



Together, we can save a life

From the Volunteer Coordinator: March is Red Cross Month!

Dear Volunteers,

Each year since 1943, the president of the United States proclaims March as Red Cross Month. On February 27th, President Barack Obama did just that:

“NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America and Honorary Chairman of the American Red Cross, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States do hereby proclaim March 2009 as American Red Cross Month. I encourage all Americans to support this organization's noble humanitarian mission.” [excerpt from Presidential Proclamation*]

I'd like to take this opportunity to encourage you to think about how you can contribute during American Red Cross Month. Give more of your time, talents, and expertise. Spread the word. Make a donation.

I also want to use this opportunity to celebrate YOU — our volunteers who make our organization such a vital part of communities around the world! Thank you for your commitment and dedication to the American Red Cross. You are truly making a difference in Spartanburg, Cherokee, and Union. Thanks for all you do!

Amy Foreman

Volunteer Coordinator
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*You can read the Presidential Proclamation in its entirety by visiting www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/American-Red-Cross-Month-2009/

Welcome New Volunteers!

We are delighted to welcome the following volunteers who joined our team in February:

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Kiritkumar Amin | Jim Gregg | Debra Robinson |
| Marcia Boyle | Paulette Gregg | Robert Russell |
| Larry Coleman | Mary Guerrero | Dana Tillotson |
| Liz Duffie | Kathryn Lopez | Jennifer Winstead |
| Janice Godfrey | Evan Robinette | |

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Training & Event Calendar

Training courses are free and open to all current volunteers

In Spartanburg

- **March 24th** — Board Meeting
12:00 Noon
- **April 6th** — DAT/Client Casework
Learn how to respond to local disasters and provide clients with immediate needs. 6:00pm
- **April 8th** — Volunteer Orientation
Encourage your friends, family, and co-workers to join the team! 5:45pm
- **April 8th** — Fulfilling Our Mission
Required training for all Disaster Volunteers. Great overview of Red Cross mission. 6:45pm
- **April 15th** — Health & Safety Committee Meeting 11:00am
- **April 21st** — Blue Star Mothers Meeting for mothers who now have, or have had, children honorably serving in the military. 6:00pm
- **April 22nd** — Volunteer Orientation
Encourage your friends, family, and co-workers to join the team! 2:00pm
- **April 22nd** — Fulfilling Our Mission
Required training for all Disaster Volunteers. Great overview of Red Cross mission. 3:00pm
- **April 23rd** — EOC (Emergency Operations Center) Liaison
Learn how to work with government partners and help ensure collaborative and coordinated service delivery. 6:00pm
- **April 28th** — Board Meeting
12:00 Noon
- **April 30th** — Mass Casualty Disaster
Learn how to provide a more effective initial response to a mass casualty disaster. 6:00pm

PRE-REGISTER by calling the Spartanburg office: (864) 583-8000

Stop by the office anytime during business hours to complete **Introduction to Disaster and/or Mass Care** — no registration required!

March / April 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
22 MARCH	23	24 DAT/Client Casework Board Meeting	25	26	27	28
29	30 Health & Safety Instructor Training ->	31 Instructor Training ->	1 APRIL Instructor Training April Fools Day	2 Disaster Volunteer Luncheon	3	4
5	6 DAT/Client Casework	7	8 Volunteer Orientation & Fulfilling Our Mission	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Health & Safety Committee Meeting	16	17	18
19 National Volunteer Recognition Week	20	21 Blue Star Mothers	22 Volunteer Orientation & Fulfilling Our Mission	23 EOC Liaison	24	25
26	27	28 Board Meeting	29	30 Mass Casualty Disaster		

In Cherokee

- **March 24th** — DAT/Client Casework Learn how to respond to local disasters and provide clients with immediate needs. 9:00am
- **March 30th, 31st, & April 1st** — Health & Safety Instructor Training Learn how to teach classes like CPR & First Aid. You must attend all 3 days. This course has a fee and a prerequisite. Call the office for details (864) 489-6066. 9:00am to 4:00pm
- **April 2nd** — Disaster Volunteer Luncheon Have lunch with Cherokee staff and other disaster volunteers. 12:00 Noon

PRE-REGISTER by calling the Cherokee office: (864) 489-6066

Connect with Volunteer Projects: Comfort Kits

Looking for ways to volunteer in between response calls or when you can't work in the office?

Consider helping with **Comfort Kits**! You and your family can collect and assemble Comfort Kits or you can ask other groups or organizations to donate and assemble them.

Comfort kits offer "comfort" to both adults and children by providing personal hygiene products to those who have lost everything in a disaster. The Emergency Community Services Department relies on the generosity of the local community to assist us in collecting these items.

- Items can be pre-assembled in a large zip-lock bag.
- Items should be new and unopened.
- Items may be travel size or full size.
- Extra items may be placed in the kit at the donor's discretion.

Adult Comfort Kits

Washcloth and/or Towel
Shampoo and Conditioner
Soap or Body Wash
Deodorant
Toothbrush and Toothpaste
Hairbrush or Comb
Razor and Shaving Cream
Tissues
Hand Sanitizer
(Please designate male or female on the adult kits)

Child Comfort Kits

Washcloth and/or Towel
Shampoo
Soap or Body Wash
Toothbrush and Toothpaste
Hairbrush or Comb
Coloring Book or Fun Pad
Crayons



A child staying in a shelter peeks into her Comfort Kit.

Photo Courtesy of Talia Frenkel/American Red Cross

Do you want to donate and/or assemble Comfort Kits?
Drop completed Kits at the office, or call us with questions
Spartanburg (864) 583-8000
Cherokee (864) 489-6066

Connect With Cherokee: Taste of Cherokee a Delicious Success



3rd place winners of the booth decoration contest, CubCo. Electrical, serve delicious Mardi Gras inspired food.

Cherokee Office ▪ 405 N. Logan Street ▪ Gaffney, SC 29340 ▪ (864) 489-6066

The Cherokee County office presented its 8th annual Taste of Cherokee, on Thursday, March 5th. The event was fun and *filling* with creatively decorated booths, delicious food, a contest for best decorated booth, and a silent auction full of great packages.

Thank you to the following volunteers for making the event a *delicious* success: Lewis Blanton, Leesa Bodden, Ray Broome, Travis Childers, Tyler Coleman, Liz Duffie, John Foster, Sandy Goodwin, Pat Hall, Tim Hanshaw, Louie & Pat Holland, Amanda Knowles, Kat Lopez, Tina McSwain, Kelly Parris, Lisa Patterson, Peggy Paysour, Ann Proctor, Tristan Whelchel, & Limestone College Ladies Soccer Team.

Thank you to our Table Judges: Billy Pennington, Libbie Cheek, & Teddi Gibbons. A special thank you to Broad River Electric's "Not Bobby" for all his help the night of the event and City of Gaffney Fire Chief, Nathan Ellis, for clearing the ice! **Congratulations** to our Booth Decoration Contest Winners! 1st Place: Hospice Care of South Carolina; 2nd Place: Limestone College; 3rd Place: CubCo. Electrical.

Get on next year's list for Taste 2010 Table Sponsorship, NOW! Early registrants get the table space! We are also looking for Presenting Sponsors at \$10,000 each - commit now, be invoiced later. Other sponsorship levels available. This is a GREAT event to have your business name & logo associated with. Call the office for details.

Do you want to volunteer at next year's Taste of Cherokee or any other special events in Cherokee County?

Contact the office: (864) 489-6066