

Our chapter has many needs to continue providing disaster relief and emergency preparation in our communities. The paid and volunteer staff work hard to provide for those needs as judiciously as possible using the gracious donations of citizens throughout the state. But in tough times, tough decisions are made.

Below is a list of some of the needs our chapter has but can't meet immediately. You can help. If you or anyone you know can fulfill one of the wish list items below, please contact the chapter through [newsletter@redcrossidaho.org](mailto:newsletter@redcrossidaho.org) or call 800-853-2570. Your message will be routed to the contact person for that area. We will answer any questions you have and make arrangements with you for the donation. You will also receive a letter of acknowledgement that can serve as a tax receipt.

### North Idaho, Coeur d'Alene

New windshield for chapter vehicle  
New window lettering in chapter vehicle  
TV/DVD combo for instructing classes  
Case of copy paper  
Three-ring binders (2 1/2 or 3 inch)  
New monitor for computer

### North Central Idaho, Lewiston

New windshield for chapter vehicle

### Southwest Idaho, Boise

New windshield for chapter vehicle  
Large, carpeted rubber door mats  
Heavy duty or professional grade vacuum cleaner  
Professional upholstery cleaning of classroom and office chairs  
Brake job on chapter vehicle  
New or used flat screen computer monitors

### East Idaho, Idaho Falls

Touch up lettering on disaster response trailer

### Chapterwide

Computer memory cards  
Sponsor for upgrade of MS Office 95 to 98 version (can already take advantage of non-profit discount but need sponsor for remaining balance)  
New fire extinguishers for each chapter vehicle  
Miscellaneous, small items for vehicle emergency kits (write [fleet@redcrossidaho.org](mailto:fleet@redcrossidaho.org) to get list)  
Public Relations volunteer

### Thank yous

Thank you Dex for yellow page advertising of Red Cross services

Thank you Horizon/Alaska Air for stand-by flights in Idaho

Thank you Pat & Ronna Waller for donation of two barely used computers

Thank you Magic Valley Storage for monthly storage units for disaster supplies

Thank you Broadway Ford for paint job to cover graffiti on trailer

## Red Cross and the Haiti Earthquake

With estimates that as many as three million people may be affected by the catastrophic earthquake that hit Haiti Tuesday, January 12, 2010, the American Red Cross is releasing an additional \$9 million for earthquake relief, bringing its total commitment so far to \$10 million to support relief efforts in Haiti.

Priority needs in Haiti are food, water, temporary shelter, medical services and emotional support. Thousands of local Red Cross volunteers are aiding their fellow Haitians. American Red Cross Disaster management specialists are scheduled to arrive today from the United States, Peru and Mexico to join local Red Cross staff already on the ground in the disaster zone. As soon as airports begin accepting relief shipments, tarps, hygiene items and cooking sets for approximately 5,000 families will come from the Red Cross warehouse in Panama.

### How to Help

Countless requests have come from people wanting to help. The best way

to do that is to make a donation to the American Red Cross International Response Fund at [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) or by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS. Donors can designate their gifts to Haiti relief. Donations to the International Response Fund allows the American Red Cross to respond to global emergencies and disasters.

In addition, several hundred thousand people have chosen to make a donation with their cell phones. Donors can text "Haiti" to 90999 on their cell phone to send a \$10 donation to support Red Cross relief efforts in Haiti. All money raised goes to support Red Cross relief efforts in Haiti.

Visit [www.youtube.com/user/AmRedCross](http://www.youtube.com/user/AmRedCross) to see a video of Tracy Reines, Director of the International Response Operation Center, discussing the latest earthquake response effort. To get updates on the recovery, go to [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org).



Boise  
146 South Cole Road  
Boise, ID 83709  
1-800-853-2570 x0

Coeur d'Alene  
411 N. 15th Street  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
1-800-853-2570 x104

Idaho Falls  
330 Shoup Avenue  
Idaho Falls, 83402  
1-800-853-2570 x701

Lewiston  
3332 10th Street  
Lewiston, ID 83501  
1-800-853-2370 x201

Twin Falls  
253 4th Ave. N.  
Twin Falls, ID 83301  
1-800-853-2370 x302

Training Schedules and Registration can be located on [www.redcrossidaho.com](http://www.redcrossidaho.com)

Please visit our web site [www.redcrossidaho.org](http://www.redcrossidaho.org) or call us at 1-800-853-2570 for more information on how to volunteer or donate.

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# Safe & Well Website

Following the 2005 hurricane season, the Red Cross developed the Safe and Well website (<https://disastersafe.redcross.org>), which enables people within a disaster area to let their friends and loved ones outside of the affected region know of their well-being. By logging onto the Red Cross public website ([www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)), a person affected by disaster may post messages indicating that they are safe and well at a shelter, hotel, or at a home and that they will contact their friends and family as soon as possible. During large-scale disasters, there will be telephone-based assistance via the 1-866-GET-INFO hotline for people who live within the affected areas and do not have Internet access but wish to register on the Safe and Well website.

People who are concerned about family members in an affected area may also access the Safe and Well website to view these messages. They will be required to enter either the name and telephone number, or the name and complete address, of the person about whom they wish to get information. Red Cross chapters will provide telephone-based assistance to local callers who do not have Internet access and wish to search the Safe and Well website for information about a loved one.

Be assured that the information on the Safe and Well website is secure and that information about the locations where people are staying is not published. Privacy laws require the Red Cross to protect each person's right to determine how best to communicate their contact information and whereabouts to family members. The Red Cross does not actively trace or attempt to locate individuals registered on the Safe and Well website.

This resource can prove invaluable to you and your family in the event of an emergency or natural disaster. It is also a good idea to include the website as part of your family's disaster plan.

## “Write-In For the Red” on Your Taxes This Year

Yes, it's getting to be that time of year again! As you start preparing your 2009 taxes in the next couple months, don't forget that you can contribute to the American Red Cross of Greater Idaho's Disaster Relief Fund by writing in a voluntary donation on your 2009 Idaho individual income tax form (line 41). These donations provide much needed funding for temporary shelter, food, clothing, and health support following a disaster. Donations made on your state tax return may be taken as charitable deductions on the following year's return. Thanks for thinking of the Red Cross as you file those taxes this year!

# Will You Be A Hero?

Don't forget that the Red Cross Heroes campaign will kick off March 1 in conjunction with Red Cross Month. The fundraiser will run all month long as local “Heroes” work hard to raise money to support Red Cross services throughout Idaho. Local groups and individuals will pledge to raise \$1,000 for the Greater Idaho Chapter with the goal of raising a total of \$25,000. If you are interested in being a Hero, contact one of the Greater Idaho Chapter offices.

**Our offices will be closed on Monday, February 18, 2010 in observance of President's Day. Disaster Services is available if needed.**

**Thank You to Our Sponsors**



# Red Cross Celebrates

## 100 Years of First Aid Training

For the last century, the American Red Cross has been teaching people the life-saving fundamentals of first aid. Would you know how to respond in a medical emergency? If not, consider taking advantage of a Red Cross first aid class, where you can obtain a First Aid Certification good for three years. The class, which costs \$30, teaches lay responders the knowledge and skills necessary to give care in an emergency, help sustain life, and minimize the consequences of injury or sudden illness until medical help arrives. You may also want to consider a combination first aid and CPR class, which will teach you to recognize and care for life-threatening respiratory or cardiac emergencies as well. Visit the Idaho Chapter's website for class schedules and details ([www.redcrossidaho.org](http://www.redcrossidaho.org)).

An important component of first aid is having an appropriate first aid kit. You can assemble your own first aid kit by first visiting the Red Cross website for a full list of essentials that you should include in your kit. You can also visit the Red Cross store ([www.redcrossstore.org](http://www.redcrossstore.org)) to purchase a variety of ready-to-use kits or call your local chapter office and ask what kits they have available.

## Holiday for Heroes Cards

In December, the Greater Idaho Chapter sent out 2200 Christmas cards. Below are pictures of our volunteers preparing the cards for mailing.



## Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed for local disaster response and to teach community CPR and First Aid classes. If interested, please call 1-800-853-2570 for more information.