



American Red Cross

Saving Lives Giving Hope



Celebrating 93 Years of Service to Hawaii! **Tornadoes, Floods & Wildfires - Oh My!**



Deer herd escapes flood on stairway



150 volunteers had cots, no showers

To our wonderful Volunteers and Supporters,

Summer 2011

April showers brought more than May flowers. Spring brought a record breaking number of tornadoes (200+ across 16 states between April 14-16, alone), floods, and wildfires covering more than half of the country, causing thousands to flee their homes and into 283 Red Cross shelters where over 3.2 million meals & snacks were served by over 13,000 volunteers.

There were 26 local Hawaii volunteers from Oahu, Maui, Kauai and the Big Island who were deployed to the mainland to bring comfort to victims in Tuscaloosa, Joplin, and other disaster-ravaged areas.

Veteran Red Cross volunteer Esther Lau, a registered nurse, was deployed not once, but twice - first to Alabama and then to Joplin, serving as the nursing manager on both operations.

Lucille James, also an RN, served on a Condolence Team after the Alabama tornadoes took more than 200 lives. Together with disaster mental health, spiritual care, and client case workers, they visited families who had lost loved ones during the disaster to provide comfort and financial assistance to cover death related expenses such as family member transportation to the funeral, food and lodging for out of town relatives, flowers, and death certificates. "These home visits were intimate and touching. I felt privileged to provide support for these people who lost so much. Families we visited stated they were grateful for the monetary gift from the American people and most of all for the caring our team provided," said James.

RN Gary Glauberman traveled dozens of miles every day to provide reassurance to victims in rural Georgia, distribute disaster relief kits, and take care of their critical medical needs such as replacement of dentures, glasses, and prescriptions. RN Barbara Lee worked in a Mississippi shelter helping residents of a poor, close-knit community where most live from paycheck to paycheck and who had lost everything in the floods.

Kula volunteer Tom Worthington deployed to Arkansas as a technology manager just four days after tornados and thunderstorms hit. Working 14-16 hours a day, he and his team were often the first ones there and the last ones to leave.

Cathy Lewis, a Big Island veteran of almost 2 dozen disasters, thought she knew what she was walking in to, but was still shocked at the destruction in Tuscaloosa. "It was like a war zone -- like this huge Weed Eater just went into the area and sucked up and chopped up everything imaginable. Homes, trees, cars, photos, toys were just picked up and spit out everywhere."

Hawaii Red Cross staff member Jessie Kozel was sent to Alabama to lead three Safe & Well teams whose job was to help locate people with serious health or mental health conditions, coordinate needed assistance, and facilitate communication with their worried family members. Anything from language barriers to self-evacuation or hospitalization could cause a person to be missing, so team members contacted local police, hospitals, morgues and shelters to try to locate them. Jessie and her team used a "CSI" approach to look for clues to a woman who disappeared after the tornado (continued on next page).

Coralie Chun Matayoshi
Chief Executive Officer

After knocking on every door of the apartment complex of the last known residence for the missing woman, they finally found one person who was new and unfortunately didn't know any of his neighbors. Some mailboxes had names on them, but none that came even close to the missing person's name. Then they came across a rental agency sign with a phone number. Keeping her fingers crossed because it was close to 5pm, Jessie held her breath and dialed the number. Somebody answered! Although the rental agency couldn't give them personal information about the lady's whereabouts because of privacy concerns, they were able to divulge that she had spoken to the missing woman *after* the storm. This was enough information to give her family the peace of mind in knowing that she was alive! Weary after a 14 hour day, frustrated by a lot of dead ends, Jessie doesn't know who had the bigger smile – she or the family member whose loved one was found.

Give Aloha at Foodland, Sack N Save, & Foodland Farms to Help Us Raise Funds!

Make a donation at any Foodland, Sack N Save, or Foodland Farms (up to \$249 per person) to the Hawaii Red Cross (code 77010) and Foodland & the Western Union Foundation will match a portion of your donation. Mahalo! Visit our website at www.hawaiiredcross.org for more information.

Donate Your HawaiianMiles to the Hawaii Red Cross

Log onto www.HawaiianAirlines.com, sign in to your HawaiianMiles portal, and 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. Hawaiian Airlines will take the total miles donated to the American Red Cross, Hawaii State Chapter in 2011 and match the donation total up to 500,000 miles. Mahalo for your support!



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- Possible tax deductions
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- Possible reduction in capital gains

Age	Rate	Age	Rate
65	5.3%	80	7.5%
70	5.8%	85	8.4%
75	6.5%	90	9.8%

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For information and assistance, contact: Betty Mastrantonio at (808) 739-8108 or mastrantonib@hawaiiredcross.org.



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