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## Illinois Wesleyan Plans Hurricane Katrina Relief Efforts

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Sophomore Kayla Kindred makes a contribution to Illinois Wesleyan's campus-wide Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund Drive.

Illinois Wesleyan Plans Hurricane Katrina Relief Efforts  
September 1, 2005

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Relief efforts for victims of Hurricane Katrina have begun on two fronts on Illinois Wesleyan's campus. The University announced today that it has a limited number of spaces to make available for qualified students who have been displaced from their undergraduate studies by Hurricane Katrina.

Acting Provost Roger Schnaitter said that the University will consider students who could begin attendance by next Tuesday. Classes at Illinois Wesleyan began this past Monday.

"We have a limited number of spaces available in certain courses and a limited number of beds in our residence halls," Schnaitter said. "If we can make the fit work between what we have to offer and displaced students, we certainly want to make it possible for them to attend."

Students who are interested in pursuing attendance should contact the Office of Admission at 309/556-3031.

Meantime, efforts began to raise funds to assist relief agencies to mobilize help to the U.S. Gulf Coast. Money collection sites have been set up in the Hansen Student Center with 100 percent of the funds going to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. With donations of empty jugs from local water bottling companies, additional collection sites will be set up around campus, said Assistant Dean of Students Kevin Clark.

"Our community has always been really good about coming together in times of need –internationally, nationally and locally," Clark said. "This is another one of those times when our community needs to come together. Talking to students today, there's a feeling of hopelessness, asking 'What can I do.' That's where we're able to help channel that, to help give to a greater cause."

Clark plans to meet with leaders of student organizations next week to ensure that additional campus relief efforts are a unified effort, driven by students.

Already under way before the hurricane, the campus chapter of the biology honor society Beta Beta Beta is working with the Red Cross to organize a blood drive on campus next week. The blood drive will be from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 9, and from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, at the Shirk Center. The Red Cross is experiencing increased need for blood because of the hurricane. No blood is being drawn in states devastated by Katrina, creating a greater demand from the national supply.

Money collection sites at Hansen Student Center are located at all registers and the information desk. Green IWU sports bottles also will be sold for a suggested \$5 donation, with proceeds to benefit the Red Cross.