



# Operation: **A Cajun Christmas**

<http://www.cajunchristmas.org>

**W**ith the great destruction and suffering caused by any catastrophe like Hurricane Katrina, also comes an immediate out pouring of love and compassion from so many people. The reality is that given time, we who are away from the destruction and suffering start to forget the long term suffering and needs of people affected. This is a reality. When the holidays arrive with all its hustle and bustle, it is easy to forget these poor and sweet beings affected by this tragedy. These people will not know the real holidays, they will have no real Christmas.

One can imagine there can be few things harder for a parent than knowing they must tell a child Santa will not come this year, let alone, no home of their own and very little food. I believe we can do something to help many in Louisiana and perhaps more people in the gulf coast, enjoy a special holiday.

My plan started out as working as a family and a few friends to fill a truck and drive it down to Louisiana in November, to help as many as we could. My belief in this idea grew, as I thought about it more and talked to friends. Now, my dream and belief is that we can travel to Louisiana this November, in not just one truck, but a whole convoy of trucks made up of trucks from communities from around the country. Trucks filled by people, clubs, organizations, businesses, schools, churches and temples all working together as a community, as family to help our family hit by Hurricane Katrina. A convoy of Compassion filled with a Cajun Christmas. A convoy of food, candy, holiday treats, clothing, personal care items, gifts, joy and hope to perhaps hundreds or thousands of children, families, the elderly and all people suffering from this tragedy. If we work together we can send convoys to Mississippi, Alabama and Texas.

## What you can do to help:



Become an organizer in your community, recruiting others to help you/the community to fill a truck or trucks and join the convoy this November. Approach any businesses, clubs, organizations and schools, whomever you believe can help, including your community, to help so many who are suffering and have lost so much to have a real and happy holiday.



Pass this e-mail and our site to everyone in your address book and ask all your contacts to do the same. Contact any friends, business connections, associates, companies, anyone in TV, the press, celebrities and athletes. Reach out to anyone you believe can help fill a truck or arrange transportation or help in any way. Ask them to do what they can and ask them to reach out to their circle of friends asking them the same.



Contact your child's school; this is a great school project. When a child puts a dollar in a jug he/she can not imagine the good it will do. With *Operation: A Cajun Christmas* your child or your class will know that on Christmas Day a child will open a gift that they gave to them and know the joy of the holiday because of their generosity.

**PLEASE** take the time to read through our Website at <http://www.cajunchristmas.org/> it contains more information including contacts and a discussion board to talk to and share ideas and plans with others around the country joining this convoy of compassion.

You have done so much already but please consider this and the direct joy it can bring to a child, families, the elderly and all the people who can enjoy the feeling of normalcy and holiday this year.

May you and all beings be well and happy.

Sincerely,

Mark, Kelly and Azurah Bertrand  
Aaron Gryder  
Glenda "Mom Macie" Sellers