

501(c) 3 nonprofit organization

LRC Staff:

Bob Walcutt, Director
Dawn Davis, Senior Case Manager
Suzanne Slavin, Education Coordinator

LRC Board Members:

Bob Smither
Gay Smither
David Dannemiller

The SPOTLIGHT

Case Update



Missing
Lindsey Baum
Age 11
McCleary, WA

Missing:

- Rico Jimenez Sumral
Age 16, Coldspring, TX
- Stephanie Morales
Age 15, Houston, TX
- Monica Ann Vasquez
Age 17, Alvin, TX

Recovered Alive:

Sandeep Pininti
Laneisha Smith
Steven Hairston

August Activities

- 11 Presentation to employees of Halliburton Company, Houston, TX
- 26 Law Enforcement program, Houston Police Academy, Houston, TX

Contributor Recognition

- Galveston County juror donations
 - Fort Stockton High School, Fort Stockton, TX
 - Beehive Parent Child Center, Inc., Houston, TX
 - Trey A., BP Fabric of America Fund
 - Fred F., Sugarland, TX
 - Lorna Z., Friendswood, TX
 - Miss DESIGNality, owner Keri Aschoff, Katy, TX
 - Space City POD, Houston, TX
 - Order of the Eastern Star, Alvin, TX
 - Contributors to Firstgiving
- In Memory of James Brizendine and Sue Scott**
- Constance B., Friendswood, TX,

AFTER HURRICANE IKE, DID YOU KNOW THAT THE LRC...

- set up a hotline for Ike related missing persons within 2 hours of a request from the Galveston County Office of Emergency Management (GCOEM);
- answered over 1000 incoming calls at the local, state, national, and international levels related to Ike; taking in reports on 742 missing persons;
- logged in excess of 2000 volunteer hours working on these cases;
- provided secure access to our Ike related case records to the appropriate law enforcement agencies and the Red Cross;
- followed up on all 742 cases, making and answering thousands of calls in an effort to locate each missing person;
- worked with the Red Cross, shelters, hospitals, and others to coordinate our missing person list with evacuees;
- helped families get in touch with missing loved ones;
- worked with the Medical Examiner's office to help identify the deceased;
- and continues to work on 10 unresolved cases that are Ike related.

The LRC has developed an ongoing, cooperative relationship with the GCOEM, the Galveston County Sheriff's Office, and the Galveston Police Department to provide an area wide missing person hotline in the event of another disaster that displaces large numbers of persons.

Gala Committee Members Needed

The Gala is approaching fast, and we need volunteers to join our Gala committee to spread the workload for our wonderful fundraiser and to help procure auction items. The next committee meeting will be at the center at 7 pm on Tuesday, August 4th. Please attend if you can. If you cannot attend but would like to help, please call Lori Allen at 281-433-6563. All donations to our auction will be gratefully accepted.

Our Gala fundraiser will be held at Space Center Houston on Friday, October 2nd. We hope that you will purchase tickets and tables through our website www.LRCF.org/gala. See you there!

Don't Scare - Prepare!

We all know children can be abducted, but let's not lose sight of reality. Too many parents are paranoid out of fear that something bad will happen to their children. We don't need to live in a bubble protected from the world.

Kids can be taught how to better protect themselves, but as parents, we can't leave it all up to them. We have to be vigilant and teach them about safety. With proper guidance and training, they can become a lot safer.

Children who are aware of their surroundings and self-confident are less likely to become victims. There are many schools and training programs available that can help build self-confidence.

For over nine years, the Laura Recovery Center has been actively involved in teaching children about the lures a predator might use. Does it scare kids? No. It makes them aware of some of the dangers without scaring them, and it helps to empower them to run, yell, and tell. The Safe Kids Are Taught Early (SKATE) program has been presented to over 173,000 children in Houston and the surrounding area. It is a fast-paced program designed to help make kids aware of some of the lures used by predators and how to respond to attempted lures.

The more children are aware of potential dangers, the more likely they will recognize the threat and avoid it before it becomes a danger to them.

As parents, we must do our part. We don't scare, we prepare. Knowing what to look for and how to respond may give both parents and children a better well-balanced sense of security. For more information on child safety, contact the Laura Recovery Center.

Bob Walcutt
LRC Director

LRC is on Twitter!

Follow the Laura Recovery Center at <http://www.twitter.com/lrcf> for updates on the Center's activities or see our most recent Twitter updates at <http://www.lrcf.org/twitter>.

LRC Free Online Child ID:
www.mychildid.org

Thank you July office and phone volunteers!

Suzanne Slavin	Janice Liggett	Sandy Stafford
Bonnie Alcancia	Susan Jennings	Sandra Smith

Kimberly Stoeke
Lyndsey Newman