



Smoke alarms save lives

The Hawaii Red Cross along with local Fire Departments, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 1186, and other community partners have been busy promoting fire safety in their communities. The volunteers spend many hours visiting homes around Hawaii, distributing information about preventing home fires and installing free smoke alarms to those in need. Local residents also learn how to plan escape routes and helpful fire prevention tips.

With the ongoing support of our donors, the Red Cross launched a national initiative to help combat the threat of home fires by reducing deaths and injuries by 25 percent over the next five years. These educational programs help spread the word.

Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in a home fire by 50%.

Smoke alarm installations are scheduled throughout the year on Oahu and the neighbor islands. Since the nationwide kick-off in October 2014, over 455 smoke alarms have been installed across the State of Hawaii. Nationwide, over 66,000 smoke alarms have been installed in nearly 37,000 homes, saving 13 lives.

It takes two

Two simple steps, that's all it takes to help prevent home fire-related deaths and injuries.



Coralie Chun Matayoshi, CEO, Hawaii Red Cross; Socrates Bratakos, Assistant Chief, Honolulu Fire Department; Damien Kim, Business Manager-Financial Secretary, IBEW, Local 1186; Jeff Shonka, CEO, First Insurance Company of Hawaii.

The Hawaii Red Cross is asking people to do two simple things that can help save lives—check smoke alarms and develop an evacuation plan (and practice that plan at home). While most people have smoke alarms, many have never discussed evacuation plans. On average, Hawaii Red Cross volunteers respond to a disaster every four days, and more than 90 percent of the disasters are fire related.

For more information on the Red Cross Home Fire Campaign or to give generously to help save lives, please visit redcross.org/hi/honolulu

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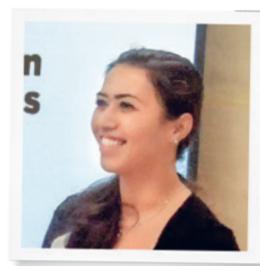
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A message
from the
CEO

Your Red Cross story

It seems that we all have our own way of contributing to the Red Cross mission, whether it's donating time as a volunteer, learning a lifesaving skill, or making a donation to support relief efforts after a natural disaster.

And behind each story of care, bravery or generosity is someone who receives the help that they so desperately need.

As you read through this issue of *Crossnotes*, please know that everything you do to support the Red Cross makes a real impact in the lives of individuals and families facing unimaginable difficulties.

We are very grateful for your commitment to the Hawaii Red Cross. We've been able to make a difference in our local community because of the generosity of donors and volunteers like you.

Your kokua is a vital part of the Hawaii Red Cross story and in helping to turn heartache into hope.

Thank you,

Coralie Chun Matayoshi, CEO
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Hawaii volunteer serves around the world

Maui Red Cross Volunteer of the Year, Rebecca King has been a disaster volunteer since 2009. She lives in West Maui, an area that is vulnerable to getting cut off from outside help if a disaster occurs. Realizing the need for more trained disaster volunteers in her community, Rebecca decided to become a Red Cross volunteer herself.



Dedicated volunteer brings home preparedness skills gained from around the world.

Shortly after becoming a volunteer, Rebecca went on her first national deployment to Pennsylvania for the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, where she assisted with client casework. A momentum of deployments followed for

this dedicated volunteer. In 2012, Rebecca went to Louisiana to assist with mass care and sheltering in the aftermath of Hurricane Isaac, and in the summer of 2014, when tropical storms Iselle and Ana threatened the islands, she was sent to the Big Island to help with client casework and disaster assessment. That same year, she also went to Guam to assist with the response for Tropical Cyclone Vongfong.

Big rewards for long hours

"The hours are long but very rewarding," Rebecca says. "Especially with us coming from Hawaii, I think a little aloha goes a long way."

This year, Rebecca deployed to Saipan to help with relief efforts for Tropical Storm Bavi, as well as Guam and Rota to assist with client casework for Typhoon Dolphin.

It's because of the selfless dedication of Hawaii Red Cross volunteers like Rebecca that our organization is able to gain invaluable lessons in preparedness and respond quickly when a major disaster strikes in Hawaii.

New App brings emergency info to your phone

The new American Red Cross Emergency App is the one download resource that puts expert advice at your fingertips. This "all-inclusive" app combines over 35 severe weather and emergency alerts giving you real-time information to help keep you and your loved ones safe.

The Emergency App has customizable and informative features that allow you to:

- Follow real-time severe weather alerts
- Monitor family and friends across the country when they are in harm's way
- Notify loved ones that an alert has been issued in their area, using "Family Safe"
- Access vital information on what to do before, during and after an emergency

The free Emergency App is available in app stores by searching for the American Red Cross or by going to redcross.org/apps

Helping neighbors in harm's way



Red Cross volunteers were there for families who lost everything.

On May 11, 2015, while fire fighters battled the blaze that burned one home and threatened many others, the American Red Cross was called into action by Civil Defense to open up an evacuation shelter at the Na'alehu Community Center. In this remote area called Green Sands, workers from Ocean View quickly mobilized and housed 23 residents until the blaze was contained and roadways were re-opened.

In the days following, volunteers from Hilo, Keaau, Volcano, and Kona provided community outreach and individual assistance to affected families, distributing tarps and clean-up kits. The Red Cross assisted one resident who lost everything with transportation, food, bedding, clothing and medications.

The 61-year old resident expresses much gratitude. "All my dreams that I put into this house for 27 years are gone" the resident says. "I don't know what I'm going to do about this place, but for now, I'm so grateful you are standing with me."

Donate miles to the Red Cross

You can make a big impact on your community with one click by donating your Hawaiian Air miles to the Hawaii Red Cross.

- Log onto www.hawaiianair.com and sign in to your HawaiianMiles portal.
- Under "Manage My Account," click on "Donate to Charities."
- Choose the American Red Cross, Hawaii Chapter.
- Click on the "Donate Now" button to donate your HawaiianMiles to us.

Not only will your miles go towards a good cause, but Hawaiian Airlines will take the total miles donated to the American Red Cross Hawaii State Chapter and match the donation total up to 500,000 miles.



Donate your car (Oahu only)

You can also make a difference by donating your car through the American Red Cross Vehicle Donation Program. Donating your vehicle—in any condition—is another great way to help us help others. We accept cars, trucks, vans, motorcycles, boats, and even jet skis.



Call 1-855-927-2227 or visit redcross.org/cardonation for more information.

Up from the ashes

When Ariel Wallace-Wong was 14 years old, she experienced a terrifying fire in her home. It was a Friday night and her mom was away at a Christmas party. One of her brothers noticed the smell of something burning—they traced the smell to the hallway and saw that their bathroom door was lined with fire.

Ariel recalls their evacuation as “the scariest feeling—not knowing what to do, who to call or how to get everyone out of the house.”

Afterward, Ariel was too distraught to speak with the Red Cross volunteer who approached her, but the volunteer never left her side. “They stood with me the whole time until my mom came home,” Ariel recalls. The Red Cross assisted Ariel’s family with temporary housing and clothing since nothing was salvageable.

Inspired to serve

Years later, Ariel and her family have recovered, but she has not forgotten about her Red Cross experience. “If it wasn’t for the generosity of the Red Cross, we wouldn’t have been



Being helped by the Red Cross inspired Ariel to give back.

able to stay together as a family to plan our recovery,” says Ariel. As a University of Hawaii student studying social work, Ariel is now a Red Cross volunteer. “Working with the Red Cross is so rewarding, knowing that I am able to give back to others while donating my time with an organization that has impacted my life in such a positive way.”

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

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Support the Hawaii Red Cross Today!

As a Hawaii Red Cross Supporter, you can make a difference every day. Your support will help the Red Cross help local communities to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters big and small.

Go to redcross.org/hi/honolulu or call 808-739-8109 for credit card donations or send a check to the American Red Cross, Hawaii State Chapter, 4155 Diamond Head Road, Honolulu, HI 96816.