



Neighbors across the sea in need of help

On June 27, I turned on the local news showing the devastation of the California wildfires. Twenty-four hours later, I was on a flight to help those families impacted by the Erskine Fire, which destroyed 285 homes and killed three people.

Over the next seven days, I was part of an outreach team that drove throughout the devastation looking for people who were impacted by the wildfires. As I talked with survivors, their stories were very similar; all of them mentioned the terror they felt and how fast the wildfire spread.

“As I left each family, I witnessed the human resolve and the spirit of giving.” —Ryan Yamane



Ryan Yamane walking through wildfire debris in California.

The power of hope

As I left each family, I witnessed the human resolve and the spirit of giving. Each family stated that they would rebuild, that they would eventually recover and that they would build new lasting memories from the ashes. It was uplifting to see hundreds of volunteers willing to help these victims with the first steps as they rebounded from this terrible disaster.

That night I was exhausted, but proud to be a Red Cross volunteer. As the days passed, I had the privilege to work side by side with volunteers from across our great country with the single motivation to help others. Members of the community

took the time to express their words of appreciation and we did our best to reach everyone we could while we were there. To all the volunteers and staff of the American Red Cross, thank you for your service to others.

To support the Hawaii Red Cross with time, talent or treasure, go to redcross.org/Hawaii

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A message from the CEO

A century of caring and compassion

As we head into our centennial celebration next year, let's pause during the 75th Pearl Harbor Commemoration to recognize the hundreds of Red Cross volunteers who rushed to aid victims of the attack.

Everyone from housewives, to nurses, to 17-year-old Dan Inouye dropped what they were doing and put their training into action, working tirelessly to help with disaster relief. This is what Hawaii Red Cross volunteers have done for 100 years—save lives and give hope to those in need.

Stories in this newsletter celebrate this spirit: a local volunteer providing emotional support to California wildfire victims; a volunteer dog bringing joy to wounded warriors; a caseworker providing guidance after a flood.

Thanks to generous supporters like you, we will be able to continue to fulfill our humanitarian mission for the next 100 years.

Sincerely,

Coralie Chun Matayoshi
CEO, Hawaii Red Cross



Human Animal Bond Program at Tripler Army Medical Center

"I thought that if it could help me, it could probably help others too."

—Glenn Suzuki



Trained volunteer dogs bring joy and comfort to service members.

The Red Cross works with Military and Veterans Affairs healthcare facilities to provide rehabilitation therapy, morale-building activities and material assistance that are vital to the recovery and care of service members and veterans.

At Tripler Army Medical Center, the Red Cross facilitated the Human Animal Bond Program, which has utilized the therapeutic healing power of animals to help patients recover from physical, social and mental illness. Volunteers regularly bring their trained pets to wards, clinics and waiting areas for informal visits with patients.

Man's best friend brings healing powers

"I had a bad stomach ulcer," says Glenn Suzuki, Human Animal Bond Program volunteer. "When I got Daniel (Glenn's dog), I would hold him and noticed that the pain would disappear. That's when I realized that dogs must have a therapeutic value," says Glenn. "I thought that if it could help me, it could probably help others too."

For more information, contact the Human Animal Bond Program, 808- 433-6631.

Join our Red Cross Clara Barton Society!

Clara Barton Society members embody the characteristics of our founder—dedication, compassion and leadership—to keep this vital work going. With an annual gift of \$1,000 to \$4,999 you turn compassion into action, helping people in their times of greatest need and inspiring others to join with you and the Red Cross.

Learn more by contact Jennifer Dotson at jennifer.dotson2@redcross.org or at 808-739-8133.



American Red Cross
Clara Barton Society

75th Commemoration of Pearl Harbor



Nurses at Pearl Harbor outside with table of Medical supplies.

For nearly 100 years, the Red Cross has played a vital role in helping the people of Hawaii recover from every major disaster, including the Pearl Harbor attack where we sprang into action as the only American Red Cross chapter to respond in a combat zone.

Within a few hours of the raid, the Red Cross organized a Canteen Corps to serve sandwiches and hot coffee to troops, aid workers and citizenry. One thousand people were fed at Iolani Palace the next day and this went on for two weeks, 24 hours a day.

Volunteers work tirelessly to bring relief

Ginger Lilly learned how to drive heavy army trucks, fix engines, and change tires as part of the Red Cross Motor Corps. Trained in first aid, she and other volunteers transported injured service members and supplies to various medical facilities, where volunteer civilian nurses served.

LeBurta Atherton served as a “Gray Lady,” helping wounded soldiers write letters home, reading them newspapers and providing recreational opportunities at military hospitals.

Other Red Cross Corps assisted nurses in the hospitals and provided communication between service members and their families, financial assistance and benefit information.

17-year-old Daniel Inouye was getting ready for church when the Red Cross first aid station summoned him to help with casualties. He grabbed two pieces of bread and bicycled to Lunalilo School a mile away and didn't return for five days.

Over 100 schools joined the newly established Junior Red Cross, which collected supplies like blankets and towels for first aid stations, and assisted in making pillows, surgical dressings, scrapbooks, stuffed toys, dolls, games, sweaters and ashtrays. Along with other Hawaii Red Cross volunteers, in six months 1,589,862 dressings and over 100,000 garments, including sweaters, pajamas, hospital shirts and operating gowns were sewn for the war relief effort.

For more information on our [Hawaii Red Cross history](http://redcross.org/Hawaii), go to: redcross.org/Hawaii

This year more than **22,000** Red Cross volunteers and employees have responded to major disasters.*



Supported **375** shelters with over **90,000** overnight stays



Delivered over **2,100,000** meals and snacks



Opened over **20,000** cases to provide one-on-one support

* Statistics represent January 1 to September 6, 2016

Red Cross brings light after the storm



Oahu volunteers helping residents get back on their feet.

In July, Tropical Storm Darby hit Hawaii, bringing almost a foot of rain to Oahu, causing streams to overflow. Water levels as high as 40 feet made their way into some homes. "I heard my screen door break and then water just rushed in," recalls one Kalihi resident. "I couldn't let water out so I had to just stand there in waist-high waters for about 30 minutes until the rain stopped."

Residents held back tears as they cleaned their homes, throwing almost everything away; however, a glimmer of hope was seen when a Red Cross volunteer walked into their homes.

"Going door to door is very satisfying," says Yukie Ohashi, a Big Island volunteer who assisted with casework. "When we do find that one person who needs our help they are very grateful."

To become a volunteer or to donate to help the Red Cross during disasters like Darby, go to redcross.org/Hawaii

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