



News for Volunteers!

From Kimberly Gube & Bob Giffin

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California wildfires

The American Red Cross is working around the clock to assist California residents forced to leave their homes because of the devastating wildfires. With Red Cross chapters from California assisted by more than 4,000 volunteers and staff from across the country, the Red Cross has served as an integral part of the wildfire response and relief process. More than 12,000 evacuated residents remained in Red Cross shelters as of Monday, Nov. 3.

You can help the victims of the California wildfires without traveling across the country. National Headquarters has activated the call center in Falls Church, Va. to respond to clients' needs. The call center fields calls to 866-GET-INFO, the toll-free 24-hour Red Cross helpline where fire victims call to access Red Cross services.

Red Cross volunteers man the phone lines, answering calls regarding disaster preparedness and Red Cross assistance. Anybody interested in volunteering at the call center should contact Linda Galucci at 703-206-6770 or CCHR@usa.redcross.org for shifts and training times.

Red Cross on "The West Wing"

Tune into NBC's Emmy award-winning series "The West Wing" on Wednesday, Nov. 5 at 9 p.m. for an episode depicting Red Cross assistance in the aftermath of a (fictional) Oklahoma tornado. The Red Cross Entertainment Outreach unit at NHQ provided guidance to the producers and writers as they tried to create a realistic depiction of a disaster relief operation, including a Red Cross character, costumes, signage and props. The Greater Los Angeles Chapter provided an Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV), cots, technical support and volunteers as extras. Visit http://www.nbc.com/The_West_Wing/index.html for the episode summary. The program airs locally on Channel 4.

International Services Classes

The National Capital Area Chapter has added international services classes to our Web site, http://www.redcrossnca.org/Classes/international_services.php3. If you have any questions regarding the courses, please contact Norma Gamero at gameron@usa.redcross.org or 301-628-0053.

Donate a vehicle

Did you know the chapter has a Vehicle Donation Program? The Vehicle Donation Program is an important year-round fundraiser for the National Capital Area Chapter. The Chapter works with Capital Auto Auction and Kenilworth Auto Sales to auction the vehicles for the most possible profit, with proceeds benefiting Chapter programs and services.

Vehicle donors receive an acknowledgement letter and tax receipt within two to three weeks of donation. For more information, please visit our Web site, at http://www.redcrossnca.org/Online/used_car_donations.php3 or contact Rosalyn Watts, wattsr@usa.redcross.org or (301) 628-0060.