

FAQ REGARDING SDSU'S OFFER TO ESTABLISH A SHELTER AT PETERSON GYMNASIUM

Q: What is SDSU doing for the Hurricane Katrina evacuees?

A: San Diego State University has offered, in cooperation with the local chapter of the American Red Cross, to establish a shelter on the SDSU campus at Peterson Gym should the need arise to house evacuees from Hurricane Katrina. According to the American Red Cross the shelter at Peterson Gym could temporarily house as many as 600 people.

It is uncertain if or when our shelter might be needed. If it is needed for evacuees, the American Red Cross hopes to provide SDSU with 24 hours notice. While American Red Cross officials hope the shelter will be needed only for several weeks, SDSU has agreed to make the facility available for as long as 60 days.

In the event the shelter is needed, the safety of our campus and security of our students are our two highest priorities. Upon notice from the American Red Cross, Peterson Gym activities will be relocated to the Aztec Recreation Center. No classes or other scheduled activities will be cancelled.

Updated information is available online at: www.sdsu.edu/katrina or by calling: (619) 594-8204.

Q: Who would run the shelter?

A: The American Red Cross would operate the shelter and provide for all staffing and resources needed to help the evacuees.

Q: Would there be any cost to SDSU?

A: The American Red Cross would cover the direct costs of operating the shelter. Any costs SDSU incurs would be reimbursed by the Red Cross.

Q: What kinds of activities would be relocated to accommodate the shelter?

A: Peterson Gym holds classes for the Exercise and Nutritional Sciences Department, practices and games for some intercollegiate athletic teams (volleyball, basketball), and some recreational sports activities. These would be relocated to the Aztec Recreation Center or other facilities. No classes or other scheduled activities will be cancelled.

Q: How would the Red Cross and SDSU ensure the security of the campus and the evacuees?

A: Safety and security is the number one priority for SDSU and the American Red Cross. The American Red Cross provides its own safety and security personnel. They monitor activity at the shelter 24 hours a day. In addition, San Diego State's police department would arrange for additional security personnel for the site. SDSU's police department also has coordinated with the Red Cross on security plans and would be the first responder to the shelter area. For more information on SDSU's police department and public safety programs, visit <http://police.sdsu.edu/>.

Q: Is there a code of conduct for people using the shelter? Curfews? Prohibited items?

A: No weapons, drugs, alcohol, or animals would be permitted in the shelter. There would be a shelter manager on duty, along with Red Cross staff and security personnel, to ensure shelter rules are followed. For their own safety, children are not permitted to be unattended in the shelter. If needed, a child care area would be established to help with this. The shelter would be under curfew from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

It is also important to remember that the evacuees would not be in a locked down facility. They would be our guests and this is their temporary home. They would be free to come and go as they please outside of nighttime hours. All residents would be asked to sign in and sign out of the shelter so the Red Cross can help assure their safety. Please treat the evacuees with respect and understanding for the hardships they have endured.

Q: Would the shelter house sick or injured evacuees?

A: No. All incoming evacuees receive medical and mental health screenings. Any individual with a condition that needs medical or mental health treatment would be transported directly to a hospital or other appropriate medical care facility. They would not remain in the shelter.

Q: Would the shelter house evacuees with mental health problems?

A: No. All incoming evacuees receive medical and mental health screenings. Any individual with a condition that needs medical or mental health treatment would be transported directly to a hospital or other appropriate medical care facility. They would not remain in the shelter.

Q: Would the evacuees have access to other parts of the SDSU campus?

A: San Diego State is a public university, and the evacuees would have access to all parts of campus that are open to the general public. Access to SDSU residence halls are restricted to residents only and guests under their direct supervision. Access to classrooms is also restricted to enrolled students.

Q: Where is Peterson Gymnasium?

A: Peterson Gymnasium is on the west side of 55th Street, across the street from Cox Arena and the Aztec Recreation Center. To access a map of the campus, visit www.sdsu.edu. Please do not bring any donations to Peterson Gym.

Q: Why was the Peterson Gymnasium chosen as the shelter location?

A: Peterson Gym provided the best combination of meeting the Red Cross' needs for shelter, privacy and other considerations for while keeping disruptions to the campus to a minimum.

Q: How can I help the evacuees?

A: There are several ways to help:

- **SDSU faculty, staff and students** who wish to make special offers of assistance to the evacuees should contact Ron Oshima, SDSU liaison with the American Red Cross, at (619) 594-2449, roshima@mail.sdsu.edu.
- **The American Red Cross** is encouraging monetary contributions. Information on how to donate is available at the American Red Cross' San Diego chapter site at www.sdarc.org, the American Red Cross' national site at www.redcross.org, or over the phone at 1-800-HELP-NOW. No monetary or material donations will be accepted at the shelter.
- **Those wishing to volunteer** are encouraged to contact San Diego County's new services hotline by dialing (858) 300-1211. Those willing to give available housing should contact the American Red Cross at (619) 542-7400 and then press 6.
- **Those wishing to donate items** should contact Horizon Christian Fellowship. (HCF). HCF is accepting donations of food, toiletries, clothing and toys for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. HCF is located at 8888 Balboa Avenue San Diego, CA 92123, (858) 277-4991.

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