

# LOUISIANA RECOVERY AUTHORITY

## Social Services Block Grant Reallocation Recommendation Approval

February 12, 2007

**OVERVIEW:** A resolution to request the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board to approve and recommend to the Governor and the Louisiana Legislature for approval a plan to reallocate \$3.5 million of unused or returned Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funds to the Louisiana Family Recovery Corps.

Whereas, in the aftermath of the devastating 2005 hurricane season, the United States Congress issued a \$550,000,000 supplemental appropriation of Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funds and, on Wednesday, February 8, 2006, the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services announced the distribution of funds among all 50 states and the District of Columbia;

Whereas, the State of Louisiana was allocated \$220,901,534 in supplemental SSBG funds to meet the social service, behavioral health and health care needs of people affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita;

Whereas, the Louisiana Recovery Authority has endorsed the following allocations of supplemental SSBG funds which were approved by the Louisiana Legislature and are being administered by the Department of Social Services, Office of Community Services:

- The Department of Social Services was allocated \$34,200,000
  - \$ 17,600,000 for the provision of Child Welfare Services
  - \$ 14,400,000 for the provision of Child Care Services
  - \$ 2,200,000 for the monitoring and oversight of the entire SSBG allocation to Louisiana
- The Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) was allocated \$101,701,534
  - \$ 80,000,000 for the provision of Behavioral Health Services
  - \$21,701,534 for the provision of Preventive and Primary Care
- The Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center (LSU-HSC) was allocated \$57,000,000
  - \$37,000,000 for the Health Sciences Center
  - \$20,000,000 for the Health Care Services Division
- The Tulane University Health Sciences Center was allocated \$13,000,000
- The Louisiana Family Recovery Corps was allocated \$15,000,000

Whereas, the Louisiana Family Recovery Corps aids in the recovery of families by connecting with Louisiana citizens impacted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and providing the resources they need to get back on their feet, return home and establish a quality of life;

Whereas, \$3.5 million in SSBG funds, originally allocated as listed above, have been returned as unneeded or will not be expended before the September 30<sup>th</sup> deadline imposed by the United States Congress and can be reallocated to the Louisiana Family Recovery Corps to support the immediate needs of Louisiana citizens impacted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board does hereby recommend that \$3.5 million of unused or returned Social Services Block Grant funds be reallocated to the Louisiana Family Recovery Corps.

**THEREFEORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board does hereby recommend that the Social Services Block Grant Reallocation plan be sent to the Governor and the Louisiana Legislature for approval.