

## After the Storms

The centers of Life Care and American Lifestyles in Florida -- battered by four hurricanes in August and September that roared through and around them -- are "all back in business and doing very nicely, with the exception of Punta Gorda." That's the report from Cathy Murray, chief operating officer, who has been in that state the past two weeks.

"In fact, the staffs are energized and charging ahead," she said. "The power problems are solved, the air conditioners are back on, and life is getting back to normal."

Repairs are under way at Life Care Center of Punta Gorda, the center punished most by Hurricane Charley, and it is expected to be early December before the relocated residents can return. Buildings in the West Palm Beach area received moderate damages, but those repairs are being addressed.

In the meantime, the courage and dedication of Life Care associates who stood between our residents and the storms have not gone unnoticed. "We are receiving several letters from families and community leaders complimenting our associates on the way they handled the situations," Murray said.

Meanwhile, the Punta Gorda relief fund continues to grow. Shortly after Hurricane Charley hit, Life Care associates across the country expressed a desire to help, and President Don Giardina announced that contributions would be received in honor of the associates at Punta Gorda, who would deliver the funds to the American Red Cross chapter to be used in that area.

To date, the contributions total \$6,364. Funds may still be donated, and checks should be made payable to The American Red Cross and sent to Terry Henry at Life Care Centers of America, P.O. Box 3480, Cleveland, Tennessee 37320-3480. We thank all those who have given, or will do so, to this cause.

--Beecher Hunter