



DR 512-10
500 Hospital Drive
Madison, TN 37115
www.redcross.org

News Release NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Beth Ferguson
Phone: 615.893.4272 ext. 106
Fax: 615.895.8218
Fergusonb@hot-redcross.org

Dell Donates Mobile Computer Lab to Respite Center

North Rutherford County Respite Center Provides Food, Water & Computer Lab

(MURFREESBORO) May 7, 2010 – Dell Computers has generously donated a mobile computer lab with 10 computers to be on hand at the Respite Center located in Smyrna. The lab is specifically for local flood victims to utilize to register for FEMA assistance and to find additional relief resources that may be available in the community. Volunteers will be on site to assist clients with the computers from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

The Heart of Tennessee Chapter continues to operate a Respite Center at ***Highland Heights Church of Christ, located at 785 South Lowry Street in Smyrna***. The Respite Center offers a safe place to stay, food, drinks, restrooms and shower facilities for those affected by the flooding. The Red Cross also has information about “how to repair your flooded home” on hand for disaster victims. This guide provides detailed information about the steps that disaster victims need to take in order to repair their homes from flood damage. The center will close at 8 pm if there is no one present needing shelter for the evening. It will reopen 8:30 a.m., Saturday and Sunday morning. The Respite Center is available for any disaster victim in Rutherford County or surrounding communities to utilize.

Heart of Tennessee Chapter Volunteers will be canvassing affected communities in Smyrna and LaVergne on Saturday and Sunday to deliver water, meals, snacks, comfort kits and clean-up kits with supplies to help local residents in their flood clean-up efforts. Red Cross comfort kits include basic necessities such as soap, a comb, razor, shampoo, washcloth etc. Clean-up kits are designed to help residents clean up their homes after any major disaster and include a mop, bucket, bleach, gloves, a sponge and other basic cleaning items.

Get Help: Rutherford County has been declared and affected residents can apply for assistance from FEMA. If you were affected by the recent flooding register for assistance online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov or by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY) for the hearing and speech impaired. The toll-free telephone numbers are available from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. (local time). Applicants registering for aid should be prepared to provide basic information about themselves (name, permanent address, phone number), insurance coverage and any other information to help substantiate losses.

How to Help: You can help your local Red Cross assist local disaster victims in our community 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by making a contribution to the Heart of Tennessee Chapter at 836 Commercial Court, Murfreesboro, TN 37129 or online at www.midtnredcross.org. At this time all of the immediate spontaneous volunteer needs for the Heart of Tennessee Chapter have been met for this disaster. If you are interested in becoming a trained Red Cross volunteer so that you will be ready to respond to the next disaster please [sign up](#) and complete a background check online at www.midtnredcross.org today!

The American Red Cross does **not** accept or solicit small, individual donations or collections of items for emergency relief purposes. Small items such as collections of food, used clothing, and shoes often must be cleaned, sorted, and repackaged which impedes the valuable resources of money, time, and personnel that are needed for other aspects of our relief operation. The Red Cross, in partnership with other agencies, suggests that the best use for those types of donations is to support needy agencies within your community that are capable of processing these items.

Community members who have items to donate such as bottled water, non-perishable foods, diapers, baby food and formula, cleaning supplies and other necessity items are encouraged to do so through our partner agencies; the United Way and the Salvation Army. The Salvation Army has a trailer located at the First Bank building on Memorial Drive in Murfreesboro.

Help people affected by disasters like the recent floods, by donating to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. On those rare occasions when donations exceed Red Cross expenses for a specific disaster, contributions are used to prepare for and serve victims of other disasters. Your gift enables the Red Cross to prepare for disasters and provide shelter, food, emotional support and other assistance to victims of all disasters. Call 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767) or 1-800-257-7575 (Spanish). Contributions to the Disaster Relief Fund may be sent to your local American Red Cross chapter or to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 37243, Washington, DC 20013. Internet users can make a secure online contribution by visiting www.redcross.org.

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