Queen Liliuokalani Flag (1917)
On Sept. 14, 1917, the Red Cross flag, which Queen Liliuokalani sewed as a gift to the Hawaii Chapter, was presented by Colonel Iaukea to Mrs. Damon on the steps of Iolani Palace. The flag was raised above Iolani Palace, and is presently at the Diamond Head headquarters, on permanent loan from the state.

1917: The Iolani Palace Throne Room was opened to the Red Cross volunteers to prepare surgical dressings for the hospitals overseas.

Firemen at the Makiki Station (1917) Firemen at the Makiki Fire Station knit sweaters, scarves, gloves, and socks for the servicemen.
Japanese ladies sewing (1918)
Japanese ladies in kimonos sewing for the war effort.

Chinese volunteers stuffing envelopes (1918)

First Aid Station (1917)
Volunteers pose in front of a First Aid Station.
Parade on King Street, May 1918  Second War Fund Drive held, netted $415,000. Included spectacular parade of some 2,000 women workers. The drive raised $677,265.

1919: A large contingent of doctors, nurses, refugees workers and nurses aides recruited by the Red Cross in Hawaii traveled to Siberia to set up the first Red Cross hospital in Vladivostok to aid thousands of war refugees. Alfred Castle was among the group, along with Riley Allen, editor of the Honolulu Star Bulletin (not shown in photo).
Duke Kahanamoku & Adm. Longfellow (1928)
Left center, Duke Kahanamoku, right center, Commodore Longfellow in front of their surfboards. Photo was taken when Commodore Longfellow visited Hawaii to teach lifesaving techniques to the beach boys, which included Duke Kahanamoku. Commodore Wilbert E. Longfellow, known as the “amiable whale,” founded the Red Cross Water Safety and Lifeguarding program. He developed the Learn To Swim Program and created the National Red Cross Life Saving Corps in 1914. These early water safety activities developed into a progression of training “bathers to be swimmers and swimmers to be lifesavers.” Commodore Longfellow pioneered water safety on his quest to “waterproof America” over the next 33 years. He was successful as the drowning rates were cut in half over this time period.

Gray Lady with soldier (c. WWII)
A Gray Lady wishes a soldier Happy Birthday. Gray Ladies (Hospital and Recreation Corps) worked in recreation rooms, ran errands for and talked to patients, gave parties, led arts and crafts workshops.
Nurse Aides with soldiers (c. WWII)
Nurse aides help soldiers at Tripler Hospital celebrate Christmas.

1942-45: Red Cross uses part of the Academy of Arts building at 900 South Beretania Street

1945-47: Junior Red Crossers
April, 1946: Major tidal wave hits Hilo on the Big Island. 159 people died, 163 hospitalized and thousands more injured. As soon as the last wave subsided, the Hawaii Chapter of the American Red Cross was on the job. In cooperation with military units on the island, emergency shelters were set up and medical personnel treated the injured. The next day, 260 tons of food and supplies arrived from the Honolulu Chapter, transported by army ships. Altogether, 446 buildings were destroyed, 549 buildings damaged and 565 families received Red Cross aid. Chapter provided emergency aid to 6,350 people.

1950s: First aid stations at Ala Moana Beach

1955: Kilauea Volcano on Big Island erupts. Red Cross opens shelters at Pahoa and Olaa, operated for 69 days, served 33,000 meals to 225 disaster victims, volunteers, and emergency workers.
1960: Major tidal wave strikes Hilo, Hawaii (caused by Chile earthquake): 63 dead, $30 million in damages. Red Cross provides shelters for 508 people, served 12,754 meals, passed out 25 tons of clothing, provided emergency relief.

1992: Hurricane Iniki strikes Kauai and Leeward Oahu: $13 million in Red Cross relief, $4 million raised in Hawaii, thousands assisted.

1997: Chapter disaster volunteer and paid staff respond to Korean Airlines Flight 801 crash in Guam (228 fatalities). Provide disaster mental health services to survivors and families.
The Hawaii Red Cross responds to disasters throughout the islands every 3-4 days, assisting those affected with their immediate emergency needs.