

## Delegation Announces \$429,000 in Aid for those in Delaware Caring for Katrina Evacuees -- March 29, 2006

Washington, D.C. -- The Delaware Congressional Delegation today announced that the State of Delaware will receive \$429,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to help with the medical costs for Hurricane Katrina evacuees. The majority of the funds will help to reimburse the state Medicaid program for medical aid that was provided to approximately 200 Katrina evacuees who came to the State of Delaware after losing their homes, jobs, and health insurance due to the storm damage.

"We are extremely happy to hear that the Delaware Medicaid Services will start to be reimbursed for the wonderful work that they did to help evacuees of Katrina-affected areas. We are proud to know that Delaware was one of 32 states to help assist in the relief efforts after Hurricane Katrina tore through the Gulf Coast last year. We know that we can always count on our constituents to be an open and willing haven for those in need," the delegation said.

After Hurricane Katrina, the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) granted special, emergency Medicaid eligibility to hurricane victims in 32 states. According to CMS, the special Katrina Medicaid waivers allowed states to immediately enroll qualifying evacuees into their own state Medicaid programs for five months of eligibility. Benefits were given to low-income children, parents, pregnant women, the elderly, individuals with disabilities and those in need of long-term care.