



# Bringing Hope

to Central Texas



**American Red Cross**  
Serving Central Texas

**Annual Update**  
**July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025**



# Rooted in Resilience: A Message from Central Texas

This year marks a time of reflection and transition for the Central Texas Chapter of the American Red Cross. As we celebrate a year of service and resilience, we also honor the retirement of our Regional Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of the Central Texas Chapter, **Marty McKellips**.

## **A Legacy of Leadership**

Marty began her Red Cross journey as a volunteer more than 20 years ago and has served in roles from Disaster Responder to Regional CEO. Her leadership has guided our chapter through countless moments of crisis and compassion. Her fearless spirit and unwavering commitment have left a lasting legacy across the nine counties served by the Central Texas Chapter.

## **A Farewell from Marty**

*"It has been a long journey, but it feels like it went by in a flash. I offer all my gratitude to donors, volunteers, and the staff who made my path possible.*

*I've learned something new every day and met so many talented, dedicated, and kind people. My only advice is to savor the opportunity to be part of the greatest humanitarian organization in the world. The work is rewarding, powerful, and humbling.*

*Remember to be  
**Fearless, Innovative, and Relentlessly Kind.**"*

## **Looking Ahead**

While we say goodbye to a remarkable leader, we welcome **Javier Valdez** as our new Regional Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of the Central Texas Chapter. A lifelong Texas resident, Javier brings more than 25 years of experience in executive leadership across the technology, public service, and nonprofit sectors. His background in strategic operations, community impact, and cross-sector collaboration positions him to lead with vision and heart.

## **With Gratitude**

With deep appreciation for the past and hope for the future, we remain committed to serving our communities with compassion and unity.

**Thank you for being part of our journey.**

*The Central Texas Chapter of the American Red Cross*

# American Red Cross Central Texas Board of Directors

## Guiding Our Mission, Strengthening Our Impact

Red Cross Chapter Boards of Directors play a vital role in shaping strategy, supporting fundraising efforts, and ensuring services meet the needs of the community. Their leadership and commitment are at the heart of everything we accomplish.

### Board Officers

William Crocker, Chair  
Nahid Khataw, Past Chair  
Jeff Lilly, Vice Chair

### Board Members

Avin Assomull  
Chris Beck  
Curtis Box  
Kristen Currie  
Tina Fragale  
Anna Fretel  
Tarron Gartner-Ilai  
Bill Hopkins  
Pradeep Kumar

*“As I begin my tenure as Executive Director for the Central Texas Chapter, I want to recognize the tremendous accomplishments of the past year. Thanks to the dedication of our board, volunteers, and supporters, we’ve continued to meet urgent needs and deliver hope across Central Texas.*

*Building on this strong foundation, I’m excited to bring new energy and focus to our chapter. I look forward to working closely with our Board and community partners to elevate the presence of the American Red Cross, expand our reach, and strengthen our impact.”*



*Javier Valdez, Executive Director  
Central Texas Chapter*

***With gratitude!***



American Red Cross  
Serving Central Texas

The American Red Cross serving Central Texas serves more than  
2.7 million people in:  
**Bastrop, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, Milam, Travis, and  
Williamson Counties**

## Impact of the Red Cross serving Central Texas Fiscal Year 2025



### Emergency Response

Helping during people's darkest hours

**300** Households Served  
**700** People Helped  
**\$187,000** In Financial Aid



### Home Fire Campaign

Making Homes Safer

**330** Free Smoke Alarms installed (22 specialty  
alarms for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing)  
**130** Households made safer



### Biomed Services

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

**200** Blood Drives  
**5,500** Red Blood Cell Units Collected  
**3,100** Donors (1,400 First-time donors)



### Service to the Armed Forces

Assisting service members, veterans,  
and their families

**400** SAF Cases  
**1,400** Case Services



### Education and Training

Providing skills and knowledge to  
prevent and respond to accidents and  
injury

**2,600** Preparedness Training (youth)  
**14,600** Trained in First Aid, CPR, AED  
**3,400** Trained in Aquatics/Water Safety



### Volunteers

Working at home, across the country,  
and around the world to bring help  
and hope

**90%** of all Red Crossers are volunteers  
**700** Volunteers  
**41,000** Hours of Service

*Numbers have been  
rounded for readability.*

## Red Cross Disaster Responses in Central Texas

**260** Home Fires  
**9** Weather-Related Emergencies  
**3** Other Emergencies



# Central Texas Chapter Highlights

## Youth Volunteer Wins Award

Congratulations to Finley Endres, our Central Texas youth advocate, for winning the national Youth Action Campaign pin design contest! Inspired by Sadako Sasaki's story of hope and peace, Finley's design reminds us of the power youth have to shape a better future. We're proud to celebrate Finley's creativity and commitment to International Humanitarian Law education.



*Finley Endres with her award-winning pin*

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## Volunteer Alan McMillin

In October, Central Texas volunteer Alan McMillin deployed to Lansing, North Carolina, to support communities impacted by Hurricane Helene. As a government relations volunteer, Alan worked closely with local partners and residents, helping coordinate recovery efforts. We're grateful for Alan's dedication and leadership in times of crisis.



*Alan McMillin with community members and partners in Lansing*

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## Supporting Veterans at Austin Veterans Festival

Central Texas SAF volunteers showed up in full force at the Austin Veterans Festival, sharing resources and lending a hand with food service. Their dedication reflects our ongoing commitment to veterans in the Austin area. We're grateful for these volunteers who go above and beyond to support those who've served.



*SAF Volunteers at Austin Veterans Festival*

***“Amazing volunteers like these are the backbone of the Red Cross—bringing hope, compassion, and action to every corner of our community.”***

# Making a Difference Together



*Central Texas volunteer partnering with San Antonio volunteer*

## Disaster Response Teamwork in Action

When a large apartment fire displaced families in San Antonio, Central Texas volunteers stepped up to support their neighbors in Greater San Antonio. Their quick coordination and compassionate care helped ensure residents received comfort and emergency assistance during a difficult time. We're proud of our volunteers' commitment to showing up when it matters most.

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## Texas Saves Lives Blood Drive

In January, Central Texas volunteers joined forces with colleagues from across the state for the Texas Saves Lives Blood Drive at the Capitol. Hosted by First Lady Cecilia Abbotts, the drive was held during National Blood Donor Month and highlighted the lifesaving impact of blood donation. We're grateful to everyone who gave and proud to stand with our fellow Texas regions to inspire action.



*Red Crossers from across Texas at the blood drive in Austin*



*Red Cross volunteers and the Manchaca Fire Department*

## Sound the Alarm in Manchaca

In April, Central Texas volunteers partnered with Manchaca Fire/Rescue to install 78 free smoke alarms and make 26 homes safer. Events like these are part of our mission to reduce home fire deaths and injuries. We're grateful to our volunteers and partners for helping protect families and save lives—one alarm at a time.

***“We build stronger, safer communities when we work together across the region, the state, and the country.”***



**American Red Cross**  
Serving Central Texas

To learn more and support the mission as a donor or volunteer,  
please visit:

[redcross.org/CentralandSouthTexas](https://redcross.org/CentralandSouthTexas)

or use this QR Code



## **American Red Cross Serving Central Texas**

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