“What was so hard in the beginning was this profound sense of loss and the fact that I could not prove I had been on this earth before that day.”

— Darlene Kattan
Former Executive Director, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana
"I feel like this city was like our child, our family, it was on its knees, barely breathing. How could you walk away and not stay to do your part, however small or large it might be?"

— Darlene Kattan

Former Executive Director, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana
THE THINGS WE PROVIDE IN THIS UNDERSERVED COMMUNITY JUST SEEMED LIKE NOBODY ELSE WAS GOING TO DO IT.

— DWAYNE BOUDREAU X
OWNER, CIRCLE FOOD STORE
“Sometimes you don’t know where the end is, you can’t see the light at the end of the tunnel but you know one thing, you can’t stop in the middle, you have to keep fighting.”

— Dwayne Boudreaux

Owner, Circle Food Store
THE MIRACLES ARE PEOPLE JUST WORKING CLOSELY TOGETHER.

— BILL STALLWORTH

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HOPE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
“We show up for each other, we listen to each other — we even disagree, but we listen — and we grow, and we change.”

— Collette Pichon Battle

Attorney and Executive Director, Gulf Coast Center for Law & Policy
“I take pride in where I am. And I’m not going to let anyone that just come there and just tear it up.”

— Emelda Paul

President, Lafitte Resident Council
I get emotional when we talk about New Orleans because I feel like before the storm we didn’t treasure what we had. We took advantage of it. We didn’t notice all of its fine points."

— Terri North
President and CEO, Providence Community Housing
"But you don’t have to do it forever. You just do it until you feel like you’ve done your job. And you’ll know when the time has come."

— Bethany Bultman

Director and President, New Orleans Musicians’ Clinic
"My hope is, that people will realize, ‘wow, this is really something precious.’"
“WE’VE BEEN TAKING CARE OF EACH OTHER FOR GENERATIONS.”

— BYRON ENCALADE

PRESIDENT, LOUISIANA OYSTERMEN ASSOCIATION
— BYRON ENCALADE
PRESIDENT, LOUISIANA OYSTERMEN ASSOCIATION

“BEING ON THE BAYOU IS PEACE OF MIND. MY BLOOD PRESSURE DROPS, SOON AS I GET ON MY BOAT, SO IT’S THAT TYPE OF LIFE.”
“BROADMOOR: BETTER THAN BEFORE.”

— LATOYA CANTRELL
MEMBER, NEW ORLEANS CITY COUNCIL
“I’ve never been alone in this, never. Never walked it alone and it’s because of the people of Broadmoor holding each other up, seeing each other through.”

— Latoya Cantrell
Member, New Orleans City Council
"There's a way we deal with grief here in New Orleans, which is we embrace life."
“I wanted to invest in a city that I felt had invested in me.”

— Timolyyn Sams Sumter

Executive Director, Neighborhoods Partnership Network
“I think what’s inspired me most is the people who came to help us, who gave up their jobs for a time, who left their families, who were willing to travel from all over the United States and beyond to come and stay in a tent.”
“I DON’T THINK ANY OTHER CITY HAS EVER HAD TO MAKE THE CASE THAT IT SHOULD EXIST OR SHOULD STILL BE THERE.”

— LYNN LONG
OWNER, L2 MEDIA & MARKETING
“THE ONE THING THE STORM GENERATED WAS A SENSE OF COMMUNITY, AND A SENSE OF INVOLVEMENT, AND A SENSE OF VOLUNTEERISM AND SERVICE – IF THAT’S A GOOD THING, WE CAN THANK KATRINA FOR THAT.”

— TOM LONG
OWNER, L2 MEDIA & MARKETING
"I think that kind of strength came in because I just felt we needed a voice."