

## 10 Holiday Cooking Safety Tips from the American Red Cross

With cooking being the number one cause of home fires, the American Red Cross recommends that everyone follow these fire safety steps:

1. Install a smoke alarm near your kitchen, on each level of your home, near sleeping areas, and inside and outside bedrooms if you sleep with doors closed. Use the test button to check it each month. Replace all batteries at least once a year.
2. Don't wear loose clothing or sleeves that hang while cooking.
3. If you are frying, grilling, or broiling food, never leave it unattended—stay in the kitchen. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
4. If you're simmering, baking, roasting, or broiling food, check it regularly.
5. Use a timer to remind yourself that the stove or oven is on.
6. Keep kids and pets away from the cooking area.
7. Keep anything that can catch fire away from your stove, oven, or any other appliance in the kitchen that generates heat.



Red Cross volunteers provide support and care to families recovering from disasters, including home fires.

8. Clean cooking surfaces on a regular basis to prevent grease buildup.
9. Always check the kitchen before going to bed or leaving the home to make sure all these appliances are turned off.
10. Consider purchasing a fire extinguisher to keep in your kitchen. Contact your local fire department to take training on the proper use of extinguishers.

### Help Sound the Alarm

With the support of community partner organizations, the Red Cross has saved 453 lives nationwide and helped make people safer through installation of free smoke alarms, assistance with escape plans, and fire safety education.

**For more information on volunteering, donating, or how to protect your own family from home fires, visit [SoundTheAlarm.org/Hawaii](http://SoundTheAlarm.org/Hawaii).**



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### Here is how your support makes a difference



Opened over **1,400** shelters, providing more than **1 million** overnight stays with the help of our partners



Served over **20 million** meals and snacks with the help of our partners



Over **610,000** households provided with recovery assistance



## On a Personal Note

Coralie Chun Matayoshi  
CEO

In 2018, you helped us provide hope, comfort, and care for disaster survivors in their time of need. You've helped people learn how to prepare for emergencies. And you helped support our service members and veterans in times of need.

I am incredibly grateful for the support of kindhearted donors like you. Your dedication makes our critical work possible, and I cannot thank you enough for that. I'm confident that your compassion and generosity will help see us through the next 12 months and beyond. Happy New Year from our family to yours!

Sincerely,

Coralie Chun Matayoshi  
CEO  
American Red Cross  
Pacific Islands Region

## From lava to hurricanes

Your support brought comfort and support during local disasters

From the Kilauea lava eruption to the threats of back-to-back direct hurricane hits, the Hawaii Red Cross had its hands full this year.

In August, Hurricane Lane caused over 1,800 people to seek refuge in 36 evacuation centers statewide. It was the wettest tropical cyclone in the United States after Hurricane Harvey. Amidst finishing casework for Lane in early September, Olivia threatened the islands and made history as the first storm to make landfall on Maui. Thanks to your generosity, the Red Cross opened 16 evacuation centers on Maui, the Big Island, and Oahu, housing 78 people. As response efforts for Olivia were winding down, the Pahoia Emergency Evacuation Shelter—which once housed over 500 lava evacuees—closed on September 17 after 138 days. It stands as the longest running disaster shelter in Hawaii's history.



The Pahoia Emergency Evacuation Shelter housed 500 evacuees, the longest running disaster shelter in Hawaii's history.

Throughout all these major disasters, hundreds of Red Cross volunteers distributed thousands of relief items and supporters like you provided hundreds of thousands of dollars in financial assistance, enabling the Red Cross to provide comfort and care to hundreds of impacted residents.

### Mahalo to our corporate sponsors for their support in helping local families

#### Gold partners



#### Silver partners

