



**American
Red Cross**

Capital Area Chapter

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News Release
NEWS RELEASE

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Red Cross Asks People To Join During Red Cross Month Organization Helping Those In Need For 130 Years

Wednesday March 02, 2011— March is Red Cross Month, and the American Red Cross is asking people to join them in helping those in need by volunteering their time, making a donation or taking a class.

“When someone provides a hot meal to a disaster victim, takes a first aid class, or helps someone in the military, they join the Red Cross,” said Dan Samborn, CEO, Capital Area Chapter “We want to say ‘thank you’ to all who support us. That support enables us to provide help and hope to those who need our assistance.”

For nearly 100 years, U.S. Presidents have called on people to support the American Red Cross and its humanitarian mission. President Franklin D. Roosevelt was the first to proclaim March as Red Cross Month in 1943. Since that time, President Obama and every president since have issued proclamations designating March as Red Cross Month.

The Red Cross has been helping people for 130 years, responding to disasters, assisting members of the military, teaching lifesaving skills, and serving as one of the largest blood suppliers in the United States.

Nationally, the Red Cross responds to an average of nearly 200 disasters every day. The organization provides a round-the-clock link between those in the military and their families, and supplies blood and blood products to approximately 3,000 hospitals and transfusion centers across the country.

The Capital Area Chapter responded and provided assistance in 170 local disasters last year. The chapter processed 264 emergency military calls and conducted approximately 70 first aid and water safety classes.

“We work very diligently to help those in need,” Samborn said. “Whether out on a disaster, alongside our troops, or in a first aid class, Red Cross workers touch the lives of millions of people every year.”

The Red Cross is not a government agency and relies on donations of time, and money to do its work.

“When people join the Red Cross by volunteering, donating blood, taking a course or making a contribution, they enable us to continue our work, both here at home, and around the world,” Samborn said.

Capital Area Chapter has a number of activities planned for Red Cross Month in March, beginning on the 15th with the celebration of our official LEED Certification on our new facility, making the Capital Area Chapter the first Red Cross in the Nation to be LEED Certified. Capital Area Chapter will also be presenting our 3rd annual Red Cross Gala, being held March 26th, we will feature wonderful food by Klassic Katering, great music by Crooked Shooz, an amazing silent auction and most importantly, the Gala will raise money to support our Chapter’s vital programs and services to the Big Bend community. The Chapter will end Red Cross Month with Red Cross day at the Capitol on March 30th.

About the American Red Cross:

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies nearly half of the nation's blood; teaches lifesaving skills; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a charitable organization — not a government agency — and depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit www.tallyredcross.org or join our blog at <http://cacarc.wordpress.com>.