

Issue: NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND

Message Points:

- Total grants given to American Legion family members in 2008 totaled just under \$265,870 as of late September 2008, with total donations exceeding \$275,000 - still processing claims for Hurricanes Gustav and Ike.
- Each and every dollar donated to the fund is used for the express purpose of rendering financial assistance to American Legion family members.
- The total amount of grant monies awarded since the NEF was reinstated in 1989 is more than \$6.9 million.
- We currently have more than \$2.1 million available in the fund.
- We continue to receive checks and electronic transfers on a daily basis from our Departments, Districts, Posts, and individuals.
- What makes the NEF program so unique is that our members know they can turn to The American Legion for immediate financial assistance without the red tape or repayment requirements normally associated with other federal and state agencies.
- Our true story of "Mutual Helpfulness" is at work in the time of need.