

Delivering hope to the hurricane victims

BY LINDA SKRZAT, BEST BUY OPERATION COORDINATOR

Barrett Distribution has taken a leadership position in assisting hurricane victims in Mississippi and Louisiana. The United Way and The Citizens Action Team (CAT) have developed a grass roots effort to collect clothing, books, and food in Massachusetts for the benefit of the families in the Gulf Region. Barrett has partnered with CAT and The United Way to provide the infrastructure and logistics resources to collect, sort, and ship these donations to the victims.

Tim Barrett, COO of Barrett Distribution, stated "The United Way and CAT are doing such great work for the families in the Gulf Region. Their energy and enthusiasm are amazing. They are truly doing all of the hard work. We are pleased that we are in a position to assist with the logistics aspects of this project that were overwhelming them. That is what makes the whole process so great—each entity is providing a key piece of expertise and together our organizations are providing a solution that has a far greater positive impact than any of us could have accomplished on our own."


CAT volunteers bring the clothing and food items to our Methuen facility. Our staff pre-

pare the items for shipment in unitized pallet quantities that are sorted by category. This way, the items can go to the people most in need of a particular category (*men's outerwear*, or *children's books*, for example). Barrett Distribution then arranges for transportation to the relief organizations and churches in the gulf region through the many contacts we have with transportation companies.

"Thank you for everything you have done so far...for your leadership, for your vision...for your humanity. This is one of the biggest gifts that we could give to the people of the Gulf Region and ultimately to the American people, who ache for those who are still living in tents as the holiday season approaches."

—Terra Friedrichs,
CAT

"Thank you for all your help and willingness to make things happen. We value our partnership with Barrett and look forward to further expanding our relationship."

—Donna Jackson,
United Way of Tri-County 

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