



**American  
Red Cross**

Heart of Tennessee Chapter

**March Is Red Cross  
Month**  **American  
Red Cross**

Heart of Tennessee Chapter  
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*News Release*  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Heart of Tennessee Chapter Marks Red Cross Month by Thanking Supporters and Volunteers**

*Red Cross is responding to disasters down the street, across the country and around the world.*

(MURFREESBORO) March 2, 2010— With March proclaimed as Red Cross Month, **the Heart of Tennessee Chapter would like to** recognize and thank the supporters and volunteers whose efforts enable the Red Cross to respond to disasters down the street, across the country and around the world.

“The Red Cross works tirelessly to be there with help and hope when people need it most—and we are grateful for the public support that enables us to continue our work – here at home and abroad,” said Greg King, CEO “Our community and our nation depend on the Red Cross in times of need, and the Red Cross depends on the support of people in American to achieve its mission.”

“During Red Cross Month, we want to recognize the valuable supporters whose generosity makes the work of the American Red Cross possible,” King added. “In addition, Red Cross Month is a great time for people to get involved with the Red Cross, such as donating blood; signing up for a CPR, first aid or another Red Cross course; giving a financial gift that can really save the day when the next disaster strikes, or getting involved as a volunteer.”

The Red Cross provides shelter, food, comfort and hope to survivors of nearly 70,000 disasters each year; helps prepare communities for emergencies; is the largest single provider of the nation’s blood; teaches lifesaving skills to more than 5 million people a year; supports military members and their families, and provides international humanitarian aid.

The American Red Cross touches the lives of millions of people every year through its network of 34,000 employees and more than 600,000 volunteers in more than 2,000 locations across the United States and more than 30 countries around the world.

“The Red Cross has responded following the Haiti earthquake in January, working to turn despair into hope,” King said. “The Red Cross is there in Haiti now – and we are also here each day across the country for families who need us.”

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Although major disasters such as earthquakes, hurricanes and wildfires capture national media headlines, the day-to-day work of the Red Cross often takes place in local communities. In the past year, the Heart of Tennessee Chapter responded to 111 local emergencies, assisted 640 military families and trained 12,412 people in lifesaving skills. And, people from this area donated approximately 11,849 units of blood last year.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued the first Red Cross Month proclamation in 1943, recognizing the American Red Cross as a true reflection of the humanitarian and volunteer spirit and calling on Americans to “rededicate themselves to the splendid aims and activities of the Red Cross.” Every president since that time has recognized the work of the Red Cross with a Red Cross Month.

The Heart of Tennessee Chapter has a number of activities planned for Red Cross Month in March, including “Restaurants for Relief.” Patrons visiting local eateries including The Clay Cup, Maple Street Grill, Kirkenburt’s and Newk’s can make a donation to the Heart of Tennessee Chapter of the American Red Cross to help *local* disaster victims.

#### **About the American Red Cross**

*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](http://www.midtnredcross.org).*

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