

## Rebuilding Lives Is Angel Flight's Agenda

Ever since Hurricanes Katrina and Rita decimated the Gulf states, Angel Flight pilots have plunged into the flood of urgent human needs.

Some 45 Mid-Atlantic pilots certified as first responders flew missions to take supplies and disaster relief workers to Baton Rouge, Texas, and other areas.



Pilot Hesper Hespe joins relief efforts Sept. 20.

Dorr'e, vice-president of the Mid-Atlantic region and a retired Marine Corps major, was chosen to

head up mission coordination on site. Hespe owns a Mooney M20J. The two men "camped" at the Louisiana Air FBO. A week later, Dorre was called to Dallas to coordinate a national response center.

Angel Flight pilots also flew top officials with the Salvation Army and Mennonite Disaster Relief into the stricken region.

They continue to fly missions relocating and reuniting family members separated during the evacuations. Steve Craven, of Leesburg, Va., flew a 15-year-old girl from Baton Rouge to Knoxville, Tenn., to join her family.

Ashleigh's home had flooded, leaving her trapped in an attic with her mother, grandmother and an aunt. The grandmother was ill and on a feeding tube while the aunt was recovering from a stroke.

The girl braved the contaminated floodwaters in New Orleans to get

help but ended up stranded in a Baton Rouge shelter. Ashleigh learned that Angel Flight was going to help, and she was taken to the airport.

Meanwhile, Steve had been given a list of names and Ashleigh's was on it.

He walked through the crowds of people at the airport calling out her name until the girl emerged, amazed that someone had come for her.

"You people are awesome, absolutely awesome," her family said to Craven when he arrived in Knoxville with Ashleigh.



Hespe and Dorr'e load plane

## Angel Flight Honored for Homeland Security Service

Angel Flight was honored for its homeland security program on Oct. 6 in Richmond, Va., by receiving the Governor's Community Service and Volunteerism award.

Attending the ceremony at the Library of Virginia were Richard Love, an Angel Flight pilot and board member, and Suzanne



Love and Clark accept Angel Flight award

Clark, director of public affairs.

The Homeland Security Emergency Air Transportation System (HSEATS) was created in 2002 through a federal grant provided by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

Pilots enrolled in HSEATS are certified to help in national emergencies like 9-11 and Hurricane Katrina.