

Statement on coordinated relief effort by the Archdiocese of San Antonio Department of Catholic Schools

The prayers and thoughts of the schools in the Archdiocese of San Antonio are with all the families who have been displaced by Hurricane Harvey. The Department of Catholic Schools is opening our arms, hearts and classrooms, warmly welcoming students who have evacuated or relocated to San Antonio from flood-ravaged areas.

Our schools are ready to accept students who wish to attend a Catholic school in the archdiocese without the burden of tuition for up to 90 instructional days. Schools and parishes in the archdiocese are reaching out to welcome these families, ensuring that students finding a new school home will have what they need.

In addition, school-based counselors are prepared to help these children and their families work through the stress and trauma of recent events, beginning with an initial assessment of needs and establishing resources for on-going support as needed.

Our local Catholic schools are eager to contribute to the rebuilding of storm-damaged school communities. The Department of Catholic Schools is coordinating with the Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops to establish a rotation of partnering with schools, so that schools needing long-term assistance will have consistent help available for the months to come.

We are committed to helping these children and their families regain a sense of safety and support.

The Catholic Schools Office is available to work with families to help them find the school most appropriate for their location and needs.

For more information, contact the archdiocesan Catholic Schools Office at (210) 734-1939, visit the website www.archsa.org/schools or e-mail harveyschools@archsa.org