



For immediate Release:  
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### **TOYS FOR KATRINA CHILDREN 08**

In September 2008 Hurricane's Gustav and Ike bombarded the coastal areas of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama; areas that were already devastated from Hurricane Katrina. Losses will amount in billions of dollars and the need for assistance cannot be overlooked. Parents and families who can barely afford necessities cannot possibly provide holiday presents for their children. A group of retired and active members of the FDNY working with The Books for Kids Foundation and The Steven Siller Foundation wish to ensure that these children, who have lost so much, are not forgotten.

This is our 3rd year and our biggest challenge. Each year the number grows. Last year we provided gifts for almost 4,000 children; this year we are expecting over 12,000. We need to fill eight trucks with new unwrapped toys, new books, and additional supplies for these children. Distributions will take place in Jackson, Harrison, & Hancock Counties in Mississippi, as well as Bayou Labatre, Alabama from Tuesday, December 9 through Sunday, December 14, 2008. Every toy and book will be personally distributed to the children. We have twenty-six members taking part in our effort as well as a team of other dedicated volunteers.

We are hopeful that we can meet or exceed our goals again this December just as we have for the past four holiday seasons. All funds collected will be used only for the Kids for Katrina Toy & Book Drive. Please make a difference by making a donation of a check, an unwrapped toy or a brand new book!

2008 sponsors/donors include:

**Penske, Liberty Mutual, the New York Red Bulls, Cheerios Books**

Checks should be sent to our office in New York City. Toys and Books may be sent directly to our warehouse in New Jersey by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

The Books for Kids Foundation  
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