



M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR



MICHAEL H. SAVAGE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Governor Rell and Connecticut Association of Schools Asking Kids and Parents to Support Hurricane Relief

Governor M. Jodi Rell and the Connecticut Association of Schools announced a special hurricane relief fundraising appeal today directed at Connecticut school children and their parents, encouraging them to contribute small change and checks of any size to be used specifically for school-related expenses.

“This is about kids helping kids. I know our children have been touched and moved by the crisis in the Gulf States, especially when they see the images of other kids their age, and I know they want to help,” Governor Rell said. “We have heard from many, many Connecticut families looking for ways to become involved in the relief effort. I am grateful to the Connecticut Association of Schools for agreeing to help us coordinate this new appeal. The people of Connecticut have been so generous already, and I know we can count on our children to bring in their pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters, and checks from their parents.”

The Governor noted that the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) had organized a fabulously successful appeal after the tsunami last Christmas, raising more than \$300,000 from school children and their parents. Those dollars were matched by Brothers Brother Foundation of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. That money was used to build a 1,500-pupil school in Sri Lanka. CAS represents 1,100 public and private schools in the state.

“Connecticut school children have stepped up to the plate before, and I know they will do it again,” said Dr. Robert F. Carroll, assistant executive director of CAS. “The lives of thousands of children in the Gulf states have been totally disrupted, and every penny we raise in this appeal will go toward helping as many as possible to get their lives back together. This drive is every bit as important as our tsunami effort, and the results will be seen much closer to home.”

The Governor’s office has set up a special account through the Bank of America in Connecticut. The bank will also accept coins and sort and roll them at no charge.

Parents can make checks payable to the Connecticut Association of Schools and bring them, or have their children bring them, to their local schools. CAS will then deposit them in the Governor’s account. Coins collected at schools will be handled by the Bank of America. Local schools will provide details.

CAS and the Governor’s office will identify specific uses for the funds, but they will be directed exclusively at school-related expenses for children, such as back packs and school supplies, and for local school districts in the affected area. Some of the money will also be designated to assist Connecticut schools that take in children from the Gulf Coast region. For example, the money could be used to buy computers for those schools.

Not one cent of donated money will go toward overhead expenses.

“Disasters like Hurricane Katrina have a way of bringing Americans together and helping them show their love and support for fellow citizens, no matter where they are,” Governor Rell said. “I am confident that by joining forces with the Connecticut Association of Schools, Connecticut can make an even greater contribution toward restoring some degree of normalcy to the lives of parents and children in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.”

**(SEND CHECKS TO: CAS HURRICANE RELIEF EFFORT,
30 REALTY DRIVE, CHESHIRE, CT 06410)**