

Flood victims receive new mattresses compliments of Popular Mattress Factory

Story & Photos by Michelle & Rick Melendrez
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On August 18, 2006, residents of Lincoln Center, one of the area's most severely hit by recent storms and floods received brand new bedding compliments of George Yapor's [Popular Mattress Factory](#).

St. Vincent De Paul coordinator Becky Montelongo stated, "We received a call from George Yapor and he told us to come pick up 40 brand new mattresses, box springs and frames to be given to those affected by the flood. In a time like this, it was most gracious of Mr. Yapor."

Vans were overloaded and "Operation Bed Spread" went into action. Vincentian volunteers trekked to the Lincoln Center neighborhood, just south of Interstate 10 and Reynolds.

A small Army of blue T-shirted Vincentians invaded the streets with mattresses. With sandbags stacked 3 feet high still blocking the doorways residents welcomed the brand new bedding. "It was like a parade of beds," stated a jubilant Steve Arrieta of Ledo Street. "All our furniture has been sucked up by water and destroyed. These beds are truly a blessing for my familia. My grandson is going to sleep with the angelitos tonight!"

Montelongo said, "Vincentian volunteers are out here today in force, we are here to share positive thoughts, news, and encouragement. We've supplied families with cleaning supplies, bottled water,



Steve Arrieta and his 4 year old grandson, Kenneth Carrillo make room for their new bedding.



Vincentian volunteer Eddie Luna delivering bedding to the Lincoln Center Neighborhood.

bedding and many have come and more are coming to our thrift stores for clothing, household items and furniture."

Refugio Ceballos, Vincentian volunteer added, "These devastated homes practically just have 4 walls and a roof, all their contents and memories have been destroyed. We will continue to assist our fellow El Pasoans in any way possible, it is our ministry to help."

Families needing assistance may call Becky Montelongo at 564-4357.

In summary the neighbors of Lincoln Center and the St. Vincent De Paul Society would like to say a very hearty "Thank you to George Yapor & [Popular Mattress Factory](#) y Muchas Gracias!"



Josefina Carmona escorted her new mattress home with the help of Vincentian volunteer Ray Zamora Jr.



Vincentian volunteer- John Montelongo unloading bedding.



Vincentians Becky Montelongo, Tencha Ceballos & Refugio Ceballos visit with Steve Arrieta



Leticia Pichardo makes way for her new bedding as Vincentian volunteer Ed Flores assists her.



Becky Montelongo & Refugio Ceballos coordinating "Operation Bed Spread."



Vincentian volunteers John Montelongo (L) & Rick Rangel making a bed delivery.



Beds, beds.....

"Help Us, Help Others"

To Donate Call: 564-4357