

Society of St. Vincent de Paul, 420 W. Watkins, Phoenix, AZ 85003

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Transient Aid Center helps Katrina refugees reach family throughout the country

PHOENIX – The Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Transient Aid Center (TAC) has already relocated approximately 50 of Katrina's refugees—helping them reach friends or family in other parts of the country. Starting Monday, TAC volunteers interviewed refugees from the New Orleans area, who were flown to Phoenix, to determine if they had established support systems elsewhere in the country. Phone calls to friends and relatives were made to ensure that individuals could provide the necessary support to get the hurricane victims back on their feet when they arrive in new destinations.

Each year TAC helps more than 2,500 people who get stranded in Arizona, with travel assistance to reach destinations throughout the country. TAC provides bus tickets, fuel money, assistance with food, and other essentials needed for travel.

To make a donation to assist TAC, call (602) 261-6814. Donations marked "TAC" or "Katrina relief" can also be mailed to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, P.O. Box 13600, Phoenix, AZ 85002.

Photo: Society of St. Vincent De Paul's Transient Aid Center volunteer, Joe Power, (left) interviews Hurricane Katrina refugee Leon Sauveur, who arrived in the Valley on Sunday. Powers will contact Sauveur's cousins in Miami, Florida to see if they can help him get back on his feet. TAC will provide transportation to Miami if his cousins can provide a network of support for Leon.

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The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a non-profit organization, dedicated to serving the poor and providing others with the opportunity to serve. Programs include services for the homeless, medical and dental care for the working poor, five charity dining rooms and general assistance for individuals in need.