

Bringing HOPE

to the Greater San Antonio Area

American Red Cross Serving Greater San Antonio

Annual Update July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024



A Message from the Executive Director

Greetings!

With sincere gratitude, I extend warm greetings on behalf of the American Red Cross Greater San Antonio Chapter. Your steadfast support remains integral to our mission of alleviating human suffering across our vibrant community.

In the past year, amidst unprecedented challenges, your generosity has enabled us to achieve remarkable milestones. From swiftly responding to local disasters, including numerous home fires, to extending our reach to assist neighboring communities affected by wildfires and hurricanes, your contributions have been pivotal.

Our commitment to enhancing community safety has seen a resurgence with our Sound the Alarm event, where we installed smoke alarms, protecting vulnerable families. This initiative, paused briefly due to the pandemic, resumed with renewed vigor thanks to partners like you. Amidst the national and global crises, our dedication to supporting military members, veterans, and their families has remained unwavering. Through vital services we continue to uphold our promise to those who serve our nation.

As we reflect on our accomplishments, I invite you to review our enclosed annual impact report, which highlights the profound impact of your partnership. Your support has not only saved lives but also fostered resilience within our community.

Thank you for standing with us in our mission to build a stronger, more prepared San Antonio. Together, we are creating a legacy of compassion and hope.

Sincerely,

Dr. Daniel P. Martinez, Executive Director American Red Cross Greater San Antonio Chapter

Greater San Antonio Leadership Team

Board Member	Position
Karina Alderete	Board Chair
Jason Massiate	Board Vice Chair
Michelle Martinez	Board Secretary
Dr. Emily Calderon Galdeano	Board Member
Rick Laurel	Board Member
Dameon Lutz	Board Member
Meghan Patronella	Board Member
Steve Rocha	Board Member
Alex Rodriguez	Board Member
Matthew Russell	Board Member
David Solis	Board Member
Vanessa Vasquez	Board Member

Executive Director



Dr. Daniel P. Martinez

Community Volunteer Leaders

Isabella Trevino Andres Luna Andrea Longoria Edward Leos Joaquin Iruegas



The American Red Cross Serving Greater San Antonio is headquartered in San Antonio and serves nearly 3 million people in:

Atascosa, Bexar, Comal, Dimmit, Frio, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Karnes, La Salle, Webb, Wilson, Zapata, and Zavala Counties

Impact of the Greater San Antonio Chapter Fiscal Year 2024



Emergency Response

Helping during people's darkest hours



Service to the Armed Forces

Assisting service members, veterans, and their families



Biomed Services

Making sure blood is where it's needed, when it's needed



Education & Training

Providing skills and knowledge to prevent accidents and injury



Volunteers

Working at home, across the country, and around the world to bring comfort and care 685 Households served1,792 People helped\$474,894 Given in financial aid

2,857 SAF Cases6,636 Case Services4,719 Persons Briefed

Blood Drive
Red Blood Cell Units Collected
Donors (14 First-time donors)

1,633 Trained in Preparedness (youth)34,412 Trained in 1st Aid, CPR, AED3,432 Trained in Water Safety

90% of all Red Crossers are Volunteers828 Volunteers26,888 Hours of service

Of the Red Cross Disaster Responses in the Greater San Antonio Chapter

657 Home Fires

- 20 Weather-Related Emergencies
- 8 All Other Emergencies

Red Cross Ready Communites a tale of resilience and renewal



A new Red Cross initiative is bringing hope to some of the most vulnerable communities - the Ready Communities Pilot Program.

The program is guided by a vision of collective resilience and a dedication to reducing human suffering and adopts a comprehensive strategy that goes beyond providing immediate aid to address the underlying issues of poverty and vulnerability.

The Ready Communities initiative in Balcones Heights exemplifies our commitment to proactive community resilience. Through strategic partnerships and a focus on education, resources, and preparedness, we are transforming challenges into opportunities. We are stronger together. Key highlights include:

Strategic Partnerships: Collaborations with local corporations, hospitals, and community organizations have bolstered our efforts to address socio-economic vulnerabilities and enhance disaster preparedness.

Community Engagement: Engaging residents through educational campaigns, training sessions, and community events has empowered Balcones Heights to become more resilient in the face of adversity.

Impact and Expansion: The success of our pilot program in Balcones Heights serves as a blueprint for scaling this initiative nationally, ensuring communities nationwide benefit from enhanced preparedness and resilience strategies.



Left: the launch of Balcones Heights as Greater San Antonio's Ready Community

Greater San Antonio Highlights

Historic Leadership Recruitment:

Recruited the first female and first Latina board chair in the history of the Greater San Antonio Chapter of the American Red Cross. This milestone not only promotes diversity but also strengthens the leadership foundation of the organization.

Revitalized Board Engagement:

Successfully recruited new board members, fostering a highly engaged and proactive board. Their leadership is pivotal in ensuring impactful community outreach and disaster preparedness.

Expansion of Volunteer Leadership:

Expanded the team of Community Volunteer Leaders (CVLs), including a dedicated Youth CVL focused on recruiting high school students and establishing Red Cross clubs. This initiative not only nurtures future leaders but also enhances community involvement and resilience.

Strategic Partnership Development:

Developed strategic partnerships, notably securing funding partnerships with Bexar County, resulting in \$30,000 in committed funding. These partnerships bolster the chapter's financial sustainability and amplify its capacity to deliver essential services and disaster relief efforts in the region.



American Red Cross Serving Greater San Antonio

To learn more and support the mission as a donor or volunteer, please visit: <u>redcross.org/CentralandSouthTexas</u>

or use the QR code



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