



No Man Left Behind:

A Deeper Look Into NCC's Humanitarian Efforts from 2001 & 2005

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Introduction

When the year 2000 came upon Americans, there was widespread hope and excitement for a new millennium. However, those hopes were effectively flattened on September 11, 2001, and August 23, 2005. These dates mark the beginning of America's war on terror and the terrorist attacks in New York City, along with the disastrous arrival of Hurricane Katrina to coastal states. While these events had a largescale impact on all of America and the rest of the world, I am seeking to find out the impact these events had on North Central College specifically. Did students feel so inclined to erect organizations or clubs to provide relief support? What were the responses from student organizations? From the student body and/or faculty? Furthermore, did the college's history with mission trips help to structure efforts and plans to address these world catastrophes?

Mentions of SGA and CIA after 9/11 in the *Chronicle* (September 21, 2001)

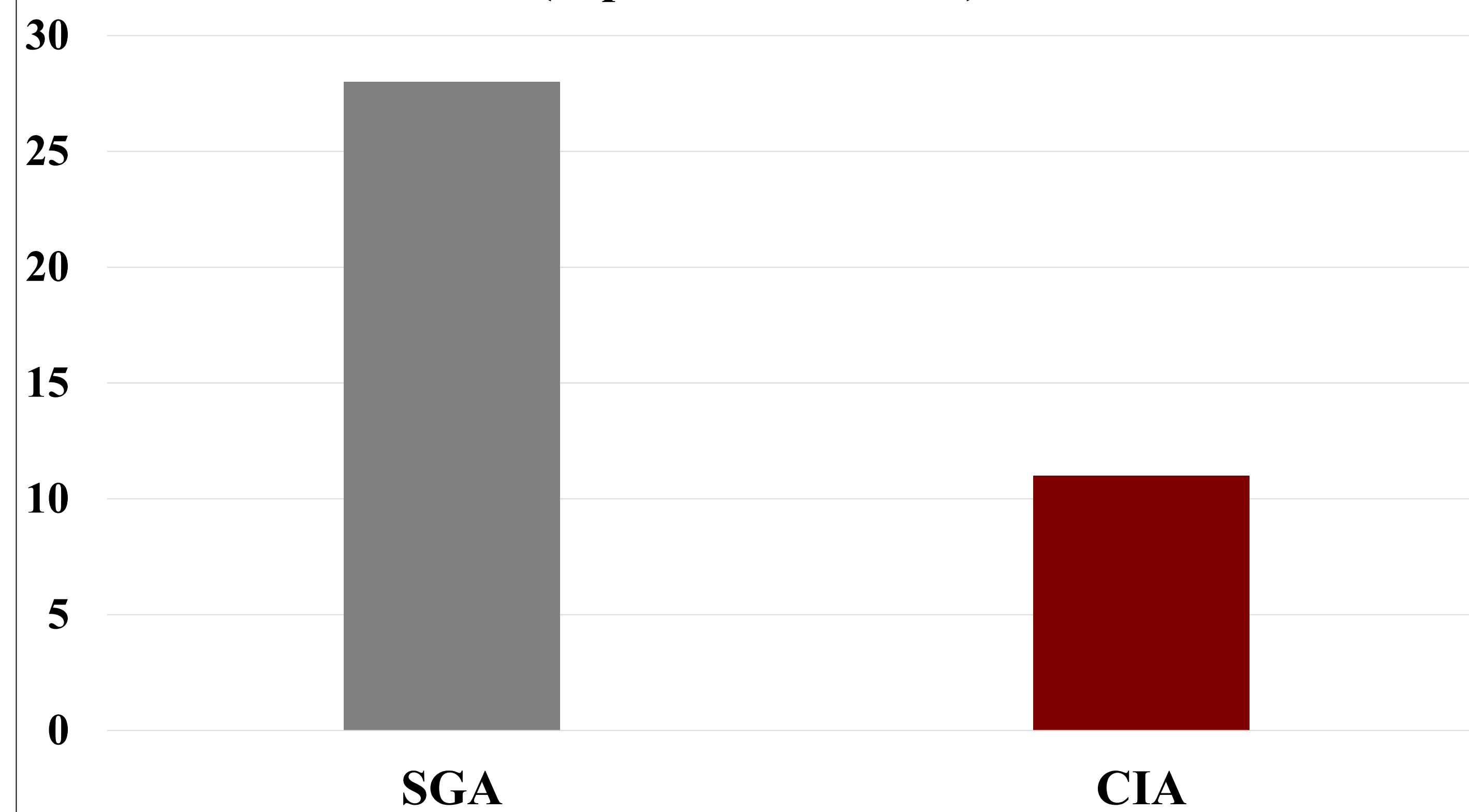


Figure 1.

In an attempt to gather my information in the chart above, I looked at the first publications of *The North Central Chronicle* after each disaster struck. After 9/11, there was a large mobilization of student efforts, but Katrina did not organizational responses, only the broad college response.

Sample Bibliography

Leach, Kaitlyn. "The National Nightmare." *North Central Chronicle*, September 21, 2001.
 "Two Degrees of Separation." *North Central Now*, December 2001.
 Belasich, Taryen. "NCC Responds to Hurricane Katrina." *North Central Chronicle*, September 12, 2005.
 "Back On Dry Land." *North Central Chronicle*, September 30, 2005.

Responses from Cardinals in Action and SGA after 9/11

Cardinals in Action

"Cardinals in Action (CIA) sold white ribbons (white ribbons are for terrorist victims) for one dollar or any donation. CIA collected \$2,438 from a combination of selling over 1,000 white ribbons and sizable faculty and staff donations."

Student Governing Association

The current SGA president at the time was "in White Activities Center when the first plane hit the tower and the newscaster said something about how the Red Cross would need help [...]. I wanted to do something to help and as the elected president of SGA I felt obligated – in a good way – to organize ways for other students to help also."

- Aldrich (SGA President) would later set up an email in the North Central domain for information on blood drives
- "North Central College and SGA urge all students to show support for the nation by wearing Red, White, & Blue every Tuesday of Fall term."



Commander Dan Shanower



Jeff Mladenik '92

Figures 2 & 3.

Pictured above are the two North Central men that lost their lives in the 9/11 attacks. Dan Shanower, left, was a residence hall director from 1984-85; he also had a father that taught at North Central for over 30 years. Jeff Mladenik, right, was a student at North Central and graduated in 1992 with a Masters in Business Administration.

What About Katrina?

In my research, I found little to no response from the same student organizations that responded to 9/11, which in theory, makes a lot of sense. These two events are distinguishable in nature and begs for responses in different ways from different organizations. The main organization responsible for organizing mission trips to the affected areas would be BREAKAWAY. The first trip was organized to take place on December 10-18, 2005, which acted as an important steppingstone for the trips to come. The students that attended this trip dug deep into what a large majority of people would consider to be mundane activities, which shows that NCC students had their priorities in order. Perhaps this was the case due to the previous experience of 9/11?

Other trips that followed were interwoven with Katrina, but students were also highly aware of the fact that Hurricane Rita caused significant damage as well. Most shockingly, some NCC students found these trips to be so important that they gave up their break during the winter to provide relief and build relationships with trodden down families.

NCC's Response to Hurricane Katrina

- "Despite the housing shortage this year, North Central will leave around ten residence hall rooms open for female students from the Chicagoland area who attend Dillard, a sister United Methodist institution, and Tulane universities in New Orleans."
- "North Central College has set up the Dillard assistance fund. One hundred percent of money collected by this fund will be used to help Dillard students attending North Central with needs that they may have while away from their home school."

Results?

After NCC decided to make the offer to Tulane and Dillard students who were displaced, three were three students that relocated to North Central. Meredith Ray moved back home to Wheaton and commuted to North Central. Emily Schlafly was preparing to move in at Tulane but was urged to head back to her home in Naperville, where she stayed as a commuter student. The final student that transferred was Carol Traylor, from Dillard University. She was the only resident at North Central College where she also became involved with the NCC gospel choir and the Black Student Association.