENCOMO
HAVANA MARKET**

E & G FOODS
FARM STORES
BACARDI IMPORTS
CITY OF HIALEAH
FAA EASTERN REGIONAL FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
SUNSET BEDDING MANUFACTURERS
MANUEL AND OLGA CUTILLAS
JOHN DEERE CORP.
ELIA RODRIGUEZ BACARDI
FRANCISCO & CARMEN JUNCO
MARGARITA RIOS
CARLOS AND ALINA RIOS
FROMETA MEAT, CARIDAD FROMETA
ALVAREZ SHELL SERVICE, NIVALDO ALVAREZ
ALBERTO AND ANGELINA RIOS
LAS VILLAS CONSTRUCTION
SUPER WAREHOUSE
PEPE AND ANGELITA GARCIA
ACTION TRAVEL
RENE AND GEORGINA LAURENTI
JORGE AND VICTORIA TAPANES
ROGER DE MONTIGNY
GERMAN PELLETIER
ROBERTO AND SILVIA MANZANO
ALTERATIONS PLUS INC.
RAUL ORTA
JOSE AND MARIA BADIA
MASTERS TUXEDO AND BRIDAL SHOP

