

PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF SENIOR CENTERS
paseniorcenters.org
P.O. Box 71
Bedford, PA 15522

For Immediate Release: March 2, 2006

Contact: Lynn Fields Harris
SE Region Coordinator
215-848-7722 (phone)
215-848-0979 (fax)
lharris@centerinthepark.org

**PASC CONTRIBUTES TO REBUILDING SENIOR CENTER PROGRAMS
DEVASTATED BY HURRICANES KATRINA AND RITA IN LOUISIANA**

A statewide effort coordinated by the Pennsylvania Association of Senior Centers (PASC) has resulted in collecting nearly \$7,000. to send to two agencies in Louisiana which are helping to rebuild senior centers and senior center programs which were devastated by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Senior Center Directors and staff of Area Agencies on Aging, in all regions of the Commonwealth, raised funds from individuals – seniors helping seniors – to send to the Cajun Area AAA, Lafayette, LA and the LA Senior Relief Fund, Governor’s Office of Elderly Affairs, Baton Rouge, LA.

A recent journal of the National Council on Aging quoted the Director of the Louisiana Governor’s Office of Elderly Affairs as stating that the state’s 200,000 elderly evacuees are still displaced; and, that his office, “is giving them reassurance that we will help them get back to their homes if that’s what they want.” The article continues that for many, coming back home will mean a need for mental health services, as well. The initial response of contributions and goodwill from around the country has helped to meet immediate needs; and, the long term needs are being addressed by the aging network in the state which is still accepting donations.

The Officers and Members of the PASC Board expresses its appreciation to all of the seniors and senior center directors and area aging on aging staff throughout the Commonwealth who contributed to this important outreach effort.

###

The Pennsylvania Association of Senior Centers, or PASC, is a statewide, professional, non-profit organization for Senior Center practitioners. The organization was started more than eleven years ago by a group of visionaries who recognized the importance of properly staffed, organized Senior Centers in every community in the Commonwealth. Their vision extends into areas important to the successful operation of Senior Centers and to the communities that support them. Those areas assure the best possible training programs for Senior Center personnel, guidance in management procedures for Senior Center administrators and enlightenment with respect to the development of fund raising opportunities.