Thursday, June 5, 2008

Today, I started on a new phase of the project. We received another list of churches from a colleague that contains a few more churches than our list. However, it is time to start cleaning up and verifying our list anyway. Our plan is to use phonebooks to check the addresses we retrieved from yelowpages.com. From the addresses I have looked up so far, the information in the phonebook appears to be more accurate than the information on the internet. This is shocking to us because the internet is ever changing and the phonebooks are over a year old. The spreadsheets that our colleague sent us are already split into the three counties we are working with. I am taking Hinds county, which has the most churches, for myself to verify addresses through the phonebook. I feel like this is an research project within itself! We have a task ahead of us, but we must get these surveys out as soon as possible.

Friday, June 6, 2008

Today, I continued to verify churches in the phone book. This process is very tedious! Maybe we will be able to help others locate churches in the area when we are through with this database. I'm sure there will be plenty of other projects that need information for faith based organizations.

Monday, June 9, 2008

Today, I helped get Tonya started on the address verification with the phonebook. We discussed the issues with finding the addresses on the internet as well. I continued to work on my spreadsheet.

Tuesday, June 10, 2008

Today I continued to work on the addresses. I also took a closer look at my survey and want to make some changes. I want to edit the first page to not be so jumbled up. The only way to do this is through HTML tags. Also, since Tonya completed her survey after I completed mine, we made changes to hers that I need to make on mine.

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Today we continued working on the addresses. We also wrote out what we wanted to map and find out from these surveys. This will help Dr. Fahmy when he instructs us on data analysis.

What do we want to know?
Evacuees Demographics
1. Race
   A. Were more evacuees black or white?
   B. Were more blacks given assistance?
   C. Was there a difference in the quality of assistance?

2. Gender
   A. Were more evacuees female or male?
   B. Were more female evacuees given assistance or more males?

3. Education Level

      A. By gender
      B. By zip code
      C. By race

4. Income Level
      A. We expect lower income evacuees were given more assistance
      B. We expect lower income evacuees to be Black
      C. We expect lower income evacuees to have low education levels

5. Age
      A. What were the percentages of evacuees by age?
      B. We expect a large percentage of evacuees to be children under age 12.

6. Children
      A. We expect a large percentage of children to be living in poverty.

Missississippi versus Louisiana
1. Questions 1-4, but by state
2. Question 5 - we expect Louisiana to have more elderly Black evacuees than Mississippi, and we expect Mississippi to have more elderly White evacuees than Louisiana.

Shelters
1. We expect more shelter to be inner-city.
2. We expect that the larger churches will have more shelters.
3. We expect that most churches did not receive government aid.
4. Compare the locations of churches that received funding.
5.

Note: For organizational survey, we can compare all data by counties.

Migration
1. Distance from original location up to now.
2. What percentage of evacuees moved back to original area/state?
3. By demographics – Did the elderly, low income, tend to remain in one location or move around?
4. Did more people from Louisiana stay in Mississippi?

FUTURE RESEARCH
1. Survey shelters in Louisiana.
2. Extend survey to include all areas in Mississippi and Louisiana.

LIMITATIONS
1. Time because it's almost three years after Hurricane Katrina.
2. We're only surveying the tri-county area in Jackson, Mississippi, so the results are limited.

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Today, we continued to look up the addresses in the phone book. I have come across some more addresses that were the same as the ones on yellopages.com, however, most of them are different. We have decided to go with the addresses in the phone book before. I think we are making a lot of progress.

Friday, June 13, 2008

Today, we continued to work on the addresses.

Monday, June 16, 2008

This week we want to:

- complete addresses
- export to database
- print labels
- do a cover letter for the survey
- test survey
- launch survey
- complete presentation
- meet with Dr. Fahmy to discuss statistical model

Today, I typed questions that we want to answer for the organizational survey. Next, I continued to look up addresses.

Tuesday, June 17, 2008

Today, I continued working on addresses and the questions for the statistical model. We are preparing for the presentation for Dr. Fahmy.

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Today, I worked on the addresses. We also did a mock presentation of what we would tell Dr. Fahmy on tomorrow. We want to make sure that the questions we ask on our survey will give us really good data. Also, I need to ask myself what information can actually be mapped in a dataset.

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Today, the research team met with Dr. Fahmy to discuss our surveys. We basically told him what the goals of our project were, the type of data we are looking for, and read our questions to him. Dr. Fahmy told us that our questions were valid and that we could get good data. He had us add a few questions and for some questions we added other options such as "I don't know." For questions where we had "yes" and "no" choices, we were advised to use a rating scale to give people more of a choice. This will make the data better. Dr. Fahmy said that there is really no statistical analysis or test that needs to be used for our data other than comparing numbers and doing percentages.   However, he did mention that Tonya can do a Chi-squared test after her survey results are in. We will go to him for help with that

when the time comes. Dr. Fahmy also suggested that we collaborate with employees of the Jackson Heart Study to get any addresses for churches that we don't have. We feel confident that we can move forward with our survey. Next, we have deployment of the survey and collection of data.

Friday, June 20, 2008

Today, I worked on the addresses. I will be finished by Monday.

Monday, June 23, 2008

Week 3:

Cover letter
Validate survey after receiving data be checking the ID number entered
Update Questions from feedback
Test label printing procedures
Test survey

Research Paper
> JSTOR
> ERIC
> Google Scholar
> GIS Journals
> ACM
> Annotated Bibliography
> Outline

Tuesday, June 24, 2008

Today, we discussed the need for us to have good data management. We have a lot of data coming in that will need to be stored and we will need to collect and analyze in an organized manner. There will be people who come after us that have to view the data as well as analysis in order to take the project further. These are notes that we wrote down:

<u>DATA MANAGEMENT</u>

- Survey collection
- survey analysis
- GIS
- storage, backup
- Access
-paper copies of all data

I also worked on the website today. I had a few issues trying to pick up where Vanesha left off, but I figured everything out. Website updates are coming soon. I definitely want to add some links to the side and change a few things.

Wednesday, June 25, 2008

Today, I worked on finding articles for my research paper. This will also help me plan out my part of the study. My main focus for my paper will be GIS and how it was used during and after Katrina. I also will write about what my plan is for using the GIS in this study.

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Today, I continued to do a literature search for my paper. I also started doing an annotated bibliography to get a summary of my sources and figure out which are the best to use.

Friday, June 27, 2008

Today, I worked on reading my articles and summarizing for the annotated bibliography.

Monday, June 30, 2008

Today, I tested the survey. We found some minor issues. Some of the questions that were meant for one answer had it available for multiple answers so we changed those.   I also found a few more articles for my paper via Google Scholar. I'm going to start my paper off about Hurricane Katrina in general then progress into GIS applications used during disasters.

Tuesday, July 1, 2008

I began to write the introduction to my paper.

Wednesday, July 2, 2008

I continued to work on my paper. The project team also had a small meeting about the survey. We are trying to make sure the postage is taken care of for the initial mailing as well as the return envelopes for paper surveys.

Thursday, July 3, 2008

Today I worked on my paper once again. I spent time looking at other GIS journal articles to get the format and terminology down.

Friday, July 4, 2008

HOLIDAY

Monday, July 7, 2008

I worked on my paper in hopes of having a draft ready for review in a few days.

Tuesday, July 8, 2008

Today, I turned in a draft of my paper. After I get my comments back I will revise.

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Today, I received my comments and made revisions to my paper. This will be one of our last times meeting as a group and we will mainly correspond over the internet.

Thursday, July 10, 2008

Today, I continued to add missing elements to my paper.

Friday, July 11, 2008

Today, I put finishing touches on my paper and changed a link on the website.

Monday, July 14, 2008

I am doing the works cited page for my paper and still making a few changes. We will meet as needed to discuss any other issues with the project. August 1, 2008 is the deadline for the paper.