



American
Red Cross

crossnotes

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Preparing our Keiki

The American Red Cross is known for showing up after disaster strikes, but its role is equally as significant in preparing for disasters. The Pillowcase Project was designed to ensure families are prepared by educating children about hazards and empowering them to take action in emergency preparedness.

"We teach keiki about hazards like hurricanes or tsunamis and the science behind each hazard. Then we teach them how to prepare and what to do in case of an emergency. We also teach them fire-safety and coping skills—how to handle these stressful situations," explains Carole Ka'apu, Hawaii preparedness manager.

The power of the pillowcase

The keiki learn how to make an emergency kit using a pillowcase provided by Disney, which they decorate as they please. They learn what they should include in their own kit, as well as their family emergency kit, and are encouraged to draw those items on their pillowcase to help them remember.

"We want to empower kids to be proactive in emergency preparedness, rather than being reactive victims of it. The idea behind it is to learn, practice, and share. You're going to learn something, do some interactive activity to practice it, and then share it with your parents," Carole says.

The program is aimed toward grades 3-5. The American Red Cross visits locations such as school classrooms, after-school programs, Scouts and Boys and Girls clubs. About 1,000 children have been reached on O'ahu since August 2015.



"We want to empower kids to be proactive in emergency preparedness, rather than being reactive victims of it."

"When a kid says, 'Oh, I get it. I'm gonna tell my mom.' You know that this is something that's going to make an impact on them," Carole says.

The Pillowcase Project was inspired by college students who used pillowcases to carry valuables during the evacuation for Hurricane Katrina. Now the program has expanded across the U.S. and internationally to reach hundreds of thousands of children and their families.

To help get our keiki prepared, learn how to become a volunteer at: redcross.org/local/hawaii/volunteer/becoming-a-volunteer

Your support at work



More than

40,500

overnight stays provided after home fires and other disasters



More than

1,288,000

relief items delivered for individuals and families



More than

1,491,000

meals and snacks served



A message from the CEO

Our Red Cross family

It's impossible to think of the American Red Cross in Hawai'i without thinking of our wonderful volunteers. They are the heart and soul of our mission and the backbone of our organization—and every day, they inspire me with their talent and dedication.

Your generosity enables the Red Cross to provide relief to those in need. Together with our volunteers, you are essential to our success—ensuring that we can answer the call for help, every day, everywhere.

From sending emergency messages, between deployed military service members and their loved ones, to responding to devastating disasters and preparing our communities for disasters, your support helps us to bring relief for today and hope for tomorrow.

I thank you for your commitment to this vision and for your contribution to make it a reality.

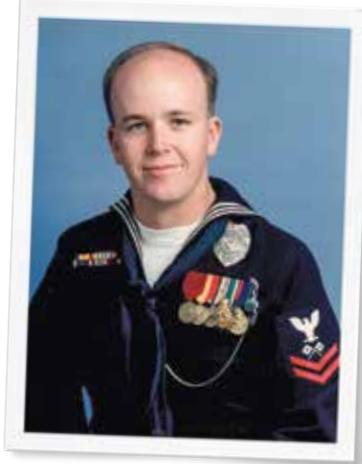
Mahalo,

Coralie Chun Matayoshi
CEO, Hawaii Red Cross



Serving America's heroes

Signalman Logan Weaver was on a Navy ship heading to Hawaii when he received word from the Red Cross that his father had suffered a heart attack and was in serious condition. Within hours, he was on a helicopter headed home to be with family.



"The ship does not stop and turn around," says Logan. "I probably would've had to wait 10 days to cross the Pacific and get to the Hawaiian Islands. Without the Red Cross message, I wouldn't have been able to get that helo ride out. The Red Cross trumps everything. It's a crucial portion of going on emergency leave."

Bringing families together

Unexpected emergencies can happen to anyone, at any time. With generous supporters like you, Red Cross can connect and offer Aloha when loved ones seem so far away. Every year in Hawaii, we assist 1,800 military service members and their families with emergency communications in times of crisis.

Providing comfort to men and women in uniform has been a pillar of the Red Cross since its founding. With wonderful local support, your donation also provides critical services such as the Human Animal Bond Program at Tripler Army Medical Center with pet therapy for patients who are recovering from physical, mental or social illness as well as reconnection workshops that are free confidential discussions to enhance successful re-engagement of service members to civilian life.

To donate or learn more, visit
redcross.org/about-us/our-work/military-families

Join our Red Cross Clara Barton Society!

Clara Barton Society members embody the characteristics of our founder—dedication, compassion and leadership—to keep this vital work going. With an annual gift of \$1,000 to \$4,999, you turn compassion into action, helping people in their times of greatest need and inspiring others to join with you and the Red Cross.

Learn more by contacting Jennifer Dotson at jennifer.dotson2@redcross.org or at 808-739-8133.



A devastating fire inspires volunteer to join the Hawaii Red Cross

"It was a scary, devastating feeling of hopelessness watching my whole life go up in flames and not being able to do anything," says Christine Nary, whose home burned down in February 2014, displacing her family of four.

"I was in such shock and didn't see them come at first," says Christine. After gathering herself, she noticed the American Red Cross volunteers tending to her neighbors, offering them comfort and recovery resources. "I was in shock and could not talk, but the volunteers were very compassionate and waited patiently," says Christine.

Hope from the ashes

With assistance from the Red Cross, the Nary's were able to buy necessities like food, clothes, toiletries and medications to

get back on their feet. The availability of counseling services also brought them comfort. "The Red Cross was my angel, ensuring our lives would go on. We were not alone."

"My sister's loss became my inspiration for joining the Red Cross," says Nancy Kupka, sister to Christine Nary. Nancy was in California during the fire but felt relieved knowing that the Red Cross was there for her. Nancy is now a volunteer pillowcase project presenter and also volunteers in the Volunteer Services Department for the Hawaii Red Cross. "The Red Cross came alive to me through my sister's experience," says Nancy. "I am so glad to lend my time to an organization that was there to comfort and support my family."



To find out how to volunteer, please visit redcross.org/volunteer

Hawaii Tiffany's Circle members lunch and learn

Over 130 years ago, Clara Barton established the American Red Cross by engaging talented, committed and compassionate women dedicated to saving lives. In 2006, her legacy continued when the Tiffany Circle was formed to unite and engage a group of generous and highly involved women to continue to ensure that the Red Cross has the ability to help people prevent, prepare for and respond to life's emergencies.

Here in Hawaii, the Red Cross has 12 Tiffany's Circle members: LeBurta Atherton, Balbi Brooks, Rosalie Danbury, Priscilla Grownay, Joey Harris, Kitty Lagareta, Camille McCormack, Maya Rogers, Jean Rolles, Carolyn Berry Wilson, Barbara Wong, and Sheila Wrede.

Recently, several local Tiffany's Circle members were able to gather and discuss Red Cross program topics such as fire safety, military support, smoke alarm installations and the upcoming Centennial Celebration.

To learn more about the Tiffany's Circle, call 808-739-8133



Donate your HawaiianMiles to the Hawaii Red Cross

Log on to hawaiianair.com and under "Manage My Account," click "Donate to Charities." Choose the American Red Cross of Hawaii.

Hawaiian Airlines will take the total miles donated to the Hawaii Red Cross and match the donation total up to 500,000 miles.



Staying safe from home fire emergencies

The Red Cross responds to a disaster approximately every 8 minutes, the majority of which are home fires. Our goal is to reduce the number of fire-related deaths and injuries in our nation by 25 percent by 2020. You can help keep your family safe with just two simple steps:



Practice your 2-minute drill.

Make sure your family can safely escape a home fire in under 2 minutes.



Test your smoke alarms monthly.

Make sure you and your family are alerted as soon as a fire is detected. If the smoke alarm isn't working, change the batteries.

With the help of thousands of local partners, the Home Fire Campaign has installed 407,852 free smoke alarms and educated 549,343 youth. To date, the campaign has been credited with saving at least 102 lives. To learn more, please visit redcross.org/home-fire

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An average of 91 cents of every dollar the Red Cross spends is invested in humanitarian services and programs.