



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: JULY 9, 2009**

**CONTACT: SENATOR GRAY EVANS**

**PHONE: (504) 568-2098**

**SENATOR GRAY EVANS URGES PUBLIC TO ATTEND HOUSING ASSISTANCE MEETING**

District 5 State Senator Gray Evans is encouraging families who are still in temporary disaster housing to attend the *Housing Outreach Fair on Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 12pm at the Lindy Boggs Conference Center at the University of New Orleans*. The meeting will focus on giving families in disaster housing an opportunity to find out about additional state and local programs to help with the transition to permanent housing. Attendees will have a chance to meet one-on-one with representatives from the Louisiana Recovery Authority, Office of Community Development, Department of Social Services, Department of Health and Hospitals, Louisiana Workforce Commission, Louisiana Housing Finance Authority as well as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Staff will be available to assist attendees with the application process for these programs.

"Although the general public is invited, I want to especially encourage those in temporary housing to take advantage of this opportunity," said Senator Gray Evans. "I want to applaud the state officials and departments who are conducting this important outreach effort. It's very distressing that four years after the hurricanes of 2005 we still have people living in temporary housing. We need to make every effort to make sure that all our citizens have housing in which to raise their families."

Senator Gray Evans says that the lack of affordable housing is one of the major problems affecting the recovery of the New Orleans area and as Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Local & Municipal Affairs, is charged with overseeing the Road Home Program and the disaster housing programs. To that end she authored Senate Bill 167, which allocates \$5 million in state funds to the Emergency Rental Assistance Program to help those in temporary housing. The bill received overwhelming approval from the legislature and is awaiting the signature of the governor.

**RECOVERY HOUSING OUTREACH FAIR**  
**9am to 12pm**  
**SATURDAY, JULY 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**LINDY BOGGS CONFERENCE CENTER**  
**UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY PARK**  
**2045 LAKESHORE DRIVE**  
**NEW ORLEANS, LA**

**For more information, citizens can call (225) 342-0951.**

**###**

