

EMBASSY OF THE
STATE OF QATAR
Washington, DC



سفارة دولة قطر
وأشطن د.ج. سي.

Dr. Jennifer L. Howse
President
March of Dimes
1275 Mamaroneck Avenue
White Plains, NY 10605

Dear Dr. Howse:

I regret that I cannot join you in person on March 7 to celebrate the launch of the first of three new March of Dimes Mobile Medical Units to serve the Louisiana communities that were so badly damaged by Hurricane Katrina. The Qatar Katrina Fund is proud to support this important project, and I am grateful to the March of Dimes for bringing this and other innovative solutions to the recovery effort.

When the \$100 million Qatar Katrina Fund was pledged in September 2005 by HH Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Amir of the State of Qatar, I knew that we would need to work closely with strong and creative partners to assure that the funds were used effectively. We especially wanted to help in ways that produced a long-term impact in the communities that suffered so much.

We have now committed the full \$100 million to eighteen different projects that cover a wide range of needs, including college scholarships, the construction of new homes, reimbursement of medical care for the uninsured and free clinics in low-income neighborhoods. Our distinguished partners, like the March of Dimes, are working on the front lines to assure the success of these projects, and the Qatar Katrina Fund is privileged to participate.

By serving new mothers and their babies, these Mobile Medical Units represent exactly the kind of long-term impact that we hoped to achieve. You are contributing to the health of an entirely new generation of citizens who will rebuild the Gulf Coast.

On behalf of the People of Qatar, thank you for making this project a reality.

Sincerely,


Nasser Bin Hamad Al-Khalifa
Ambassador