

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Pillowcase Project & Home Fire Campaign

The Pillowcase Project and Home Fire Campaign are the focus of the American Red Cross of Hawaii's community preparedness efforts. The Pillowcase Project encourages family preparedness and discussion about disaster risks while helping children feel safe by teaching them about disasters through a creative and interactive method, creating a pillowcase that doubles as a disaster kit.

The Home Fire Campaign seeks out at-risk families and neighborhoods to help those most vulnerable prepare for home fires by installing smoke alarms, replacing smoke alarm batteries, and providing fire safety education.



VOLUNTEERS MAKE IT POSSIBLE!

97% of the American Red Cross workforce is comprised of volunteers. These dedicated individuals touch lives every day, and they are as diverse as the people receiving Red Cross services. It takes all kinds of people to make this organization work—different ages, different backgrounds and different skills. Learn more at redcross.org/volunteer

Be Red Cross Ready

Get a kit. Make a plan. Be informed.

Get a Kit



- Have 14 days worth of supplies at home to shelter in place or in a compact portable container to take to a shelter.
- If you live or work within the Tsunami Evacuation Zone, have a 1-3 day Disaster Emergency Kit that you can grab and walk out of the inundation zone.

Make a Plan



- Meet with your household & prepare for emergencies that are most likely to happen where you live, work and play
- Identify responsibilities for each person and work as a team
- If a family member needs special accommodations, figure out how and who can help

Be Informed



- Safe & Well website
- Learn what disasters or emergencies may occur
- Stay informed by authorities during a disaster
- Get trained

100 YEARS OF ALOHA



American Red Cross
Hawaii

For the past century, the aloha spirit and generosity of Hawaii's people have enabled the American Red Cross of Hawaii to fulfill our humanitarian mission of preventing and alleviating human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors. Mahalo for your support, which enabled us to accomplish the following in FY17 (7/1/16—6/30/17):

- Responded to 73 disasters & assisted 369 individuals
- Reached 62,454 individuals with disaster preparedness information
- Opened 36 shelters and provided 602 people with safe shelter
- Through the Pillowcase Project, taught 2,159 children in grades three to five about disasters through a creative and interactive method, creating a pillowcase that doubles as a disaster kit
- Installed 1,260 smoke alarms in 401 homes as part of the Home Fire Campaign
- Handled 1,422 Service to the Armed Forces emergency cases and reached 23,757 individuals with pre-deployment briefings
- Human Animal Bond Program service animals made 306 visits and reached 14,029 people at Tripler Army Medical Center
- Taught 16,127 individuals lifesaving skills, like First Aid & CPR

DISASTER RESPONSE

More than any other circumstance, disasters bring people together to help one another, and the Red Cross is the organization that leverages the power of volunteers and generosity of donors to make this happen. As the following FY17 disaster response highlights reflect, behind every disaster – above and beyond the statistics – there are lives that are impacted and altered.

Maalaea Brush Fire – July 2016

During the run up to the Fourth of July weekend, a huge brush fire broke out near Maalaea on Maui. Being a busy holiday weekend, many tourists became stranded and hotels were at capacity. The Red Cross opened shelters on 7/2 & 7/3, at the Maui War Memorial in Kahului and the Lahaina Civic Center for people impacted by the brush fire that closed Honoapiilani Highway. Over 400 people were sheltered and fed.

Tropical Storm Darby – July 2016



Volunteers and staff statewide worked hard to prepare for and respond to Tropical Storm Darby. In partnership with respective counties, 27 shelters opened on Hawaii, Maui, and Honolulu providing safe shelter to 502 people. In the aftermath of the storm, which brought almost a foot of rain to Oahu, causing freeway ponding and home flooding, 172 homes were visited to assess damage and 30 cases were opened.

Sheridan Street Apartment Fire – October 2016

On 10/30, a fire broke out in an apartment complex in the morning. While severe damage was localized to four or five units closest to the originating unit, the entire building was evacuated due to hazardous air quality. A team of mental health responders and client caseworkers assisted the 49 residents & pets residing in 25 units. Most of the residents were renters who were uninsured. Luckily, most of the apartment's residents were able to move back into their units within two days. However, the most affected units were displaced for months, so the Red Cross worked with these families and assisted them with short-term housing options.



Pahoa Town Multiple Family Fire – January 2017

Early on 1/15, part of the downtown area in Pahoa burned, to include the historic Akebono Theatre, Luquin's Mexican Restaurant, and four apartment units. Red Cross provided financial assistance to the five people displaced by the fire. In addition, Red Cross volunteers set-up a canteen service for the people who were displaced and provided relief for the first responders on the scene.



Honolulu Multiple Family Fire – January 2017



An apartment fire in Kalihi broke out shortly after 2 a.m. on 1/9. The fire was concentrated to the upper floors of the building, and one person perished in the fire. Red Cross assisted 20 residents who lived in the surrounding units and were displaced with financial assistance, to include lodging assistance. Red Cross worked with community agencies to secure long-term housing for the 20 people who were displaced.

Flood Watch – February/March 2017

The State of Hawaii entered a flash flood watch on 2/27, which lasted three days. Maui County experienced continual heavy rains, especially in the Hana area, causing landslides that closed Hana Highway. Honolulu County received 10 inches of rain in one night on the North Shore, which caused localized flooding. Kauai County had heavy rains that closed the road to the Hanalei Bridge. Red Cross had two shelters on stand-by for Maui County in Hana and Kahului. Kauai opened a shelter at Hanalei Elementary on 3/1, in the morning until the roadway to the bridge opened again, but luckily no one got stranded on the road. The heavy rains that impacted the North Shore on Oahu impacted a few homes. Red Cross conducted damage assessment of the Sunset Beach area and gave families clean-up kits and opened cases for the families that had a substantial amount of water in their homes.

Kahului Multiple Family Fire – March 2017

On 3/16, four Red Cross volunteers responded to a multiple-family fire on Maui that rendered 12 people homeless. Red Cross assisted three of the families with financial assistance, to include lodging. The repairs were completed in a couple of weeks, and the residents were able to return. Caseworkers worked closely with one family without local ties to secure extended housing through other community referrals.

