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When gays save the world



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Jeff Cotter, Rainbow World Fund

We're coming to the end of an extraordinary year for gay philanthropy. As I reflect back on the LGBT community's response

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to the terrible tragedies of the past 12 months -- the Asian tsunami, Hurricane Katrina, the Guatemalan mudslides, the Kashmir earthquake and so many others -- I am filled with pride and gratitude.

When the Asian tsunami struck last December, queers mobilized. LGBT people boarded planes for Asia to nurse the sick and injured, build homes for the survivors, deliver supplies and take care of children. At home we threw beer busts, art auctions, concerts and black-tie galas to raise relief funds.

In September, while America watched thousands of our fellow citizens suffer in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the LGBT community kicked into high gear. We took refugees into our homes. Metropolitan Community Churches transformed overnight into command centers delivering aid, offering counseling and coordinating help. In Overt, Miss., the lesbian-run Camp Sister Spirit, although severely damaged, served as a center of aid for the surrounding community.

Our efforts are demonstrating, in a very real, tangible way, that the LGBT community is committed to improving the lives of those less fortunate around the globe.

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nutsyb... (12/25/2005 11:39 AM PST)

It's nice to read something that re-enforces how good we are and the good we do, regardless of societies views on homosexuality. The world would be better if we remembered to help people and forget t...

JessPh... (12/25/2005 11:58 AM PST)

It is nice to read information like this. Whats really sad....so much energy put into arguing the other articles, and this one is slidding by without much notice. This is the kind of information tha...

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