



Interfaith Center on  
Corporate Responsibility

*Inspired by faith, committed to action*

475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1842  
New York, NY 10115-0050  
www.iccr.org

Tel: 212-870-2295  
Fax: 212-870-2023  
info@iccr.org

July 3, 2006

Congressman Dennis Hastert  
27 North River Street  
Batavia, IL 60510-2666

Dear Congressman Hastert:

When the Gulf Coast was struck by two of the worst storms in American history – Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita – it created a humanitarian, economic, and environmental crisis the likes of which our nation has never seen. Today, over eight months after the storms, the advocacy group Women of the Storm reports that 70% of Senators and 80% of Representatives have still never seen the damage – because they have not visited the region.

**We are 61 institutional investors and other members of the investment community representing over \$30 billion in invested assets, concerned about the human suffering and economic devastation of Katrina and Rita impacted areas.**

In May 2006, fourteen of us traveled to the rural Gulf Coast and to New Orleans to see the damage for ourselves. We spoke with ordinary folks, businesspeople, clergy from many faith backgrounds, bankers, and political leaders. We were stunned and saddened at the human dimensions of the tragedy.

As major institutional investors, we believe there is a compelling economic case for a robust and inclusive redevelopment effort. The Gulf Coast in general and New Orleans in particular are irreplaceable elements of the American economy. Without renewed urban and rural communities – with world-class schools, health care, and housing in a safe environment – we fear one of the nation's economic engines will decline. Sustainable rebuilding will require investment by the private sector, local, state, and federal authorities, along with unprecedented cooperation between all parties.

However, none of this is possible without first-hand knowledge of the extent of the devastation and the immense economic losses and human suffering taking place.

*That is why we are requesting you personally visit the areas struck by Katrina and Rita before the first anniversary of the storms on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2006, and respond to us with your findings from the visit. We would be happy to provide any assistance your office requires, and connect you to appropriate local organizations. You may direct correspondence to:*

Daniel E. Rosan, Program Director for Access to Capital,  
Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility, 212-870-2317.

Very Truly Yours,

Sister Annette M. Sinagra, OP  
Margaret Weber  
*Adrian Dominican Sisters*

Margaret Cowden  
*American Baptist Home Mission Society*

Margaret Weber  
*Basilian Fathers of Toronto*

Sister Bernadine Reyes, OSB  
*Benedictine Sisters, Boerne, Texas*

Everard O. Rutledge, PhD  
*Bon Secours Health System, Inc.*

Lauren Compere, Steven Heim & Dawn Wolfe  
*Boston Common Asset Management, LLC*

Bennett Freeman  
*Calvert Asset Management Company*

Colleen Scanlon, RN, JD  
*Catholic Health Initiatives*

Sister Susan Vickers, RSM  
*Catholic Healthcare West*

Donna Meyer, PhD  
*CHRISTUS Health*

Frances Moore, CDP  
*Congregation of Divine Providence*

Father. Michael Hoolahan, CP  
*Congregation of the Passion, Holy Cross Province*

Sister Lillian Anne Healy  
*Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word*

Élida M. El-Gawly, CCVI  
*Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, Houston*

W. Esther Ng  
*Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, San Antonio*

Sister Roberta Mulcahy, SSJ  
*Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Springfield*

Sister Mary Brigid Clingman, OP  
*Dominican Sisters of Grand Rapids*

Sister Valerie Heinonen, OSU  
*Dominican Sisters of Hope*

Sister Barbara Matteson  
*Dominican Sisters of Houston, Texas*

Judy Archer  
*Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose*

Sister Linda Hayes, OP  
*Dominican Sisters of Springfield, IL*

*Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,  
Program Unit for Church in Society*

Constance Brookes  
*Friends Fiduciary Corporation*

Jeffrey D. Dekro  
*Jewish Fund for Justice*

Rev. Joseph P. La Mar, M.M.  
*Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers*

Mark A. Regier  
*Mennonite Mutual Aid (MMA)*

Susan Jordan, SSND  
*Midwest Coalition for Responsible Investment*

Bishop John R. Schol  
*National Shalom Committee, The United Methodist Church*

Father John Celichowski, OFM Cap.  
*Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order*

Sister Linda Jansen, SSND  
*School Sisters of Notre Dame*

Sister Barbara Aires  
*Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth*

Sister Valerie Heinonen, OSU  
*Sisters of Mercy, Regional Community of Detroit*

Sister Kathleen Coll, SSJ  
*Sisters of Saint Joseph, Philadelphia*

Sister Nora M. Nash OSF  
*Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia*

Sister Pat Marshall  
Sister Patricia Suchalski  
*Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament*

Cathy Weiss  
*Sisters of the Humility of Mary*

William Mills  
*The Good Steward Fund*

Myles McCabe  
*Marianist Province of the United States*

Cathy Rowan  
*Maryknoll Sisters*

Sister Valerie Heinonen, OSU  
*Mercy Investment Program*

Rev. Séamus P. Finn, OMI  
*Missionary Oblates*

Michael Delaney  
*Oxfam America*

Sister Sally Duffy, SC  
*SC Ministry Foundation*

Sister Ruth Kuhn, SC  
*Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati*

Sister Anne DeConcini, RSM  
Joel M. Ziff  
*Sisters of Mercy, Merion Regional Community*

Sister Pamela Marie Buganski, SND  
*The Sisters of Notre Dame of Toledo, Ohio*

Sister Sharon Simon, OP  
*Sisters of St. Dominicans - Racine, WI Dominicans*

Sister Katherine Gray, CSJ  
*Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange*

Susan W. Bues  
*Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary*

Frances A. Renn  
*Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother*

Sister Susan Mika, OSB  
*Socially Responsible Investment Coalition*

Sister Carmen Schnyder  
*St. Mary's Institute of O'Fallon*

Cathy Rowan  
*Trinity Health*

Jerry Gabert  
*Unitarian Universalist Association of  
Congregations*

Anita Whitely, OSU  
*Ursuline Academy of Cleveland*

Leadership Team  
*Ursuline Society & Academy of Education*

Joseph Meek  
*SSM Health Care*

Shelley Alpern  
*Trillium Asset Management*

Sister Patricia A. Daly, OP  
*Tri-State Coalition for Responsible Investment*

Kevin Murray  
*Unitarian Universalist Service Committee*

Sister Valerie Heinonen, OSU  
*Ursuline Sisters of Tildonk, US Province*

Michael Lazdowsky  
*Sisters of Charity of Montreal (Grey Nuns)*