

“Mercy Chefs working with Feed the Children in New Orleans”

In January Mercy Chefs received official notification that we had successfully met the requirements to receive full partner agency status with Feed the Children. We are excited to stand together in our efforts to bring help to families in need. This gives us the ability to draw food commodities from any of FTC’s five corporate warehouses. In 2005 FTC distributed 183 million pounds of food and other essentials across the country and around the world.

Last fall, Mercy Chefs participated a food distribution with Feed the Children and NBA players Alonzo Morning and Chris Paul to name a few. Nearly 800 needy families in Chalmette, LA received a 25# box of food and assorted personal care and cleaning supplies.



Chef Gary LeBlanc with Feed the Children Founder Larry Jones after the NBA Players Association food distribution

Mercy Chefs acts as official presidential volunteer award organization



President George W. Bush issued a challenge to all Americans to make time to help their neighbors, communities, and Nation through service. In 2003, he created the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation to find ways to recognize the valuable contributions volunteers are making in our Nation. The President's Council on Service and Civic Participation created the President's Volunteer Service Award program as a way to thank and honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service. The President's Volunteer Service Award recognizes individuals, families, and groups that have achieved a certain standard – measured by the number of hours served over a 12-month period or cumulative over the course of a lifetime.

Gods Pit Crew St Paul Church of God rebuild a success

“We would like to convey how much we appreciate **Mercy Chefs** coming to New Orleans to cook for over 150 volunteers who participated in the St Paul’s Church and Cornerstone Church Parsonage rebuilds. Perhaps the greatest work done are things done behind the scenes. This was a huge task to feed and take care of this many volunteers. **Gary**, we truly admire the integrity and the way you represent yourself and **Mercy Chefs**. We are truly blessed to have someone who will work so hard to help others. A work that is unnoticed, but is critical.” Randy Johnson—Founder God’s Pit Crew

Mercy Chefs was certified in August 2006 by the IRS as a tax exempt public charity under section 501 (c) (3) of the federal tax code. We operate as a tax deductible non-profit, faith based, public charity committed to the primary purpose of serving high quality professionally prepared meals in disasters and national emergencies with the purpose of showing the love of Jesus Christ through Christian compassion and hospitality to victims, first responders and volunteers.

Disaster Immediate Response Team and Mercy Chefs Sponsors Regional Training Camps

For more than a year, DIRT and Mercy Chefs have been planning to host regional training camps. Each camp will focus on the basics of operating in a disaster zone. This training is for those serious about participating in disaster relief.

For more information or to register contact Charles Atkins @ 423-715-8079

www.operationcompassion.org

- Camp #1 Greenville, NC** March 24
- Camp #2 Tampa, FL** April 13-15,
- Camp #3 Charlotte, NC** April 20-21
- Camp #4 Bethalto, IL** May 4-5