



**American
Red Cross**

Heart of Tennessee Chapter

Heart of Tennessee Chapter
836 Commercial Court
Murfreesboro, TN 37129
www.midtnredcross.org

NEWS RELEASE

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Red Cross Continues Helping Area Flood Victims

Emergency Shelter in Smyrna Closes; Volunteers Begin Damage Assessments

(MURFREESBORO) May 3, 2010 – The American Red Cross Heart of Tennessee Chapter has closed the shelter at the Smyrna Town Centre. The shelter was opened on Saturday evening in response to the Middle Tennessee Floods. Red Cross volunteers have been on the scene ready to provide support and a safe place for people impacted by yesterday's flooding. More than 50 evacuees came to the shelter over the 3 day period and over 300 meals were served. The shelter was operated by shifts of nearly 60 volunteers. All clients were able to return to their homes safely this morning.

Red Cross shelter CLOSED effective Monday, May 3rd at 1:00 p.m.
Smyrna Town Centre located at 100 Sam Ridley Parkway in Smyrna

Over the next few days Red Cross Volunteers from the Heart of Tennessee Chapter will begin doing damage assessment and distributing clean-up kits in the affected communities within Rutherford County. People rely on the American Red Cross to respond immediately and effectively in any emergency situation, including this weekend's flooding. The Red Cross responds by opening shelters, preparing and serving meals and snacks and mobilizing trained disaster relief workers to provide these and other services without delay. Persons with disaster-caused needs are encouraged to call the Red Cross at (615) 250-4250 to talk about assistance that might be available.

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.

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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