



American  
Red Cross

# Saving Lives Giving Hope



## Celebrating 93 Years of Service to Hawaii! Disasters: From Tragedy to Hope



Christmas Eve fire destroys  
Waianae home



Red Cross volunteers distribute  
disaster relief items on Oahu and Maui



Flooding prompts opening of  
Red Cross shelters on Oahu & Maui

To our wonderful Volunteers and Supporters,

Winter 2010-11

On the verge of starting a new life, he and his wife were expecting a child. Life was beautiful. Then tragedy struck, and he was suddenly faced with the fear of burning alive in his own home. The whole parlor and the window outside his bedroom were burning, so he had to run right through the fire. Once in the bathroom, he turned on the shower only to realize a second later, "I'm going to burn in the shower." He could hear the fire raging outside and as he came through the door, it looked like a Hollywood set. The room blew up and he was on fire. His only way out was the window, so he began punching the louvers and cut his hands and tendons to shreds. "I have a scar on my forearm, on one of the only parts that aren't burned. My arms are burned from fingertip to fingertip and all my back. It's a cross just like the Red Cross, burned right into my arm, that I see every day... Burning alive is a terrible way to die. It's terrible. You don't even feel pain, it's absolute terror."

"I tell people it's a miracle not only organizations like you but in my situation, this whole situation changed my life and I accepted more in a positive way because there was help from people like you to balance...I didn't go homeless." He was in a coma for over 2 weeks and ICU for a month. "I went home and it was a home that through the service of the Red Cross was provided to my family... your services helped, especially immediately after I woke up...my wife was telling me about the Red Cross. It's an amazing thing you do."

"You made a difference. Not only by getting us through the tragedy but putting a big cornerstone in my heart that changed my life. Made me look at things differently. We're going to instill in this child the spirit of giving. It's a different life. We may have lost everything, but we gained so much more. So again, thank you very much."

— Hawaii disaster victim's story

### Local Disaster Recap

2010 ended with a flurry of fires and flood — 7 disasters in December alone, including house fires in Kalihi, Waianae, McCully and Koloa (Kauai), flooding on Oahu and Maui, and a fallen boulder incident in Aiea. On call 24/7, 365 days a year, we responded to 96 disasters statewide (that's one every 4 days), opened 8 shelters and served 768 meals.

2011 began in much the same way as 2010—more heavy rain and flooding. Thanks to our wonderful volunteers and staff, we have been able to help hundreds of flood victims on Oahu and Maui. Four shelters were open for several days where dozens of flood victims sought refuge and over 300 meals and snacks were served.

Red Cross volunteers canvassed hundreds of homes and found 1 home destroyed, 4 with major damage and 9 with minor damage. Going door to door, we distributed flood kits, flashlights, trash bags, hand sanitizer, buckets, bleach, rakes, shovels, and tarps as well as stuffed animals for children. In addition, we worked through our Waianae Outreach and Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center partners to distribute tarps, t-shirts, towels and flashlights to the homeless beach population. Thanks for all of your generosity and compassion – you make our good work possible!

Coralie Chun Matayoshi, CEO  
American Red Cross, Hawaii State Chapter

## Certified Nurse Aid Training Now Available Online

Want to become a certified nurse aid and need maximum flexibility in gaining the necessary knowledge and skills for a career in care giving? Learn at your own pace, any time and any place, monitor your own progress, repeat when necessary, and self-test at the end of each section. When you're done with the written portion, come in for a live 2 week on-site lab and clinical practicum. This State-Approved Nurse Aide Training is equivalent to 130 lecture and clinical hours and will prepare you to take the state competency exam to become a Certified Nurse Assistant. For more details, go to [www.hawaiiredcross.org](http://www.hawaiiredcross.org), Take a Class, Nurse Assistant or call 739-8132, 739-8123, or 739-8142.



## Donate Your HawaiianMiles to the Hawaii Red Cross

Log onto [www.HawaiianAirlines.com](http://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!



## Join Red Cross Social Media

Follow us on [Twitter](#) (hawaiiredcross) and be our friend on [Facebook](#) (Hawaii Red Cross)!



## Mahalo to our Corporate Partners

These companies have committed substantial support towards the everyday work of the Red Cross in Hawaii:

Gold Partners:



Silver Partners:



## Fantastic Opportunity to Support the Red Cross

Sample rates for single life:

- Guaranteed annual payments for life
- Rates from 5.5%-9.5% depending on your age
- Possible tax deductions
- A portion of your yearly income is tax-free
- Possible reduction in capital gains

| Age | Rate | Age | Rate |
|-----|------|-----|------|
| 65  | 5.5% | 80  | 7.2% |
| 70  | 5.8% | 85  | 8.1% |
| 75  | 6.4% | 90  | 9.5% |

You may qualify for a **Charitable Gift Annuity** through the American Red Cross. It's a simple contract between you and the Red Cross that guarantees that you will receive a set amount of payments for life based on the amount you use to secure the gift annuity. The rate is based on your age. It's easy to set up, you receive life income at a higher return than in the market place, and you get a nice tax deduction.

For information and assistance, contact: **Betty Mastrantonio** at (808) 739-8108 or [mastrantonio@hawaiiredcross.org](mailto:mastrantonio@hawaiiredcross.org).



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