



News for Volunteers!

From Kimberly Gube & Bob Giffin

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American Red Cross of the National Capital Area

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Annual Meeting

We would like to invite you to our 96th annual meeting on Friday, Sept. 26, 2003. We will be celebrating our accomplishments this year, recognizing our volunteers and electing board members for 2004. If you can attend, please RSVP to Pier Blake at blakep@usa.redcross.org or call the Special Events hotline 202-728-6418.

September 11th Open House

As we come upon the two year anniversary of the September 11th attacks, we want to recognize your service. The metro area chapters are hosting an open house at the Arlington Chapter on Thursday, Sept. 11. Volunteers and paid staff are invited to stop by between 6 and 10 p.m. to reflect and share with others.

September 11th Open House at Arlington Chapter

4333 Arlington Boulevard

Arlington VA 22203

703-527-3010

Visit the web site for directions:

<http://www.arlingtonredcross.org/html/directions.html>

Youth Services - Leadership Development Camp

Once again LDC (Leadership Development Camp) was a wonderful camp experience for all involved. Thirty-one youth delegates representing Fairfax County, Washington, D.C., Montgomery County and Prince George's County traveled to North Carolina for one week to prepare to become volunteers and leaders in the community.

Call Center Training

Volunteer opportunities (both on the phone and administrative) are available at the American Red Cross "Call Center," officially named the Disaster Information and Resource Center in Falls Church, Va. People from all across

the United States and its territories can call 1-866-GET-INFO, toll-free, at any time to receive Red Cross information, assistance, and referrals. This 24/7 facility has tremendous workload fluctuation. The busiest times are when a particular relief operation relies on the Call Center to assist in delivering direct service over the phone to those in need.

A training session will be held on Saturday, Sept. 13 from 1 to 3 p.m. for those interested in volunteering at the Call Center, located at 2950 Gallows Road in the Fairfax Plaza Shopping Center. This hands-on training will introduce the telephone and online resource systems used at the Call Center. Those interested must be registered volunteers with a Red Cross Chapter, but do not have to be in disaster services or part of the DSHR System. Contact information for those who attend the training will be put on an e-mail distribution list to be notified at times when volunteer assistance is needed. The long-term goal is to orient as many as 300 volunteers who will be asked to help when the workload increases.

To attend the Sept. 13th training session or to request additional information, contact ccldv@usa.redcross.org.

Blood Drives at Area Offices

The American Red Cross of the National Capital Area will be hosting a blood drive on Thursday, Sept. 4 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at our Chapter Headquarters, 2131 K Street NW, Washington, D.C. Two more blood drives will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 10 from 2 to 8 p.m. and Monday, Sept. 29 from 2 to 8 p.m. at our Montgomery County Office, 2020 East West Highway, Silver Spring, Md.

The region's blood supply is critically low. Blood inventory levels are likely to drop even further with the upcoming Labor Day holiday. Call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE to schedule an appointment at one of these blood drives or to find information about a mobile blood drive near you.

Hurricane Isabel

The National Capital Area Chapter in conjunction with the other metro chapters forming the Washington Metro Area Consortium (WMAC) stepped into high gear to respond to Hurricane Isabel last week. We helped set up 24 shelters and over 400 residents were housed during the storm. We served 14,000 meals in the metropolitan area yesterday and expect to serve 20,000 meals today via Emergency Response Vehicles (ERV's). We have had hundreds of Red Cross volunteers helping respond to Hurricane Isabel, joining the

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6,000 volunteers around the country who have responded from North Carolina to Pennsylvania. In addition, national headquarters, disaster services has set up a disaster relief operation site housed at the old national headquarters site in Falls Church, VA.

If you have the availability and are interested in working with the disaster relief operation, please contact Kim 202-728-6433 or Jody at 202-728-6401 during normal business hours. We have a high need for volunteers during the day.

Disaster Relief Fund is Empty

On the onset of Hurricane Isabel, Marsha Evans, President of the American Red Cross, sent a message to our Red Cross team regarding the disaster relief fund being empty. As you know there has been an overall decrease in giving and we want to make sure you are aware of how you and others can support the American Red Cross.

Please share with friends and family information on giving. Call 1-800-HELP NOW or 1-800-257-7575 (Spanish). Contributions to the Disaster Relief Fund may also be sent to the American Red Cross of the National Capital Area, 2131 K St, NW, Washington, DC 20037 or Internet users can make secure online credit card donations by visiting www.redcrossna.org

Gordon Biersch Presents Oktoberfest

Gordon Biersch will be hosting the National Capital Area Chapter as the charity of choice on Wednesday, September 24th at their annual Ocktoberfest event. Please join us and many others as Gordon Biersch donates funds from their door prizes to our chapter. The event includes the Tapping of their Festbier, a polka band, german lagers, door prizes and complimentary food. The Gordon Biersch is located at 900 F Street, NW downtown. The Ocktoberfest starts at 6 pm.

99th Annual Meeting

The show must go on! Our 99th Annual Meeting will be held at the Media and Public Affairs building on GW's campus this Friday, September 26th from 9 am - 12 pm. We hope you can join us in celebrating our accomplishments this year, recognizing our volunteers and electing board members for 2004. You still have time to RSVP. Please contact Pier Blake at blakep@usa.redcross.org or call the Special Events hotline 202-728-6418.