New Orleans: 18 Months After Katrina

Who Lost What?

- HUD illegally locked out 4,534 families, raked in $9.7 Billions. Only 10% of contracts were 9th ward and other state.
- 7,500 households doubled in the “hood” from $450 to $850 for a 2 bedroom.
- 30% of jobs lost.
- 60% of small businesses destroyed.
- Surplus in state Budget, Nov 2006.

Who Is Benefitting?

- Billionaire businesses raked in $9.7 Billions. Only 10% of contracts were local. Wealthy Disaster Profiteers won No-Bid Contracts via political connections and campaign contributions. Waste, fraud, overcharges prevail.
- 30% of jobs lost.
- 60% of small businesses destroyed.
- Gov. Blanco had a $827 Million surplus in state Budget, Nov 2006. (Half the population gone, no schools, buses, street lights, services.) Gave raises to city, state, city Police and other state professionals. Not one penny for displaced persons or other poor people.

Who Is Fighting Back?

- New Orleans groups, and volunteers from across the world, are fighting to save the city for the people. They still need HELP. Contact them. Find out how you can volunteer.
- Military has occupied N.O. at a cost of $300,000 a week despite full police force and population reduced by half.
- NENA, 9th ward Neighborhood Org. 504-451-9871 aliskajones30@yahoo.com
- Critcal Resistance 504.304.3784; crno@criticalresistance.org A menity for Katrina Prisoners
- Public Housing—Still Closed. HUD illegally locked out 4,534 families, disabled & elders from their homes, despite minimal damage. Rents $5 M to board/bar the housing. HUD plans to demolish 4,534 units, violating tenants’ leases—and the law in 23 ways. Cost? $175 M more than clean-up. Move? They plan to rebuild for “mixed” income—only 10% for poor.
- New Orleans, Jan 15 and Feb 10, 2007—Resident occupied and cleaned up apartments in St. Bernard and C.J. Peele Housing Projects. They demand that HUD allow them to return or guarantee space for all displaced residents in any new construction. Both projects are slated for demolition.
- People’s Hurricane Relief Fund peopleshurricane.com Surviveversailles.com
- POE C: Peopleorganizing.org 504-872-9591

Photos and Design by Pat Gowens, Welfare Warriors 414-342-6662, wmvoice@execpc.com

Sources: Gulf Coast Reconstructions Watch, www.reconstructionwatch.org; 919-416-8315; corwatch.org 510-271-8300; justiceforneworleans.org

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