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# Delgado

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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**CITY PARK CAMPUS**

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March 31, 2006

To all of our "Benefactors",

The faculty and students of the Delgado Community college Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program would like to thank everyone that made donations to help our program recover from the effects of Hurricane Katrina. We were overwhelmed by the generosity we were shown. To date, we have been sent, 182 textbooks for our library, nine sets of ultrasound review cards, two audiotapes and six videos for classroom use and numerous journals and educational print material for use in the classroom. We also received a generous monetary donation from the ARDMS. These materials will enable the faculty to continue their mission of educating sonographers for the workforce. We cannot express our gratitude enough.

We would also like to thank those societies we contacted for "spreading" the word about our plight. Through the SRU, Society of Radiologists in Ultrasound, and the SMFM, Society of Maternal Fetal Medicine, we received many of our donations from individual physicians throughout the country.

Life in New Orleans is slowly returning, but not to a "normal". There are still areas that are uninhabitable and ones that are lacking power and water resources. Many residents are still displaced throughout the country. Numerous FEMA provided trailers can be found throughout the city and suburbs. Only three of the cities eight medical facilities are open. The city has gone from approximately 2200 beds to about 425. This has put a strain on the six hospitals in the surrounding suburbs. Our public medical facility is to be torn down due to damage and our VA hospital will be closed for approximately three years. In all, the city lost 28 sonographers, approximately 30% of the total working in our affiliates, due to the storm. Our city is littered with storm debris and the levees still need to be repaired. A new hurricane season is only two months away. We will eventually recover, but it will take many years.

Please keep all those living on the Gulf Coast in your prayers. We will never forget the kindness we received from all of you and your organizations. Hopefully one day we will meet so that we can thank you in person. We will always hold a special place in our hearts for all of you.

Sincerely,

Michael Toups, BS, RDMS

Lisa Schuler, BS, RDMS, RVT

*A Comprehensive Community College*