



SEPTEMBER 2, 2005

HEALTH ALERT NETWORK
HEALTH ALERT

**Louisiana EMAC (Emergency Management Assistance Compact)
request for Body Bags**

As a result of the devastation that has occurred in the Gulf States due to Hurricane Katrina, the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals has made an EMAC urgent supply request for body bags. All states that are able to provide assistance are encouraged to respond. They are attempting to obtain a cache of adult body bags (6000) and pediatric body bags (6000) for a total of 12000 all together.

The North Dakota Department of Health's Emergency Preparedness and Response Section will be coordinating this effort on behalf of the Public Health and Medical facilities contacted in North Dakota.

If your facility is able to donate either adult or pediatric body bags to the recovery effort in Louisiana, please send an e-mail to twiedric@state.nd.us and identify the size (adult, child, infant) and the quantity of body bags your facility is willing to donate, the approximate cost, your facility name/location, and the contact person (along with alternate contact information) by 11:00 AM Central Saturday, September 3, 2005. We can not assure that you will be reimbursed.

All recipients of this Health Alert are asked to respond. If you are unable to respond by the deadline listed above, please respond as soon as you are able. A valid response may also be 0 (zero) body bags at this time. We will contact you with further instructions if body bags from North Dakota will be collected and shipped.

Please contact Tim Wiedrich, Section Chief, Emergency Preparedness and Response, North Dakota Department of Health at (701) 220-3945 if you have any questions.

Categories of Health Alert messages:

- *Health Alert conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.*
- *Health Advisory provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.*
- *Health Update provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary.*
- *Health Information provides general information that is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.*

This message is being sent to local public health units, clinics, hospitals, physicians, tribal health, North Dakota Nurses Association, North Dakota Long Term Care Association, North Dakota Healthcare Association, North Dakota Medical Association, and hospital public information officers.