

PROMETHEUS RADIO PROJECT

PO Box 42158 Philadelphia, PA 19101 (215)727-9620
info@prometheusradio.org, www.prometheusradio.org



Community Radio Response to Katrina ***Testimony Packet*** ***Compiled for the FCC Hearings on March 7, 2005***

SECTION I — Introduction and Background

SECTION II — Biography of presenter Sara Allen

SECTION III — Policy Recommendations

SECTION IV — Low Power FM and Community Radio stations serving flood-impacted regions

WQRZ-LP 103.5 FM Katrina Radio, Hancock County, MI
Correspondence from Founder Christine Statch
Letter from WQRZ Supporter
WLOX report on WQRZ-LP
Sara Allen's Signal Magazine article

KAMP 95.3 FM, Dome City Radio
Radio Hope & Radio Mercy
Correspondence from Blessings for Obedience
Letters from Radio Mercy Listeners

SECTION V — Coverage, Fundraising, and PSA support offered by community radio stations nationwide

KDRT-LP 101.5 Davis, CA	PSAs on donating; coverage
KREV-LP 104.7 Estes Park, CO	Broadcasted fund appeal
KWMD 90.7 Kasilof & Anchorage, AL	Broadcasted WWOZ in Exile
KYRS-LP 95.3 Spokane, WA	Coverage
WMNF 88.5 Tampa, FL	Coverage & fundraising
WMUC 99.1 College Park, MD	Forthcoming coverage
WORT 89.9 Madison, WI	Coverage and fundraising
WRYR 97.5 South Arundel, MD	PSAs & coverage of local support efforts
WSLR-LP 96.5 Sarasota, FL	Fundraiser

SECTION I: **Introduction and Background**

The organizers and volunteers of the Prometheus Radio Project are extremely pleased to testify to the vital role that community radio stations played in the crisis surrounding the recent Hurricanes in the gulf. As Sara Allen, the engineer who will be speaking on this topic in Jackson today will testify, community radio demonstrated a unique ability to interact effectively with emergency services in damaged regions and provide up-to-date, local information to communities to communities working to rebuild. With this report, we hope to clarify our views on the role the FCC can play as it ensures that communications services across the country are adequately prepared to deal with disasters, including policies the FCC should consider that relate directly to community radio.

What is low power FM radio?

The low power FM (LPFM) radio service was adopted by the Federal Communications Commission in January of 2000. The LPFM radio license, which is for non-commercial operation only, is available to high schools, labor unions, churches, mosques, or other houses of worship and gathering, towns, and community groups of all kinds. About 675 of these stations, broadcasting at 100 watts or less, and over a radius of just a few miles, are on the air serving communities across the country right now. Many more groups are in the license application process and will be on the air within the next year.

The proposal to create a low power radio service received support from thousands of potential broadcasters, including schools, churches, musicians, engineers and people from all walks of life. The only significant opposition came from powerful and large incumbent broadcasters. In late 2000, because of pressure from existing broadcasters, Congress enacted the "Radio Broadcasting Preservation Act," which forced the FCC to adopt exorbitant protection standards for new LPFM stations. As the result of this act, new LPFM stations could not be placed on frequencies that were three channels removed from an existing station – and about 75% of opportunities for new LPFM stations were eliminated. Densely populated areas were particularly affected, leaving only one new low power station available in the top fifty American cities.

However, at the time, Congress also required the FCC to commission an outside organization to conduct field tests to resolve the issue of LPFM's potential for third adjacent channel interference. After three years of waiting, this study, administered by The MITRE Corporation, has just been released. It not only demonstrates that low power stations cause no significant interference to existing stations, but also recommends that the third channel adjacency restriction be lifted – potentially opening the way for many hundreds of new low power FM radio stations.

Congress has the opportunity to take action to allow for the expansion of the LPFM service, thus opening up the airwaves to many more communities



Volunteers raise the mast of WCIW-LP 107.9, Radio Consciencia, a station licensed to a farmworkers' group, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, in Immokalee, FL.

nationwide, and with a recent Further Notice of proposed rulemaking currently in process at the Commission, still more opportunities exist to strengthen and support LPFM.

History of the Prometheus Radio Project

A large coalition of church, community, advocacy, and legal groups combined forces to work with the FCC to establish the low power FM. Prometheus Radio Project was one of these organizations. A group of organizers and volunteers dedicated to people's use of their own airwaves, the organization works to promote the low-power FM radio service and to educate the public on its value. Many Prometheans have worked in the unlicensed broadcast movement, putting away their pirate flags in order to help build a case for a low power FM radio service at the FCC. Prometheus organizers provide free, up-to-date technical and organizational advice for groups applying for and building LPFM stations. These stations, and community organizations working to build them, submitted thousands of comments to the Commission's biennial review of media ownership docket when it was considering deregulating the broadcast ownership system in 2002–2003, leading to Prometheus' participation in the lawsuit *Prometheus vs. the FCC*. This lawsuit successfully challenged the Commission when it attempted to deregulate media ownership without sufficient public hearings, and without considering the almost 3 million comments submitted by the public against more deregulation.

SECTION II: Biography of Presenter Sara T. Allen



*Sara Allen, Sue Johnson, and Otis Maclay
troubleshoot the console of WSLR-LP, 96.5,
Sarasota local radio.*

Sara T. Allen was born and raised in Port Chester, NY. She graduated from high school in 1966 and attended college in St. Leo, Florida. In 1967 she decided to enlist in the US Navy and attended the USN Electronics Technician School in Great Lakes, Illinois. Her tour of duty ended in December, 1969.

Sara then traveled the US and discovered Taos, New Mexico where she made her home for the next 32 years.

Sara's broadcasting career began in 1977 in Taos, NM when she accepted employment as a Technician at Dyma Engineering, Inc., a Broadcast Engineering and Consulting firm, under the supervision of broadcast engineer, Carroll Cunningham.

In May, 1982, Sara accepted employment as chief engineer for KTAO-FM radio. For the next 20 years Sara increased her knowledge of broadcast engineering and broadcasting serving as chief engineer, office manager, traffic manager, night time DJ, Sunday morning classical music host and other radio broadcast related positions.

During Sara's employment at KTAO she was involved in the creation of KTAOS Solar. The project consists of a 35 kilowatt photovoltaic (solar) generation system located at the top of an 11 thousand foot mountain which powers the KTAO-FM transmitter. KTAO recently celebrated 14 years of continuous transmitter operation using only solar power. <http://www.ktao.com/>

In October, 2002, Sara started her own consulting firm, Ciara Enterprises, Inc. and moved to Bradenton, Florida where she now lives.

Sara is an active member of the Society of Broadcast Engineers, an associate member of the NAB, Florida Association of Broadcasters, and New Mexico Broadcasters Association. She is also a member of the FCC's Media Security and Reliability Council 2, Toolkit Workgroup Committee. The work product of the Toolkit Workgroup is available on-line at <http://www.mediasecurity.org/>

Sara's involvement with the Hurricane Katrina response began when she volunteered to assist and was asked to travel to Hancock County, MS to help restore a local broadcast radio facility, WQRZ-LP under the direction of station licensee Brice Phillips of Bay St. Louis, MS.

She assisted in rebuilding and re-powering the facility to enable county wide coverage and then volunteered to stay on in the role of broadcaster and delivered in depth news and information concerning the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Hancock County, MS.

The marriage of WQRZ-LP radio with the Hancock County Emergency Operations Center and the Public Information Office overcame many of the barriers facing emergency management's ability to effectively communicate with the citizens of Hancock County. WQRZ-LP continues to provide this service to Hancock County.

Sara's broad experience in Radio Broadcasting, Disaster Recovery Planning, her hands-on response to Hurricane Katrina, and on-going work as a member of the MSRC 2 Toolkit Workgroup gives her the background to understand the needs of broadcasters, emergency managers and planners, first responders and the local communities impacted by disaster.

Sara is a trusted volunteer with the Prometheus Radio Project, and has provided expert engineering and training at station buildings in Northampton, Massachusetts and Sarasota, Florida.

Sara can be contacted at 941-224-9025 or email to sarataos@newmex.com.

SECTION III: POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

How the FCC Can Support Low Power Radio in Disaster Situations

LPFM stations have proven to be a valuable resource to those affected by the hurricane disasters, both during and after the disasters. To continue and improve on the LPFM service, Prometheus Radio Project makes the following recommendations:

Communication: In the event that LPFM stations are the sole source or one of just a few sources of radio broadcasts, the Commission should have in place an expedited process to increase LPFM stations' power and/or frequency range. During this temporary period, LPFM stations will be able to serve a larger number of citizens when other resources are unavailable.

Assistance: The LPFM community would ask that the Commission assist current LPFM construction permit holders, broadcasters who have or could have provided service during the disaster, by granting these groups Special Temporary Authority (STA) authorizations to broadcast when appropriate. The Commission could assist operators in getting and staying on air while the applications they submitted for their 100-watt stations are being processed by the Commission. This will ensure that operators and volunteers already able to provide service are able to do so during disasters, without complicating the processing of their applications at the media bureau.

Availability and Accessibility: Fortunately, the Commission already has in place a means to maximize the number of LPFM stations available to serve communities. To ensure that the greatest number of LPFM stations are available and able to provide service and information in times of emergency and disaster, the Commission can act on Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (MM Docket No. 99-25). We understand this Panel's mandate is limited, thus focus attention only on the issues relevant to improving and increasing LPFM communications during disasters.

- **Distant Translators:** LPFM stations should be assured of primary status with respect to translator applications and to existing translators. This will ensure that the highest number of LPFM stations, broadcasting relevant local emergency and disaster information, are available – not to mention the active volunteers and engineers who keep them on-air and work closely with local officials during and beyond times of crisis..
- **Encroachment:** Full-power stations should not be allowed to encroach upon LPFM stations. This will ensure that LPFM stations will be able to broadcast accurate local emergency and disaster information without any interference, and that communities don't lose a trusted source of such information, just when they need it most.
- **Expansion:** To maximize on the number of LPFM stations available during a disaster, the Commission should grant licenses on 3rd adjacent frequencies, and restate their support for an expanded LPFM service, at a time when Congress has the mandate to return the power to license at the 3rd adjacent to the FCC.

SECTION IV:
Low Power FM and Community Radio stations serving flood-impacted regions

WQRZ-LP 103.5 FM Katrina Radio, Hancock County, MI

Correspondence from WQRZ Volunteer and Founder, Christine Stach

Subject: Fwd: PLEASE HELP WQRZ SURVIVE!

Hi All,

It's Christine here at WQRZ 103.5 FM here in Bay Saint Louis, Ms. I am finally able to read my email. It's been a good long while since I've been able to get to my emails and reply to them. Hurricane Katrina really did a number on us here on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. We were totally wiped out by Hurricane Katrina and then Hurricane Rita came in right behind Katrina and finished off the job.

We rode out Hurricane Katrina along with 33 other people and 1 dog at the very first Emergency Operations Center. We all almost lost our lives by staying behind and manning all of the radios, the phones, and the radio station. It was hard to hear the people on the other end of the lines screaming and pleading for help to have their lives saved knowing that there was nothing that could be done to save them. So far we still don't know who perished, who evacuated, or who lived. There are still so many people who are displaced and unaccounted for.

Brice and I lost everything. We lost our FM station, our entire music library, our house, our amateur radio station, and our vehicles. We are back on the air thanks to some quick thinking. We stayed on the

air during Hurricane Katrina via emergency generators, and car batteries. We robbed all of the vehicles of their batteries after the vehicles were submerged under water. We were off the air for about 4 hours during the hurricane due to us flip flopping between 2 generators at first during the hurricane.

Since the hurricane we have moved our station location 3 times. We are now located at the old Annunciation Catholic school up in Kiln, Ms which is about 7 miles from our original station location. It is also the new location of the E.O.C.

We meaning the people of Hancock County Ms. are in need of so much support that it's not even funny. If you would like to help us down here you can go to the EOC website at www.hancockeoc.com. As for us here at WQRZ 103.5 FM we are in need of lots of music to help us to rebuild our station library. So if you can please send us as much music as you can. We thank you so much for any and all help that you could give us.

PEACE !!!!!

Ms.Christine M. Stach, Program Director



Letter from WQRZ Supporter

The following letter is one of many that were sent to public officials expressing support for WQRZ's petition to upgrade to a full-powered class A community broadcast station.

Brice Phillips operates a 100 watt, 501C3 nonprofit, Solar Powered FM radio station WQRZ-LP which serves the Bay Saint Louis, Waveland, Diamondhead and Kiln area. Several years before the arrival of Hurricane Katrina, Mr. Phillips began preparing for the arrival of a storm which would knock out and devastate his local communities. He financed all the required back-up power, Emergency Alert System and transmitter systems out of his meager monthly Social Security allocations.

As the Hurricane approached, Mr. Phillips loaded his van with the transmitters, the Emergency Alert System, ham radios, multiple extra antennas and back-up equipment his station would require, to survive the storm. He relocated the needed components into the Hancock County Emergency Operations Center in Bay Saint Louis and began passing along emergency information generated by the EOC by Director Brian "Hooty" Adam. In anticipation of power outages, Mr. Phillips converted his broadcast and amateur transmitter equipment to operate on car batteries.

The Hancock County Emergency Operations Center building was 28 feet above sea level and Mr. Phillips was broadcasting survival and rescue information from it's second level, until hurricane Katrina's storm surge waters rose to the second level. His broadcasting stopped for a few hours after the eye had passed the EOC, because he had to move batteries and other critical components to higher elevations. As the waters receded, he discovered that the winds had ripped off the roof of his van and the rising waters started an electrical fire in his car. He used the van and car batteries to power his broadcasting of vital search and rescue information. After Katrina left complete and total destruction in it's wake, within hours, Mr. Phillips Amateur Radio Station KB5MPW (NCS035) and WQRZ Broadcast Station resumed it's vital mission of broadcasting Hancock County EOC life saving survival information. His station was the only mass communications system to survive, and the only voice the Hancock County EOC could use to direct survivors to relief supplies, food, water, ice, Red Cross, medical and rescue sources.



Brice Phillips, founder of WQRZ, photo from MSNBC.com

At the request of the Hancock County Emergency Operations Center, the Hancock County Amateur Radio Association, Inc., licensee of WQRZ-LP, submitted a request from FCC for higher power authority. In the second week of September 2005, Harris Corporation donated a 1000 watt transmitter and other equipment to assist.

FEMA distributed 3,000 FM radios to Bay Saint Louis and Waveland survivors so they could be told where to get food, water, ice, Red Cross help and other survival assistance.

The FCC granted HCARA, Inc. (WQRZ-LP) temporary permission to increase his power, to assist a wider range of Katrina survivors. On December 8, 2005, the temporary power increase to 4000 watts will expire. WQRZ was one out of only four of the 41 broadcast stations throughout the New Orleans and Mississippi Gulf Coast area that survived and WQRZ is at Katrina's ground zero.

Mr. Phillips foresight and planning efforts enabled his station to play a major role in providing vital relief data to his community, also because the hurricane

damage had silenced all other radio stations and every public safety communication systems.

Mr. Phillips home was completely destroyed by Katrina storm surge, but his original broadcasting antennas survived, because of the extra precautions Phillips had taken.

Mr. Phillips has pioneered the survival techniques which assure that critically important emergency broadcasting can continue, even though stricken by a category 4 hurricane. His station's ability to broadcast important EOC messages has expedited recovery efforts and directed

Katrina survivors to needed survival supplies. He has demonstrated the value of his precautionary planning and some responsible governmental official needs to act quickly to assure that everything Mr. Phillips knows is put into a directive which will enable other communities to benefit from

information provided by their local radio stations. Who is more qualified than Mr. Phillips to write the guidelines for Survival Radio? There are more car radios and battery powered portable radios than there are TV sets. Even if a TV station survives and can continue to broadcast, most homes have lost power and cannot receive survival information from TV

Your immediate help is needed to assure that Mr. Phillips hard won and proven radio broadcasting survival techniques are preserved and disseminated to all U.S. radio stations.

Can you authorize a grant for Mr. Phillips and the Hancock County Amateur Radio Association's community radio service protection project, which will guarantee the sharing what he knows and which will would fund his further research and development for radio broadcasting and emergency communications systems survival.

His non-profit educational radio station WQRZ broadcasts on the FM band at 103.5. He has proven the value of his station by broadcasting important EOC information.

To better serve more of his community, money is needed to finance a taller tower, which should be moved to a higher location to assure that it's solar power, generators, batteries, backup communications and broadcasting equipment are more protected from rising waters and storm surge.

Mr. Phillips, like many other Katrina survivors, lost substantial amounts of important backup equipment. His immediate financial stress could be remedied by

a FEMA grant which pays him to write a survival radio guideline or handbook. His valuable survival radio broadcasting information need to be shared. He and the Hancock County Amateur Radio Association, Inc, also request your support of a petition to the FCC to permanently upgrade WQRZ to a full powered Class A Broadcast Station in the public interest for the community served.

Thank you for your support.

WLOX report on WQRZ-LP

Post-Katrina Communications Wiz Named Hancock County's New PIO
AI Showers Reports On Hancock County's New Public Information Officer
<http://www.wlox.com/Global/story.asp?S=4482054&nav=6DJI>

Brice Phillips owns WQRZ Radio. He's also the founder of Hancock County's Amateur Radio Association. Now he's the county's new Public Information Officer.

But what you might not know is he provided the only communications in or out of Hancock County for days right after Katrina struck.

"When all else fails, amateur radio works until other systems get put in place and put online. I didn't have time to think about it. It was time to hook another radio up," Phillips said. "When anybody is left with the last resource, you share it with your friends, you share it with your family, you share it with your community."

Hancock County's Emergency Management Director Brian Adams has nothing but praise for Phillips and his amateur radio equipment.

"It was a tremendous asset for not only the EOC, but for the citizens of Hancock County," Adams said.

Phillips helped people in Hancock County contact family across the nation. He also helped get parts shipped in to get the Bay St. Louis water system back up.

"Another one was AMR calls. We did so much medical, a lot of medical calls. It was just us," Phillips remembered. "I got very little sleep the first week. We were 24/7 running that ham radio."

Just hours after the storm, Phillips had his low power radio station WQRZ running again. He used downed flag poles and anything else he could find to make antennas to mount on top of the EOC building.

"I kept trying to climb up there for like three hours, I think it was, with 45 to 70 mile per hour gusts. It was kind of windy."

Phillips is modest about the job he did, but those who counted on him are full of praise. Phillips is still providing daily updates of recovery information on 103.5 FM.

Sara Allen: WQRZ and Emergency Services after Hurricane Katrina a reprint from Signal Magazine, a publication of the Society of Broadcast Engineers

How it all began...

From my home in Bradenton, Florida, I watched with fascination as Hurricane Katrina spun through the Gulf of Mexico turning ever more northward towards the Mississippi Gulf Coast. I watched in awe the aftermath of the storm reported on CNN, Fox News, everywhere. I knew that I had to offer my help.

I am a member of the FCC's MSRC Toolkit Workgroup committee tasked with developing a

master disaster recovery planning document for all forms of mass media in the US. My area of expertise is radio broadcast engineering and disaster recovery planning and testing. So I offered my help by sending email offers of assistance to every Gulf Coast Broadcaster Association, as well as the Society of Broadcast Engineers.

I didn't have to wait long for the call to come. On Tuesday, Sept. 6th I received a call from John Poray, National Director of the SBE requesting assistance

for WQRZ-LP 103.5 FM, Bay St. Louis, a low power community radio station with solar backup power, and licensed to the Hancock County Amateur Radio Association, Inc. the brainchild of station manager and chief engineer Brice Phillips.

The Hancock County Emergency Operations Center had requested that Brice investigate the possibility of having the FCC grant an emergency temporary authority for a power increase to allow the WQRZ-LP signal to cover the entire Hancock County area in order to broadcast essential health and welfare and emergency information to its residents.

Communications in and out of Bay St. Louis in Hancock County Mississippi were very bad. I was able to contact fellow Floridians Randy Pierce and Gary Sessums who had been dispatched by the Florida State Warning Point to set up an EDICS system cross band repeater at the Hancock County EOC. Gary put me on the phone with Brice. I remember Brice's first words to me, "We survived!"

Over the next few days I coordinated an effort to request an emergency authorization from the FCC which was granted by Thursday afternoon. The authorization allows WQRZ-LP to increase power up to 4KW ERP. I also arranged for the necessary equipment to be ordered and shipped into Hancock County. Working closely with Harris Corp. Broadcast Division and Government Communications Division the necessary equipment was on its way by Friday evening and began arriving on site Saturday morning.

Early on Sunday morning, Sept. 11th, Gary Sessums and I departed from the Hillsborough County EOC in Tampa, Florida bound for Bay St. Louis and the Hancock County EOC which had relocated to the Hancock High School Campus near the Stennis International Airport. We arrived that evening and joined Gary Minker, also a Floridian, and began to plan our work the following day.

On Monday morning the three of us joined Brice and we began the reconstruction of WQRZ-LP at Brice's surviving 120 foot tower. Brice's home was destroyed by the storm surge. His transmitter shack, which had been totally submerged in salt water and tower, survived Katrina. Brice had taken one of the antenna bays, his transmitter and some of his essential studio equipment to the Hancock County EOC original location in Bay St. Louis where he continued to broadcast, albeit at low power, before, during and immediately after Katrina. He also provided essential health and welfare radio traffic using his amateur radios and was the only means of communication in and out of the Hancock County

EOC immediately after Katrina. Flooding and wind damage forced the relocation of the EOC to the Stennis Airport location. Brice Phillips and Christine Stach remained behind at the old EOC to continue to provide communications and broadcast health and welfare information to the survivors of Katrina still in Bay St. Louis.

Brice climbed the tower several times during the next few days pulling up two lengths of 7/8th Andrew Heliac and installing an omni directional STL receive antenna. A Harris Corp. Quest 1KW transmitter, Marti STL receiver and a generator to power them were installed and by Thursday evening, Brice reinstalled the 4th bay and WQRZ-LP went on the air at approximately 1.3KW ERP. The signal is strong enough to cover most of Hancock County and all of the most affected areas, Pearlinton, Bay St. Louis, Waveland, Diamondhead, Pass Christian and Kiln, Mississippi.

We switched programming from Brice's low power operation at the old EOC to the bare bones studio we had set up at the new Hancock County EOC at the Stennis Airport. Harris Corp. also provided a turnkey studio setup. WQRZ-LP was on the air and broadcasting live from the Hancock County EOC.

Mission accomplished, or so I thought...

WQRZ-LP was on the air. It was Thursday evening, September 15th and I was making plans to return to Tampa. Tools were put away and the studio was organized and ready for use. I overheard someone in the Public Information Office mention a press release requesting assistance to operate WQRZ-LP.

I had assumed that Brice and Christine would take over the broadcast duties immediately, and then I realized that at least, they would need some help. Temporary FEMA housing had not yet begun to arrive in Hancock County. Brice and Christine were still sheltered at the old EOC in Bay St. Louis. They'd lost their home and most of their belongings. I made the decision to stay on for a few more days to give Brice and Christine some time to execute their personal disaster recovery.

I had plenty of on-air experience while working at KTAO-FM in Taos, NM. I had an air shift for many years and worked several emergency situations including the Los Alamos evacuation and the March 2000 New Mexico blackout.

So it began.

"You're listening to WQRZ-LP 103.5 FM - The Voice of Bay St. Louis, Waveland, Diamondhead and the

Kiln – Broadcasting live from the Hancock County Emergency Operations Center – Your Source for Information”

I reported for duty Friday morning and went about developing a program strategy and update frequency with the Public Information Office. I used whatever program material I had with me and from what Brice had available. The first day was a bit loose. I played music and broadcast news and information updates as frequently as the PIO made them available.

I overheard some talk that the Secretary of Homeland Security, Michael Chertoff, would be visiting the EOC on Saturday. I asked the PIO about the possibility of having him as a guest on the radio station and was told that that was unlikely.

On Saturday, I was passing by the FEMA office and noticed that the Secretary was there. I went to get my camera and as the Secretary passed by he offered his hand which I shook, and then the broadcaster in me took over, I didn't let go of his hand and followed it back to him and said "Sir, I would like to put you on the radio station to address the people of Hancock County."

He agreed and became the first of many VIP guests on WQRZ-LP. I hadn't realized at the time that I was bucking protocol and I was informed later that day that I was lucky that I hadn't been "secured" by the Secret Service. I did, however, gain the notoriety and respect of the EOC leadership which led to ongoing access to VIP interviews which included a Congressional Delegation, Vice Admiral Thad Allen USCG, Undersecretary Thomas Dorr USDA and many other locals and volunteers who shared their stories with the WQRZ-LP listeners.

By the end of the first week I had developed programming with regularly scheduled in-depth updates at 8, noon and 5. The PIO developed a daily newsletter which I read in its entirety. Whenever information was updated I was able to immediately go on the air with the new, accurate information.

Then Hurricane Rita arrived. I was awakened early in the AM by the EOC as there was a new round of flooding in Hancock County and the EAS was alerting people to move to higher ground. The winds came up and we lost power at the EOC and scrambled to get a generator on line for the WQRZ-LP studio. Brice had the generator at the transmitter site relocated to higher ground the day before Rita arrived. His foresight saved the day as the flood waters came within inches of the generator. The

base of the transmitter tower was 3 feet underwater but we were still on the air.

Hurricane Rita affected us in many ways. It put a strain on already compromised systems and the EOC lost grid power. A damaged air handler motor caused a fire alarm in the building just as a Tornado Warning was being broadcast by the EAS. Brice was on the air and not about to be evacuated by fire safety personnel while he was broadcasting the warning which included the EOC in the tornados' path.

WQRZ-LP was off the air. Flood waters prevented easy access to the transmitter site and logistics was unable to refuel the generator. Brice decided to take matters into his own hands and floated 10 gallons of diesel fuel wading several hundred yards through the Mississippi muddy, dirty, stinking, polluted flood waters to make sure the citizens of Hancock County had access to important EOC and EAS information. Thanks to his efforts WQRZ-LP was back on the air.

Brice came down with bronchitis and pneumonia and I stayed at the controls of the radio station for another week while he recuperated.

Things got back to "normal" after Rita. I continued to do thrice daily in-depth informational updates. The radio station slowly took on more functionality as Brice brought his automation system back on line. I set up a production studio in an adjacent room so that PSA and repetitive information could be pre-recorded.

Toward the end of the third week I started to lose my voice. Brice was still very ill and not yet ready to return full time to the station. I insisted that he take the time to recover so that he wouldn't relapse and I could go home. I made several phone calls and e-mail solicitations for assistance from various Broadcaster Associations but no one stepped up to the plate. Brice took my advice and rested until he had recovered and he was able to once again take over the controls at WQRZ-LP. We worked together on the air as a team for the last few days until my departure from the Hancock County EOC on Oct. 8th. Brice continues to bring the residents of Hancock County essential news and information directly from the EOC and will continue to do so as long as necessary.

There is so much more to this story. So many things happened. There were laughter and tears, stories of survival and loss. One of the hardest things that I had to do as a broadcaster was to read a list of those missing since Hurricane Katrina made landfall. The scope of the tragedy really hit home as I read

one name after the other.

I lived and worked at the Hancock County EOC for 28 days. Bay St. Louis, Waveland, Diamondhead and the Kill will no longer be just a place on the map but for me a place that I called home.

~~~~~

Sara Allen is the president of Ciara Enterprises, Inc., an independent radio broadcast engineer, SBE member, and amateur radio operator, K14KMI, as well as on the air talent when needed. She worked for KTAO-FM Solar powered radio in Taos, New Mexico for over 20 years as Chief Engineer and was the lead engineer in the construction of the 35 KW Photovoltaic Array and KTAO transmission system located on 10,800 foot Picuris Peak in North Central New Mexico. KTAO has been broadcasting continuously using only solar power since Thanksgiving 1991.

Randy Pierce was the ESF-2 Communications

**KAMP: Katrina Aftermath Media Project — 95.3 FM, Dome City Radio**  
<http://www.villagevoice.com/news/0537,fergusonweb3,67837,2.html>

Dome City Radio Goes Live in Houston  
Activists sidestep FEMA bureaucracy to  
broadcast relief info to Katrina survivors  
by Sarah Ferguson  
September 13th, 2005 11:04 PM

After a week of wading through FEMA red tape, media activists finally fired up a low-power radio station to serve Hurricane Katrina evacuees still living in the Houston Astrodome and adjacent Reliant convention center. KAMP (Katrina Aftermath Media Project) 95.3 FM, Dome City Radio went live at noon today, broadcasting from a donated Airstream trailer in the Astrodome's parking lot.

The station had been stalled after local FEMA officials refused to allow access to the Astrodome, citing "security concerns." But on Monday, the FCC granted KAMP a new temporary license for a 6-watt transmitter located right outside the Dome.

"It made our job a lot more complicated because we had to figure out a way to get the signal through walls of concrete and steel without interfering with other radio stations in the area," says Renee Feltz, news director of KPFT, the local Pacifica station, which partnered with Houston Indymedia and the Prometheus Radio Project to put the station on air and distribute donated radios.

coordinator for the Hancock County EOC. He brought together the human resources to make the WQRZ-LP project happen. Gary Sessums is a broadcast engineer for TV station WTTA-TV (WB38) in Tampa, FL, an SBE member and amateur radio operator KC5QCN. Gary Minker is the president of Radio Works RF Consulting, an SBE member, and an amateur radio operator, KC4UDZ. Brice Phillips is a disabled amateur radio operator KB5MPW, SBE member, and broadcast engineer who foresaw disaster and started the Hancock County Amateur Radio Association, Inc. and WQRZ-LP to specifically provide Emergency Alert Services to the people of Hancock County, Mississippi. Brice is assisted by Christine Stach, who is also disabled. Christine is the WQRZ-LP Program Director and also an amateur radio operator KC5RIC.

Thanks also to Mark Goins, Hal Kneller, John Pearce and all of the Harris Corp. crew who have assisted and continue to assist the WQRZ-LP operation.



Evacuation Radio Services broadcasted from the parking lot of the Astrodome in September 2005. Photo from [EvacuationRadioServices.org](http://EvacuationRadioServices.org) and [houston.indymedia.org](http://houston.indymedia.org)

Notwithstanding the objection of officials, the purpose of KAMP FM was to make life easier for local officials scrambling to coordinate relief efforts. In addition to broadcasting FEMA and Red Cross service announcements, KAMP is now airing information like contact numbers for employers seeking to get paychecks to displaced staffers and relaying offers for free meal and movie ticket from Texas companies anxious to help out.

KAMP producers are also doing interviews with people who've lost family members and networking the tapes with ones by independent media producers in other cities, in hopes of reuniting far-flung people. "These are things that regular radio stations can only air sporadically, if at all," notes Feltz.

But with the population at the Astrodome complex now down to 3,760 people, from about 25,000 last week, and Houston's mayor looking to clear the shelters by September 18, Feltz concedes the station could have done a lot more if it had been allowed to open sooner.

She points to the chaos last Thursday, when Hurricane survivors scuffled with police and the National Guard was sent in to close off the

Astrodome complex after more than 4,000 people showed up to get \$2,000 FEMA debit cards, which it turns out, were intended only for evacuees staying in the Astrodome complex.

"We could have told people to not bother standing in line in the hot sun for hours and hours. There were a lot of rumors about a riot inside the Astrodome and information about eligibility requirements that could have been communicated in real time," Feltz says.

Yet activists say the need is still there. "When I was there handing out radios, every person I walked up to said I need info about how to get an ID card, how to apply for benefits or a FEMA debit card," says Indymedia organizer Tish Stringer. "There's definitely still a real sense of desperation about the lack of information—and they're angry about it."

### **Radio HOPE 107.9 FM Gretna, LA and Radio Mercy 107.9 FM Lake Charles, LA**

#### **Testimony from Kelly Coleman <kelcol1@cox.net>**

Blessings For Obedience ministry, based in Midland, Texas, has been involved in disaster relief efforts since our inception 20 years ago. We had prayed for a way that we could respond effectively to the worst natural disaster in U. S. history after Hurricane Katrina hit Mississippi and Louisiana with a devastating blow.

We guessed that it would involve some sort of communications assistance as this has been our main thrust in such disasters. On September 2, our friend and radio engineer Tom Kerber, called me from Canada to let me know that he had also been praying for a way to help and decided that it might be beneficial to set up a low-power FM station in one of the affected areas to help with relief and recovery coordination efforts. He told me that he had phoned our good friends at Galcom, Int'l. and asked for their help. Galcom manufactures little single-frequency (fixed-tuned) solar-powered radios that they have distributed throughout the world to missionary groups. Tom had asked them if they might be able to donate 1,000 of their little radios to distribute to the victims if we were able to get a station on the air in the affected area. Galcom initially agreed to this request but later found out that for political reasons that the radios they had in mind would not be ready in time.

As it turned out, our ministry 'just happened' to have 1,000 radios pre-tuned to 107.9 MHz. These were originally intended to go to Sudan, but political upheaval there prevented us from sending them. So,

now we had 1,000 radios ready to go. Crown Broadcasting of Elkhart, IN had also agreed to loan us one of their tremendous 250-watt FM transmitters. We already had the cable and basic studio equipment and vertical antenna, so we now had all we needed to build the station. It began clear that New Orleans would be the best place to set up an emergency FM station since the city was hit so hard and all of the FM radio stations were



*National Guardsman holding a Galcom radio at the Friendships warehouse in Gretna, LA, photo courtesy of Kelly Coleman*

temporarily down and were now using borrowed facilities in Baton Rouge.

I (Kelly Coleman) got on the phone and began to process of finding the right channel at the FCC to grant a request for an STA (Special Temporary Authority) permit for 107.9.

In the meantime, we had gathered a team of five

who had volunteered to take relief supplies to Mississippi (where one of our radio engineers lives in a trailer, 20 miles from Gulfport). We left Midland, TX with our convoy, and by the time we reached Clinton, MS, we had received a call from Norm Miller with the FCC that our permit had been granted! He faxed the license to our motel and we were on our way to New Orleans.

We faced another hurdle. After becoming registered with the Dept. of Homeland Security and FEMA we were hoping that FEMA would help us find a location for the station. When cell towers were working I would place calls to FEMA's director on the ground in New Orleans. He had told us that a building had been found in a downtown location and that a National Guard blackhawk helicopter would carry our equipment up to the top of the building. We would run the station with a generator. This sounded ideal. But, he called us back later to tell us that our priority was low, and they needed the blackhawks for other duties.

Well, as it turned out, our dear partners at Friendships Ministry had dispatched one of their relief vessels, the 'Hope', to Gretna, LA, which is directly across the Mississippi river from New Orleans. They had brought in a lot of relief supplies and volunteers and were given the use of a warehouse by the mayor of Gretna. Director Don Tipton and relief director David Condren, gave us permission to use the 'Hope' to house our FM station!

Miraculously, we were able to bring our convoy directly through downtown New Orleans and crossed the main bridge into Gretna. The station was on the air within 24 hours and reached out about 15 miles in each direction. We broadcast information on where victims could pick up food and supplies, and connected them with missing family members. We also played Christian music and messages from local pastors. During the day a team of search and rescue volunteers with ALERT, out of Texas, distributed the Galcom radios to people in Gretna and New Orleans, where they went to repair roofs and help survivors. The FCC renewed the license of our station, KS5XAE, for another month, since it had been so successful in its efforts the first month of operation. 'Radio Hope' as it was dubbed, was a team effort and did indeed offer hope to the victims of Katrina.

A few weeks later, another devastating hurricane directly hit the city of Lake Charles, LA, the homebase of Friendships. Once again, the FCC granted us an STA LPFM license (KSXAF) Crown gave us another transmitter to use for the second station, which operated from the mercy ship, 'Spirit'. Once more we were able to broadcast relief information and Christian messages to the citizens of Lake Charles, for one month until our STA license expired. We received a number of encouraging letters from listeners in the Lake Charles area.

### *Correspondence from Blessings for Obedience*

Blessings For Obedience Operates Emergency Katrina / Rita LPFM  
<http://www.ccbroadcasters.com/hurricanesuccess.htm>

9/14 Friend Ships would like to thank Crown Broadcast, Kerber Applied Research, and Blessings for Obedience for the incredible blessing of an FM Radio broadcast station operating fully licensed by the FCC from our ship HOPE. Radio HOPE is transmitting on 107.9 FM important emergency information, news, messages from public officials, encouraging music, interviews with volunteers from all over the country, and messages of hope. From our position in Gretna, we are able to reach most of the greater New Orleans area by radio. We received calls from the public and were able to interview some people and we prayed for each person who called. This is the first time in the history of the FCC that a private organization has received an emergency license for a FM radio signal.

BFO and KACD-LP, Midland, TX, is sending a motor home to New Orleans and/or Gulfport, staffed by volunteer broadcast engineers and equipped with a 250-watt LPFM transmitter, 1,500 Galcom solar-radios pre-tuned to 88.8 (originally built for use in Kenya), satellite phones and several ham radios. BFO is a member of SATERN, the Salvation Army's Team Emergency Radio network.

BFO is also sending a state-of-the art water purification system via FriendShips United Ministry in Lake Charles, LA (on one of their mercy ships) to provide clean drinking water to the residents of Waveland and Gulfport, MS. The team is also taking bottled water, fuel, T-shirts and other clothing, 'Heater Meals' (self-heating packaged dinners), and blankets.

Letters from Radio Mercy Listeners

From: "Janelle Howard"  
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2005 3:27 PM  
Subject: 107.9 Radio

To Whom it May Concern:

It has been my delight to listen to Radio Mercy and I would love to know this helpful tool can be used in the next disaster area Friend Ships responds to.

The public announcements conveyed to the Lake Charles Community have been so helpful, and I have been able to help others with that information. What a joy to hear the professional sounding DJ's, their words of hope and Biblical truth through Bible studies and edifying scriptures. Also, the music has been varied with appeal to many different people.

It is a joy to know of the encouragement this station has brought to so many at a time of need. Thank you to everyone involved and may God bless you.

Sincerely,  
Janelle Howard  
Lake Charles

From: "Kristin Boettcher"  
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2005 12:31 PM  
Subject: Radio Station

Hi,

I really have enjoyed and appreciated this incredible radio station for the past several weeks. I will miss it once you go off the air this weekend. Thank you for keeping us informed of services in this community and national ones through FEMA, Red Cross, etc.

The music has been a great blessing also.

Thank you for your hard work to help out the Lake Charles community.

Blessings,  
Kristin Boettcher

From: Leah Hathaway  
To:  
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2005 1:42 PM  
Subject: thank you

Dear Radio Mercy,

Thank you so much for the radio station. It was the only way I knew what was going on in Lake Charles. Thank you for giving us the info that we needed for

things like fema and red cross. The music was awesome. Yall play good music. It was very lifting. I wish yall didnt have to go off air!! I'm really gonna miss this station.

Thanks so much. Leah

From: "Brenda Durden"  
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2005 3:12 PM  
Subject: radio station

November 2, 2005

I just wanted to tell you what a blessing your station has been to me & the residents of Lake Charles. I was blessed to not have any damage from the hurricane but thru the info. provided at your station, I could tell many people where they could obtain much needed assistance. I would have not known where help was available if not for you. I really like the music & comforting, encouraging words of the announcers, pastors etc too.

I pray that every area affected by disaster will get to have a station like this!

Sincerely appreciative,  
Brenda Durden  
Lake Charles, LA



## SECTION V: Coverage, Fundraising, and PSA support offered by community radio stations nationwide

### KDRT-LP 101.5 FM Davis, CA

KDRT-LP in Davis, CA produced announcements, both prerecorded and PSA's to read live, that we required all Deejays to read during their airshift. The announcements listed groups to donate to, and how to donate, some creative like donating airline miles. These announcements were also repeated during our hours of automation.

We also had shows talking about the subject of the Hurricane and communities in recovery. We hosted some UC Davis experts on disasters, and some shows talked about the racist aspects of the response.

One show, TeenTalk was able to organize a fundraiser, just for their show, that raised 500 dollars for the Red Cross.

Here's a sampling of some local programs covering the issue.

1. Host: Desmond Jolly  
Guest: Carl Jorgensen, UCD Professor,  
<http://sociology.ucdavis.edu/ccjorgensen/>  
Topic: The Political, Social and Economic Consequences of Hurricane Katrina
2. Host: Clay Brandau, Hydrologist, Calif. Dept. of Forestry.  
Guest: Professor Ari Kelman, UCD History Dept.  
[http://www.news.ucdavis.edu/special\\_reports/hurricane/kelman.lasso](http://www.news.ucdavis.edu/special_reports/hurricane/kelman.lasso)  
Topic: The social, economic, political and environmental consequences of Hurricane Katrina.
3. Host: Desmond Jolly  
Guest: Mark Dupree, concerned citizen and Chair, City of Davis Planning Commission  
Topic: Political and Economic Consequences of Hurricane Katrina, Part 3.

From: Jeff Shaw <jrshaw@dcn.davis.ca.us>

### KREV-LP 104.7 FM Estes Park, CO

KREV-LP 104.7 FM in Estes Park, Colorado applied and almost overnight received permission from the FCC to broadcast on a repeat basis, a fund raising announcement for Katrina Relief. This effort raised over \$5000 plus many health kits. One boy from middle school and a member of our church organized a school wide effort in building health kits. With our broadcast announcement we have no idea how many others in the community contributed to the relief through their charities. Press release follows.



Photo from KDRT.org

From: Paul Saunders <saunders@lpbroadband.net>

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Radio Press Release 1/05/05

"Estes Park United Methodist Church and Key Bank Invites Community to Join Them in Tsunami Relief Effort"  
Contact Rev. Deb Olenyik at 970-586-4153 or Kristen Barker, Manager, Key Bank at 970-586-2364

The Estes Park United Methodist Church and Key Bank have joined together as local agents of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to receive donations for tsunami relief. UMCOR has the reputation among the international disaster response communities as being "the first to arrive and the last to leave" in times of disaster response. Unlike many charities, 100% of all donations to UMCOR go directly to service work on the ground. UMCOR agrees with other agencies that cash donations are the best way to show compassion in the wake of this international tragedy. Both Key Bank and the United Methodist Church are receiving donations. In addition, individuals can put together health kits in gallon ziplock bags consisting of a washcloth, hand towel, soap, comb and a few other specified items. The specifics of what should go in these kits are available at Key Bank or by calling the United Methodist Church, which are also the drop-off points for these kits. More information on the work UMCOR is doing in response to the tragedy can be obtained through the Estes Park United Methodist Church or online at [umcor.org](http://umcor.org).



Photo from [estesparkumc.org](http://estesparkumc.org)

KWMD 90.7 FM Kasilof & 104.5 FM Anchorage, AL

KWMD 90.7 FM Kasilof and 104.5 FM Anchorage ran WWOZ in Exile for hundreds of hours after the flood put WWOZ off the air. See web archive at <http://www.anchoragepress.com/archives-2005/flashlightvol14ed43.html>

Jeremy Lansman <jeremyl@kyes.com>

KYRS-LP 95.3 FM Spokane, WA

KYRS-LP in Spokane, WA: Our locally produced programs "On the Clock" and "Take the Power Back" aired interviews regarding Katrina including Tricia Rose on race and class in the aftermath, Rosa Clemente, the cofounder of the National Hip Hop Coalition, and journalist Dahr Jamail, an independent journalist with Inter Press Service, Islam Online, and is a special correspondent for Flashpoint's Pacifica Radio.

Lupito Flores <lupito@kyrs.org>

WMNF 88.5 FM Tampa, FL

WMNF-FM Community Radio in Tampa, FL

Just a short note to let you know how this community radio station located on the eastern Gulf of Mexico responded to Hurricane Katrina.

Two days after the Hurricane we talked live (on the air) with people trapped in Charity Hospital. They described the horrible situation: dying patients, lack of food, no electricity, and the need for government to send rescuers to evacuate patients. The nurse and doctor we spoke with said they wanted to get word to the outside world, in the



hope that someone at the federal level would respond.

In the ensuing days we carried interviews with many private individuals from the Tampa Bay area, seeing the lack of response by the federal government, who were gathering water, food, ice, clothing, shovels, sleeping bags, beds and other items to deliver directly to the people of southern Louisiana and Mississippi. WMNF gave out phone numbers for these private rescue efforts and the organizers of those efforts later commended WMNF listeners for coming through in a big way. At least four truck and busloads of material were gathered in the Tampa Bay area as a result of WMNF's efforts.

During the two weeks after the hurricane WMNF carried interviews with eyewitnesses to the destruction and the failed government response. Those interviews were with residents of Louisiana and volunteer relief workers who described the situation in vivid detail to our 100,000+ listeners.



*a photo from WMNF's annual tropical heatwave festival. From WMNF.org.*

Later, WMNF conducted an on-air fundraiser for non-profits who were providing direct aid for hurricane victims. The 17-hour drive took place on September 17, 2005. Over 1200 of our listeners contributed a generous, record-setting \$132,000, of which more than 95% was collected. WMNF-FM absorbed all the costs of the fundraising and collections and selected the following four organizations to each receive 25% of the funds collected:

- Habitat for Humanity's Operation Home Delivery
- ACORN Foundation, [Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now]
- Musicares (direct aid to musicians),
- the Foundation for Recovery (formed by the Baton Rouge Area foundation and the New Orleans Area Foundation to fund direct disaster relief to individuals)

Over and over, listeners thanked the station for doing the necessary research to ensure that "my dollars go directly to help the people who need it most."

Vicki Santa, Manager (on medical leave)  
Rob Lorei, News Director  
WMNF-FM, Tampa, FL  
www.wmnf.org

### WMUC 99.1 FM College Park, MD

Greeting from College Park,

In January, friends and I traveled with a student group from the University of Maryland to Ocean Spring, MS. The experience was rare and rewarding. Upon return, a few of us decided to keep the activism going and applied for a slot at our local campus radio station, WMUC FM College Park 88.1. Sure enough, we got the slot. Now every Sunday from 6-8am, my buddies, James Briscoe and Diego Iniguez-Lopez, and I, Christian Melendez, encourage awareness and activism among the student, as well as general, populace through our show, That Fresh Radio Piece.

Now that we have 2 shows under our belt, we are working to devote one show to the impact of Hurricane Katrina. We'll have opportunities for aid during our Charity Plugs segment, some pertinent news during our Headlines segment, some numbers for our Statistics segment, and finally interviews from fellow group members from the relief trip to Ocean Springs. All this and more makes up our plan for this Katrina Special we plan to have. We are proud to contribute to the efforts made by fellow community and low power FM stations.

From: Christian Melendez <rustycmm8622@hotmail.com>



## WORT 89.9 FM Madison, WI

WORT-FM in Madison, Wisconsin hosted a live benefit concert in conjunction with a local theater. WORT aired the program live from the theater on Monday, September 12, just a couple weeks after the hurricane.

The live, in-theater audience contributed several thousand dollars to relief efforts, and the emcee and bands frequently announced both the Red Cross phone number and the website NetworkForGood.org. Obviously, we don't have figures on how much money was raised from our listening audience, but the comments we received were extremely positive about the broadcast.

WORT also assisted in publicity for many other hurricane relief benefits around town, both as guests on our public affairs programs and within pre-recorded station announcements.

You can hear the entire audio at:

[http://lists.wort-fm.org/archive/nathan/OrpheumHurricaneBenefit\\_2005-09-12.mp3](http://lists.wort-fm.org/archive/nathan/OrpheumHurricaneBenefit_2005-09-12.mp3)

From about 30:00-39:00, there is a series of testimonials from folks who were evacuated to Madison, brought here by a local social worker who went down to New Orleans with a big ol' bus.

Following the initial flurry of news coverage and benefits for hurricane refugees, WORT has continued updating our listeners on the status of the Gulf Coast cleanup. We have aired:

- a 30-minute documentary on the People's Relief Caravan in Waveland, MS, produced by WORT reporter Juan Ruiz. This doc won a merit award from the WI Broadcasters Association.
- several Gulf Coast talk shows, mostly hosted by Esty Dinur on "A Public Affair." The most recent one was in early February.
- several news updates from the Gulf Coast. A former WORT news producer is volunteering in New Orleans right now, and other Madisonians who have traveled to help out come back and provide us with stories. We probably average about two hurricane aftermath features per month.
- several music features on various jazz programs, including several 3-hour jazz programs featuring the music of New Orleans. The most recent was yesterday, what with Mardi Gras and all.
- other music features in other genres, including rock by all New Orleans bands and hour-long specials of Cajun music on our folk shows.

From: Nathan Moore <[newsfac@wort-fm.org](mailto:newsfac@wort-fm.org)>

## WRYR 97.5 FM South Arundel, MD

WRYR 97.5 FM in South Arundel, MD aired several PSAs with information on help and assistance available, including immediate needs such as temporary shelter, food, etc, as well as messages about meetings and assistance in dealing with insurance and state/federal aid. These included FEMA messages, state messages, and local government messages. This information was also posted on our web-site. We also posted links for people to make donations.

I'm not sure if we broadcast anything prior to the storm, other than normal weather reports. Its hard to remember the 'before the storm'. Also, we were off the air for a short while during the storm and after due to power outages both at the studio and at the transmitter.

We also covered our community's Hurricane Katrina fundraising event by recording it doing interviews with our community people putting on the fundraiser and then broadcasting this material.

WRYR-LP ~ [www.wryr.org](http://www.wryr.org) ~ Citizens for Responsible Development (SACReD)



*Jeremy Lansman, volunteer engineer, installs the transmitter of WRYR-LP. Photo courtesy of [prometheusradio.org](http://prometheusradio.org).*

WSLR-LP 96.5 FM Sarasota, FL



*Sara Kell interviews a hard working WSLR volunteer.  
Photo courtesy of prometheusradio.org*

WSLR-LPFM held a benefit for the victims of Hurricane Katrina featuring New Orleans musician Kelly Love Jones. We raised about \$1200 which we sent to the Southern Development Foundation in Lafayette, LA to assist those in need.

We currently have a show that runs Sunday nights from 7–9pm called the “Louisiana Gumbo Show” which features only music from Louisiana. The hosts are in contact with a number of musicians in New Orleans and give updates on What is happening with the recovery efforts.

From: Arlene Sweeting <agsweeting@yahoo.com>

||