



2021 Red Cross Values Award Winners

Congratulations to our **2021 Red Cross Values Award** recipients, who were honored at the Oct. 6 *All Hands* meeting!



Red Cross Value: Committed – Jess Bowe

Jess serves as our Disaster Workforce Engagement Specialist and has been with the Red Cross since 2017. She is committed to making sure the Red Cross core values are weighed in on all decisions and she's not afraid to assess what has worked well and what hasn't when assessing our effectiveness. She constantly works to bring out the best in others and ensure a highly collaborative experience for everyone involved.

She leads by example, has a positive nature, as well as a willingness to meet new challenges—encouraging others to do so. Jess models the Red Cross values daily and promotes the standards we value most deeply—honesty, trust, and integrity. She is an amazing volunteer leader, and recently led the workforce for staffing the Hurricane Henri response in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. Jess is truly the backbone of the disaster team in MA.

Red Cross Value: Creative – Ken Boyajian

Ken serves as the Regional Disaster Recovery Team Lead and Disaster Action Team Supervisor for the Northeast Chapter. He steps right in when needed, and took over a vacant leadership role when it was left abruptly.

He immediately began developing a process for disaster recovery caseworkers to follow up on their cases more efficiently, and improved the process in a way that we have adopted and use now.

He is available 24/7 for questions, and to assure everything is handled in an efficient manner. He is fair, understanding, and always steps in when needed.



Red Cross Value: Compassionate – Carolyn Buchanan

Since she joined the Red Cross more than two years ago, Carolyn has served as the Regional Philanthropy Officer and embodies our Red Cross values every day. She has the biggest heart, is a “go to” person for everyone, and never complains.

When she had a chance to deploy to support the unaccompanied minors at the Texas rescue effort, she knew she had to go. She took care of the children, securing crayons and paper so they could draw, finding sleeping bags to keep them warm at night, and caring for their mental health in this extremely difficult situation. She truly embodies what it means to be

Red Cross Value: Credible – Courtney Leighton

Courtney serves as the Biomedical Transportation Coordinator for Massachusetts and Northern New England. She has been with the Red Cross since 2015, starting her career in manufacturing. Courtney juggles so many balls in the air at once, but somehow manages to execute them all perfectly.

She puts her heart and soul into everything she does—making sure that it all runs smoothly. She truly puts the Red Cross above herself. When Courtney works on a task, you can rest assured that all the details will come together above and beyond your expectations. She works tirelessly to ensure that the blood products are delivered to patients whenever they need them and for that, she is extremely credible.



Red Cross Value: Collaborative – Bonnie Norton

Bonnie has been with the Red Cross since 2014, and has worn many hats but currently serves as our Northeast Chapter Volunteer, Regional Recovery Program Lead, and Disability Integration Lead. She has cross-trained in many disaster activities so that she can flex to whatever need may arise including disaster and volunteer services instructor, logistics team manager, shelter manager, pillowcase instructor, and so much more. You name it, Bonnie will do it with a smile.

She has deployed more than 15 times out of state and another 15 times within the state, including a month-long deployment to Greater New York to lead their recovery efforts after Hurricane Ida. Bonnie always has our mission at the top of her mind, and exhibits this behavior not only through her own service delivery work but through her team leadership.



Congratulations to ALL our 2021 nominees!

- Sarwar Amin
- David Andre (and Food Pantry Team)
- Ryan Avery
- Glenn Brack
- Owen Cameron
- William Coutu
- Harry Crowley
- Sharon Curry
- Mary Dietzel
- Eva Ferguson
- Erin Hall
- Taylor Hansen
- Bob Hartman
- Kelly Isenor
- Marnie Kaufman
- Elisabeth Kotsalidis
- Julie Kraus



- Dianna MacAuliffe
- Bob Mansfield
- Mark McLaughlin
- Ilona Metell
- Mary Nathan
- Michelle Nouvelle
- Marnie O’Hashi
- Jyothi Polackal
- Tara Polackal
- Jairaj Puthenveettil
- Lisa Rafferty
- Judy Sheer
- Jeanine Swick
- Ralph Swick
- Christine Tebaldi
- Sharifa Trotman
- Joy Winslow

Running for the Red: Red Cross of Massachusetts Plays Starring Role in 125th Boston Marathon



October has been an incredible month for Boston sports fans—who've already seen Tom Brady visit Foxboro, the Red Sox in the playoffs, and the Head of the Charles return to the water.

This year, you can add a fall running of the Boston Marathon into the mix—an event that touches multiple areas of the Red Cross mission.

For months leading up to the 125th Boston Marathon, our Disaster Services team pre-planned with Massachusetts Emergency Management (MEMA) and the surrounding cities and towns on how the Red Cross would support a mass-casualty incident, should one occur.

On the day of the event, nearly 50 Disaster Cycle Services staff and volunteers engaged in the event, regional staff managed the Red Cross activation and operation from headquarters in Medford, and the Disaster Action Teams pre-positioned north and south of the race route to quickly respond to non-race events that may occur.



As we have done in previous years, hundreds of Red Cross volunteers also supported the medical tents along the Marathon route, from mile 1 to 26. In addition to medically trained responders, our volunteers helped pack and move supplies.

On the fundraising front, 33 runners were able to generate more than \$235,000 for Team Red Cross by race day—and pledges are still rolling in.

Team Red Cross runners train together and share tips and motivation leading up to this annual event. If you are interested in joining Team Red Cross, please contact Katherine Norbom at [**Katherine.Norbom@redcross.org**](mailto:Katherine.Norbom@redcross.org).

Boston Heroes — Call for Nominations

On **March 23, 2022**, the American Red Cross of Massachusetts will hold its second Boston Heroes Breakfast.



Nominate a hero by November 1, 2021

This event honors the heroes among us—exemplary people and groups who exhibit extraordinary acts of courage, kindness, and service.

The nomination deadline is ***Monday, Nov. 1, 2021***. To nominate a hero, go to: **[Boston Heroes Breakfast | Red Cross of Massachusetts](#)**.

Heroes must meet the following qualifications:

- Their heroic/courageous actions(s) must take place between January 1, 2020 and November 1, 2021.
- Nominees (individuals or organizations) must reside in the following counties: Barnstable, Bristol, Dukes, Essex, Middlesex, Nantucket, Norfolk, Plymouth, or Suffolk.
- If selected, hero nominees must agree to complete a criminal background check, which the Red Cross will administer; be filmed sharing their heroic story; receive the Heroes Award (virtually) at the March 23, 2002 breakfast; take part in a pre-event media interview; have their story and likeness used in publicized and shared traditional and social media; and potentially engage with breakfast sponsors.

The Red Cross expects to select heroes by the end of December, 2021.



November is Native American Heritage Month

Lula Owl Gloyne was a Red Cross Nurse during World War I, and dedicated her life to serving the health needs of the communities in which she worked. She holds the distinction of being the first Registered Nurse from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), and was named a “Beloved Woman of the Tribe,” one of only three women bestowed with this title.

Lula’s father was a Cherokee Indian and her mother was a Catawba Indian. English became the common language of the household, which enabled Lula and her siblings to complete their education

and pursue professional careers.

Lula's career began at the Chestnut Hill Hospital School of Nursing. She went on to provide her services in the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in Wakapala, SD; Miami, OK; and Cherokee, NC; where she served her people in the Qualla Boundary, the land belonging to the EBCI tribe in western North Carolina.

She was known to traverse difficult terrain to deliver babies, care for sick families, or sew up wounds in the field. With no full-time physician or hospital at the Qualla Boundary, Lula was the first full-time, Western-trained health care provider available in this rural area.

Her most significant achievement was helping to establish the first hospital for the tribe. Her dream of a community hospital in North Carolina that provided modern care led Lula to Washington, DC to petition the Commissioner on Indian Affairs. Her efforts paid off in 1937 when the Bureau of Indian Affairs built a new hospital for the Cherokee people on the Qualla Boundary.

Lula was appointed head nurse and continued to see patients in her community. The government even bought her a car to make her house visits.

In 1978 Lula was honored by the North Carolina Nurses Association, and in 2015 was inducted into the North Carolina Nurse's Hall of Fame. She passed away in 1985, a beloved woman and healer of her tribe.

Native American Heritage Month



Southeastern MA partnerships help collect blood in current emergency



The Southeastern Chapter is answering our current emergency need for blood. Two notable September drives in Brockton have helped raise awareness about the urgent need for blood and our Sickle Cell Initiative. Our partnership with the United Way of Greater Plymouth County collected more than 30 units of blood, while a Sickle Cell Initiative blood drive not only collected more than 25 units of blood, it raised awareness about the Red Cross national effort to

eliminate the gap in our ability to meet hospital demand and provide the most compatible units for patients with sickle cell disease.

This disease is the most common genetic blood disease in the U.S., affecting about 100,000 people—primarily affecting Black and African American individuals. Though there is no widely available cure, the Red Cross supports one of the most critical sickle treatments of all—blood transfusions. For many patients, a close blood type match is essential and is found in donors of the same race or similar ethnicity.



November 2021



Multicultural Holidays

In addition to Native American Heritage Month, November raises awareness of men's health issues—such as prostate cancer, testicular cancer, and men's suicide—and also celebrates the following holidays:

Oct. 31 – Nov. 2: All Saints Day/All Souls Day/Día de los Muertos – Christian holidays, and the Mexican/Aztec descendants thereof

Nov. 4: Diwali – Key Hindu celebration, in praise of diverse deities

Nov. 16: United Nations: International Day for Tolerance – Promotes respect for diverse religions, languages, cultures, and ethnicities

Nov. 16: Dutch American Heritage Day

Nov. 20: LGBTQ+ Transgender Day of Remembrance – Memorializes those murdered as a result of transphobia

Nov. 28 – Dec. 6: Hanukkah

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