

# March Newsletter

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## The Multiplier Effect – 3 Steps

by BJ Diamond

The GFSC vision of helping facilitators serve their communities has been clearly demonstrated by the results of the Phoenix and New Orleans DCI workshops. We ascribe to the "pay it forward" and "multiplier" effects. We share our techniques and methods with experienced facilitators and other professionals, who then share with more facilitators, who then share with first responders, community leaders, caregivers, the clergy and agencies whose responsibilities put them in direct contact with individuals, families and communities in need.

So, in three steps GFSC increases the number of trained professionals who can more effectively help their communities heal, grow, rebuild and sustain themselves. If twenty facilitators team up and co-facilitate 10 more workshops, we can

reach 200 additional professionals. If those 200 professionals, working in teams of 2, each conduct training for 20 community leaders, we will have reached 2,000 people. What a positive effect that will have on self-sustaining community development!

Some of the participants of the Phoenix workshops and subsequent workshops in New Orleans (NOLA) have already begun to demonstrate how this works:

**Erness Wright-Irvin, Carol Fleishmann, Hulen Brown and Jean Watts** conducted the first NOLANETWORK DCI workshop for 25 professionals. Two weeks later, **Michael Kane, Ted Quant and Julianna Padgett** (who attended the first workshop) have led a second workshop for facilitators, professionals and other community leaders.

**Maria Ort and Barbara Elizarry** are contacting agencies and organizations in Phoenix, getting the word out about the community benefits of "Facilitating Psycho-social Reconstruction" even before a major disaster strikes.

**Bob Glover and Linda Smith** are working on two initiatives:

#1 coordinating with VOAD / Red Cross in Hampton Roads, Virginia area to convene a group of Katrina survivors who are currently in our area to participate in a series of facilitated dialogues about "Where you at?" and "What's next?" then we plan to follow up with VOAD, Red Cross, United Way and Navy Commands to offer the facilitator training.

#2 The Navy's "Learning Strategies" Symposium is in Orlando 12-13, June. One of the topics is what type of learning or training has helped people work through very stressful situations. Bob has been asked to identify some panelists for this year's Symposium and hopes to identify some folks who are willing to share and talk about what training and learning helped them prepare or deal with Katrina or other specific tragedies.

**Kathy McGrane** has done some work with Dr. Osterholm, the MN epidemiologist and a member of the National Summit of Business Planning for Pandemic Influenza, addressing the need to have a plan in place to mitigate potential tragedy, learning from the lessons Katrina taught us. This is about preparing the work place and community to be ready in case a pandemic strikes. It appears that probability is growing exponentially. Kathy, **Cheryl Kartes** & the **Minnesota Facilitator Network** are continuing this conversation.

**Lynda Baker** (one of the creators of Red Beans & Rice, with Erness Wright-Irvin and Dionisio Salazar) has recently been appointed as a Board member of the Austin Area Inter-Religious Ministries. She is looking forward to a role as the liaison to the chaplains' network as well as creating a liaison with the chaplain for city of Austin. While still not scheduled, it is likely that there will be a DCI workshop there in the future.

**Sylvi MacKay** has contacted City Hall in Laguna Hills, CA and shared information with their disaster preparedness people about GFSC, our workshops and support materials.

#### **2006 GFSC Officers and Board**

Lenny Diamond, President

Tim Karpoff, Vice President

Secretary, Marieann Shovlin

Treasurer, BJ Diamond

Gil Brenson Lazan, Mentored Pathways Program Coordinator

Karen Brill, Member at Large

Parcia Sansary Gomez, Regional Coordinator for Latin America

#### **A Note from Lenny**

We are a growing, evolving organization and I appreciate receiving all your ideas and suggestions. Send me an email ([prez@globalfacilitators.org](mailto:prez@globalfacilitators.org)), or call me at (860-233-5456).

*GFSC is still looking for*

*Workshop Planning and Registrar*

- Share your interest and skills in logistics and project management, working with GFSC to arrange for workshops in your region

*A Database Manager*

- Our database of volunteers and Mentored Pathways participants is growing and we need someone to design a more efficient collection, storage, retrieval system, and a volunteer to maintain it

*Financial support:*

- Workshops cost money. We are trying to keep registration fees as low as possible so fees do not hinder attendance. Corporate sponsors, foundation, agency and other organizational support is needed. If you represent or have connections to a potential sponsor, please let us know. GFSC is a charitable 501(c)3 organization. Donations are tax-deductible in the USA.

Your donations to GFSC offset program costs and volunteers' expenses as well as the production and distribution of materials.

We appreciate all contributions. You can safely donate online at:

<http://globalfacilitators.org/donation.html>

Or you can mail a check to GFSC, c/o Treasurer, 11 Sequin Road, West Hartford, CT 06117 USA.

## **Six Months After Katrina: Who Was Left Behind - Then and Now...**

**by Bill Quigley**

*Bill is a civil and human rights lawyer and Professor of Law at Loyola University New Orleans School of Law. Reprinted with permission, this article originally appeared at [http:// CommonDreams.org](http://CommonDreams.org) on Tuesday, February 21, 2006.*

There is not a sign outside of New Orleans saying "If you are poor, sick, elderly, disabled, children or African-American, you cannot return."

But there might as well be.

The people left behind in the evacuation of New Orleans after Katrina are the same people left behind in rebuilding of New Orleans - the poor, the sick, the elderly, the disabled, and children, mostly African-American. ...

We are back. But where are our neighbors, the people we rode out of the city with? Where are the hundreds of thousands of our neighbors and will they ever be allowed to return?

Where is New Orleans now, and more important, where is it going to be?

Finally, if all levels of government and corporate power allow this to happen in New Orleans, do you think it will be any different in your city? "

This is an excerpt. Click on the link below for the complete article.

<http://www.commondreams.org/views06/0221-36.htm>

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## **"Facilitation Wisdom" from the Internet**

Attributed to Maya Angelou

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

## **Voices of our Volunteers**

GFSC volunteers and former Board members, **Bego** and **Larry Meeker** have been very active working with Christian faith-based organizations in Texas. They have a wealth of facilitation experience in North America, Latin America, Asia and Europe.

In the last 6 months, Bego and Larry have adapted GFSC materials (with permission) respecting and combining the principles of GFSC with the principles of the communities they serve to better meet their needs. GRACE and its affiliate churches are instrumental in helping people with the "survival needs" of housing, food, clothing, medical care, etc. GRACE recognized that the families they serve also needed continuing psycho-social and spiritual intervention. So they sponsored the creation of *Reaching Higher Ground*. This program, created by Bego and Larry and adapted from GFSC DCI materials, includes recovery guides for adults and children with a recovery guide for teens under development.

The first group of trainers has been prepared to deploy this program. Next steps include the formation of local support groups of hurricane evacuees who reside in north Texas communities.

Many evacuee families feel like they are in a downward spiral. Some have expressed that they just "can't catch a break." These tools and processes can help lift people and families out of that spiral. The Meeker's materials can be found in the GFSC Virtual Library, <http://globalfacilitators.org/VirtLib>.

To read more about Bego and Larry's work, click [http://www.dallasnews.com/s/dws/news/city/northeastarrant/stories/DN-therapist\\_01wes.ART.West.Edition2.3ef225c.html](http://www.dallasnews.com/s/dws/news/city/northeastarrant/stories/DN-therapist_01wes.ART.West.Edition2.3ef225c.html)

## **Making GFSC History in New Orleans – Latest New Orleans DCI Workshop**

Mike Kane, Julianna Padgett and Ted Quant, assisted by Hulen Brown and Corliss Baptiste-Simpson, and mentored by Carol Fleischman and Gil Brenson-Lazan, led another DCI workshop, March 2-3. Summary notes and impressions:

*"Things that stand out: one participant wanting to repeat this process within two weeks at the most socially active RC church in town; the campus minister at Loyola wanting to repeat as soon as possible with her team and faculty; the folks from Common Ground outlining their progress and next steps in an Adopt-A-Family program, based on the model; the trainer from Cox cable taking the information back to his management. One body at a time.*

*As a team: peace, fun, and meaning; creativity, joy, and knowing that we created safety and meaning... Making budget... Our tweaks of the model to make it work for our participants...Hard work.*

*Gil and Carol, thanks again so much for your mentoring. What a great post-session debrief."*

**Mike Kane, Ed.D.**

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## **Plans for more workshops**

We are planning 2 more North American workshops, one in or near Baltimore, MD after the IAF conference, June 15-17 (tentative workshop dates, June 19-20) and one in San Francisco, CA in August after the NCDD conference, August 3-6 (tentative workshop dates, August 7-8). As soon as dates and locations are finalized, we will let you know. We continue to look for opportunities to conduct workshops in Asia and Europe. If you or your agency or organization would like to sponsor, organize or participate in a GFSC DCI workshop, please contact Marieann Shovlin, [sec@globalfacilitators.org](mailto:sec@globalfacilitators.org).

## **News from GFSC in Latin America:**

### **La Red Global de Facilitadores Voluntarios**

Parcia Sansary Gomez, Francisco Fernandez (founding GFSC member and former GFSC Board member) and Ximena Combariza (one of the GFSC Network Coordinators in Colombia) are co-facilitating a GFSC Disaster & Crisis Intervention: Facilitating Psycho-social Reconstruction workshop in Pereira, Colombia, co-sponsored by the University of Pereira and GFSC. 30 facilitators and other professionals are planning to attend. The facilitation techniques of this GFSC workshop give local professionals the tools to help their communities address the economic, political and social challenges they face.

We hope to report on the outcomes of this workshop in the next issue of the GFSC newsletter.

**Parcia Sansary Gomez,  
Regional Coordinator  
for Latin America**

*"We often spend our time hoping and wishing instead of asking and doing."*

**Tim Karpoff,  
Vice President, GFSC**

## **GFSC Newsletter Staff**

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