



**American
Red Cross**

Heart of Tennessee Chapter

Heart of Tennessee Chapter
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News Release NEWS RELEASE

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REDCROSS TO DISPLAY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS VEHICLE

(MURFREESBORO) April 14, 2010 -- On Saturday, April 17th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., The Heart of Tennessee Chapter of the American Red Cross will be at the Cannonsburgh Village for the 34th Annual Pioneer Day, raising awareness about their role in disaster response. Also on display will be the Red Cross's advanced Emergency Communications Response Vehicle (ECRV).

ECRV's are mobile communication stations used to provide electricity, host phone lines, and provide a satellite link-up and a host a multitude of radio capabilities within disaster areas with damaged communications infrastructure. By establishing a direct line between on-the-ground operations and the national Red Cross office, resources can be used more efficiently and effectively during a major disaster.

Brian Toll, Emergency Services Director for the Heart of Tennessee Chapter, said "There are only twelve of these vehicles in the whole country, and one of them will be here in Murfreesboro for a day. We're very excited about the ECRV and we think the rest of the community will be as well once they see it and know what it can do."

The Heart of Tennessee Chapter of the American Red Cross provides vital emergency assistance to help victims of local disasters in Rutherford, Bedford, Cannon, Franklin, Coffee & Moore counties. Over the past year the Chapter trained nearly 15,000 people in CPR & First Aid, Babysitting and Aquatics training, and provided pre-deployment briefings and emergency communications for over 640 active duty military personnel and their families. Over 13,177 pints of life-saving blood were collected from the community last year. All of these services are made possible by over 320 dedicated local Red Cross volunteers as well as through generous gifts from the local community. To get more information please call 615) 893-4272 or log on to www.midtnredcross.org.

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****Local Media Outlets are invited to photograph or obtain B-roll footage of the ECRV from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Red Cross Volunteer Spencer Mohead will be on hand at the event to answer media questions regarding the vehicle. Spencer may be reached at #731.676.0494.**