



## Presents

*Preparing for another killer hurricane – the Gulf Coast tragedy must not be repeated in the Caribbean*

## Important Strategic Discussion with the Center for International Disaster (CIDI) and the US Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA)

In the aftermath of the devastating damage caused by Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf Coast of the United States, [AmericasRelief Team](#) is coordinating an important seminar with international disaster agencies, government agencies, and concerned corporations to share information and prepare relief strategies in the Caribbean and Latin American region with the Washington D.C.-based Center for International Disaster, and the U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA).

Last month, the Department of Atmospheric Science at Colorado State University updated their forecast and stated that they anticipate "one of the most active hurricane seasons on record"; they added that "**We expect that by the time the 2005 hurricane season is over, we will witness seasonal tropical cyclone activity at near record levels**". AmericasRelief Team members are taking this prediction very seriously. When associated with the Asian Tsunami tragedy, and the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina, the recent announcement by the Department of Atmospheric Science has prompted AmericasRelief to urgently prepare for a similar catastrophic event in the less developed countries in the Caribbean Basin, which are most likely to experience the brunt of a devastating hurricane like Katrina.

**DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 2005**  
**TIME: 9:00 -11:30 AM**  
**WHERE: ARROW AIR CARGO**  
**1701 NW 63 Avenue; building 712**  
**(for directions from Fla-836 W-**  
**please see end of page)**

**Special Presentation**

Suzanne Brooks, Director  
Center for International Disaster Information

Armed with a deep understanding of the humanitarian community, including nearly 20 years of experience with multi-lateral donors, non-governmental organizations and international corporations, Suzanne Brooks is a recognized expert in international disaster relief and donations management.

As director of the Center for International Disaster Information (CIDI), Ms. Brooks works to promote the importance of cash donations to meet international disaster victims' specific and immediate needs. With the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), Ms. Brooks has directed relief responses to more than 200 international disasters.

**To RSVP or for more information contact:**

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E-mail: [Teob@americasrelief.org](mailto:Teob@americasrelief.org)

Or Phone GOAL, Inc. at: (305) 500-7810 Xt.6214

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RSVP BELOW BY EMAIL

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#### Suzanne Brooks Biography

Through CIDI, Ms. Brooks links victims' needs in the field with donors and relief agencies in response to international disasters. In addition, she oversees public education and curriculum development on appropriate donations and trains all new volunteers during emergency surge periods.

Previously, Ms. Brooks served as director of CIDI's predecessor, the Disaster Information Center. She cultivated the program from a small USAID grant to a million dollar-a-year initiative, increasing funding by nearly 300 percent.

Her work has included providing counsel to various entities on international donations policy and management in response to the Haitian refugee crisis and the South Asian earthquake/tsunami. Ms. Brooks also assisted in the development of standardized disaster terminology at the Catholic University of Louvaine in partnership with the Center for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters with leading disaster relief specialists from around the world.

Ms. Brooks attended Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and The American University's School of International Service. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Service from The American University, where she also completed additional studies in international relations.

#### Center for International Disaster Information

Since 1988, CIDI has responded to hundreds of thousands of public inquiries related to international emergencies. The Center, operated under a contract from the United States Agency for International Development's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, has become a valuable resource to the public, as well as U.S. government agencies, foreign embassies and international corporations. For more information, visit [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org).

Questions about disaster relief can be directed to [cidi@cidi.org](mailto:cidi@cidi.org) or (703) 276-1914.

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## AmericasRelief Team

**AmericasRelief** is a private sector collaboration of corporations and non-profit organizations created to help our Latin America and Caribbean friends in times of crisis and disasters. **AmericasRelief Team** reacts to immediate crisis, provides ongoing logistics assistance, and plans events in the region that facilitate the coordination of humanitarian relief and assistance.

**AmericasRelief Team** members include: Carnival Corp., FedEx Latin America, Florida Stevedoring, JNK Warehousing & Distribution, G.O.A.L., Lucent Technologies, Pharmed Group, POMTOC, and Seaboard Marine. NGO Collaborators include: Feed the Children, Florida Association for Volunteer Action in the Caribbean (FAVACA), Harvest International, Pan American Development Foundation (PADF), and World Vision South Florida. AmericasRelief also collaborates with a number of other companies and non profit organizations.

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**Directions: From Fla-836 W**

ARROW AIR CARGO  
1701 NW 63 Avenue; building 712  
Take the NW 72ND AVE / MILAM DAIRY RD exit.  
Turn RIGHT onto MILAM DAIRY RD / NW 72ND AVE.  
Turn LEFT onto NW 12TH ST.  
Turn RIGHT onto MILAM DAIRY RD / NW 72ND AVE / FL-969 N.  
Turn RIGHT onto NW 25TH ST / PBA MEMORIAL BLVD.  
NW 25TH ST / PBA MEMORIAL BLVD becomes NW 62ND AVE.  
End at 1701 Nw 63rd Ave  
Miami, FL 33126-7300, US