



# Bonner & Boundary Counties Need for Volunteers



A PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS OF GREATER IDAHO

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Visit our web site  
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how to volunteer or donate.

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After two homes burned to the ground in the last two weeks, Bonners Ferry Fire Chief Pat Warkentin said the need for American Red Cross of Idaho volunteers in Boundary County is greater than ever. In fact, says Warkentin, Red Cross volunteer presence in Idaho's northernmost county is practically urgent. "We really, really need some local help from Red Cross volunteers up here," said Warkentin.

Despite several attempts at recruiting volunteers to the Idaho chapter of one of the world's largest international humanitarian organizations, the American Red Cross is without any representation in Boundary County. That means providing shelter and other necessities for displaced families left homeless by house fires often falls on the shoulders of the Bonners Ferry Fire Department or Red Cross volunteers from outside Boundary County. It also means a significant loss of time in helping victims of fires and other disasters in Boundary County.

"Right now when people are in need - like the Curley Creek and Mt. Hall families who lost their homes in two recent fires - we end up having to call the 800 number of the American Red Cross National Headquarters in Washington, D.C. to get somebody up here," said Warkentin. "All they can do is refer our call to the American Red Cross of Greater Idaho Chapter, which in turn winds up calling Sandpoint, where there are a couple of Red Cross volunteers. We really need local Red Cross people up here."

The lack of any Red Cross representation in Boundary County has been an ongoing problem for years. Red Cross Safety Administrator Danielle Barton, who works out of the Harding Family Center in Coeur d'Alene, said the two Red Cross volunteers who served the community for the last five years were elderly, and they have since relocated. "I have been surprised how the Boundary County area has not been using our resources," said Barton. "It has no Red Cross care kits, blankets or other emergency essentials. Most of the time, the local fire department foots the bill by putting families in a motel for a night. In the past, response time for Red Cross volunteers in Boundary County was at least 24 hours, which is really not acceptable."

Those interested in becoming a Red Cross volunteer can apply online at <http://www.redcrossidaho.org>, by clicking "Volunteer Training" at the top of the page.

## Introducing the 2009 Red Cross Heroes

Recently, we put out a call for nominations for Real Heroes. We wanted to recognize people in the community who have taken action in time of crisis to help others and consistently show an extraordinary gift for human compassion--the values and principles of the American Red Cross. After reviewing the nominations, we selected the following individuals to receive the following awards:

- Renee Cawley - Animal Rescue Hero
- Annika Elise Klein - Animal Rescue Hero
- Jaker Merlini - Medical Rescue Hero
- Jessica Moncrieff - Youth Hero
- Pat Mooney - Law Enforcement Hero
- Alexandrya Robinson - Spirit of the Red Cross Hero

Renee has devoted her entire life to rescuing abused and neglected animals, from dogs to cats and horses. She is a self-employed Pet Behavior Consultant, and has also created a new charity, Move Mutt, designed to rescue and rehabilitate animals, exercise shelter animals to make them more adoptable, and create a safe environment for victims of domestic violence, who often do not leave an abusive situation because of their animals.

Annika feels that all creatures have something to offer Planet Earth and she does her best to help keep all in balance. During her 11 years, Annika Klein has rescued needy animals, large or small, exotic or not. She works closely with the Northwest Animal Companions (NACA) and the Humane Society, visiting the Humane Society to play with the kittens and puppies and exercise the older dogs.

Jaker is the head of the ski patrol and volunteer team at Bogus Basin Ski Resort. He ensures that both the staff and volunteers are trained and prepared to serve the entirety of the Bogus Basin Resort. Because of the team's dedication, they are able to ensure that those injured at the resort are tended to immediately, preventing long-term

injuries.

Jessica happened to be scrimmaging with her soccer team when a 13 year-old boy collapsed on an adjacent field. Luckily for the boy, Jessica had learned how to respond to just such emergencies at a Red Cross class for babysitters. She performed CPR for 10 to 15 minutes until the paramedics arrived possibly saving the boy's life.

Idaho State Police Senior Specialist Corporal Pat Mooney was on his way to conduct a safety audit in Fruitland when he noticed fresh but faint tire marks on the roadway. Upon investigation, he spotted an overturned van and the motionless body of Dora Ramirez. After summoning medical assistance, he ascertained that Dora had gone into shock. He provided medical and spiritual support to her until the paramedics arrived.

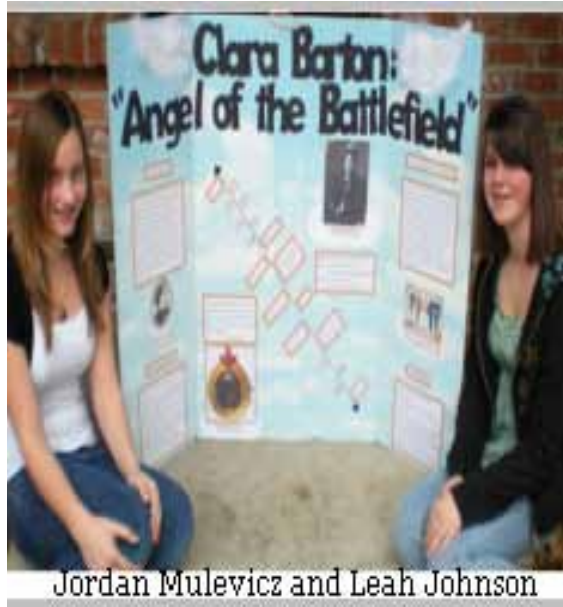
Alexandrya, her sister Hailey, and two of her cousins were passengers in her grandmother's SUV when it was struck and overturned on the Nampa-Caldwell Blvd in Nampa. Her grandmother was seriously injured and Hailey was bleeding profusely as a result of her injuries. Hailey suffers from blood clotting disorder, known as Von Willebrand disease. In spite of sustaining a broken neck and temporary paralysis, Alexandrya refused to leave the vehicle until her sister was out, and that the paramedics were aware of her sister's bleeding disorder.

Thank you to each of these heroes for their heroic efforts and a huge thank you to the individuals who recognized how special these heroes are and nominating them! On April 30, the American Red Cross of Greater Idaho held a special breakfast to honor these REAL HEROES of the Treasure Valley. The keynote speaker was Former Secretary of Interior Dirk Kempthorne.

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## National History Day



Jordan Mulevicz and Leah Johnson

friend, Jordan Mulevicz chose Clara Burton as their topic for Idaho's National History Day Regional Competition. Both girls are students at Lake Hazel Middle School in Meridian.

National History Day is a way for students to study and learn about historical issues, ideas, people, and events. Each team does a display and a report on their topic. After their presentation, the team is interviewed by a panel of judges about the topic. At the Treasure Valley Regional competition held on March 14, 2009, Leah and Jordan took 1<sup>st</sup> place in their flight. Congratulations!

While volunteering at the Boise Red Cross office, Leah Johnson became interested in the history of Clara Burton. In fact, she became so interested that her and her

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Your Time, Your Knowledge, and Your Experience!

Volunteer opportunities are available in all Red Cross offices throughout the state. We'll help you build and refine all the skills you need. If one of the opportunities listed below are something you would be interested in volunteering for, e-mail us at [volunteer@redcrossidaho.org](mailto:volunteer@redcrossidaho.org) or call your local chapter office. You can also find more volunteer opportunities for the Idaho Red Cross at [www.volunteermatch.org](http://www.volunteermatch.org)

- E. Idaho Disaster Action Team (DAT) Members
- Instruct someone in E. ID to save a life - become a Health & Safety Instructor in your community
- Instruct someone in N. ID to save a life - become a Health & Safety Instructor in your community
- N. Idaho Disaster Action Team (DAT) Members
- N. Idaho Office Assistant Volunteer
- NC Idaho Disaster Action Team (DAT) Member
- NC Idaho Health and Safety Instructor
- NC Idaho Office Assistant Volunteer
- Protect Red Cross legacy - volunteer as Historian
- South Central Idaho Disaster Action Team (DAT)
- SW Idaho Community Education Volunteer
- SW Idaho Disaster Action Team (DAT) Members
- SW Idaho Health and Safety Instructor
- SW Idaho Hour for the Red Presenter
- SW Idaho Volunteer Recruiting Assistant
- South Central Idaho Office Assistant Volunteer
- Volunteer Coordination Assistant

## The 10 x 10 Website Campaign

If you could grow your money exponentially, would you? At the end of November last year, Sue Robinson, the chapter's C.E.O., announced that she would like to challenge every constituent of the Red Cross of Greater Idaho to raise money exponentially. She asked every person everywhere within reach of her e-mail to give \$10 to the chapter through its website. Then she asked them to send the e-mail to ten people. If each one of the ten people gave \$10 to the chapter and sent the e-mail to ten people, where would that go?

Volunteers, donors, board members, and partners were initially recruited. We can't track the distance the original e-mail flew from its starting point, but we can track the growth of that seed. By the close of December 2008, almost \$2,500 was raised through the chapter's website.

## A Red Crosser of Eight Years

David Sterbutzl, a Health & Safety volunteer in the Boise office has been faithfully showing up to lend a hand since March of 2001. After a student takes a CPR class and a manikin is used, the manikin face is hygienically cleaned, the disposable airway is replaced, and the manikin is readied for the next class. The process repeats itself over and over, allowing thousands of students each year to be trained how to save a life. This has been David's assignment for eight years. Nobody does it better.

David comes to the Red Cross through the LIFE program, Living Independently Forever, Inc. LIFE provides rehabilitative services and support to the developmentally disabled population. David has a mentor that accompanies



David Sterbutzl

him with each visit. You could say his mentor, Chuck ?, is David's chauffeur. David is legally blind.

Participants come with a wide range of developmental disabilities. Never mind that small feature – it's their abilities that impress. David and Chuck recently recruited two new candidates to our volunteer team from the LIFE program. Shawn Stephens has revealed his graphic and artistic talents because of a sign making project he was asked to complete. Their partner, Teresa Smith, brings a darling smile and a charm that light everyone's day when she comes around to replenish copier paper in the machines or shred paper for confidential destruction or vacuum your floor or water your plant.

These volunteers have become an anticipated part of every Tuesday and Thursday morning in the Boise office. We hope the new recruits will continue as long as David has to help our Red Cross chapter in every little task needed to meet its mission everyday.

"To become what we are capable of becoming is the only end in life." – Robert Louis Stevenson

## Motorcycle/Scooter Run

Join us for the 3rd Annual Snake River Yamaha Ride 4 the Red Rally on June 20, 2009. The ride will be through the Lewiston/Clarkston Valley and consists of a poker run with prizes, bratwurst lunch, and live music.

Sign up at [www.idahorideforthered.org](http://www.idahorideforthered.org).

## Tee It Up!

The Apple Athletic Club will be hosting a golf scramble benefitting the Red Cross on Saturday, June 20, 2009 at the Sandcreek Golf Course (5230 Hackman Road) in Idaho Falls.

Members, guests, Apple employees and people from the community are invited to come out for a fun day of golf and to help raise funds for programs and services for the American Red Cross. The cost is \$60.00 per person or \$240.00 per team. Tournament features include:

- Mulligans for sale
- Tee packages for all participants
- Prize for 1st through 3rd place blind draw
- Closest to the pin and longest drive awards for both men and women
- Post tournament BBQ
- And a fun day of golf with fun people!

There is a 36 team limit (first come, first serve). Registration forms are available at the Apple member services desk (2030 Jennie Lee Drive in Idaho Falls) or call Liz Panter at 208-529-8900 for more information. Businesses can also sponsor a hole for \$100.00 or donate a raffle prize.

Red Cross volunteers will be on hand before, during and after the tournament to assist with sign-in, water distribution for players, sign placement, and clean-up. If you would like to help with this event, call either Diane Lewis or Lee Goulter in the Idaho Falls Red Cross office (1-800-853-2570 Extension 703 or 701)