



American Red Cross

# Saving Lives Giving Hope



*Celebrating 95 Years of Service to Hawaii!*

## Gift of Aloha to Superstorm Sandy Victims



Hawaii 808 Shelter Team in New York



Staff quarters in NY naval barracks



Volunteer in Staten Island



Delivering meals and comfort



To our wonderful Volunteers and Supporters,

Winter 2012

When Superstorm Sandy struck the East Coast wreaking havoc to thousands, 31 Hawaii Red Cross volunteers from Oahu, Big Island, Kauai, Maui and Molokai rushed to their aid. Hawaii teams, known for their Aloha, assisted with sheltering and feeding, logistics, health services, mental health counseling, casework and more. The experience and knowledge our volunteers will bring back to Hawaii will help us respond more effectively when a large disaster strikes our islands.

A Red Cross volunteer from Ohio shared this story of compassion and hope: There comes a point on every deployment I call my defining moment, a moment of pure clarity, of knowing exactly why you were put in that situation. We were sent out to Staten Island where they were worst hit. We got to work in the truck, dishing up containers of food and water. A lady we helped told me it was now 5 days with no power, no drinking water, no heat.

Resident Karen and her daughter Veronica, who also lived in the area came to help. They were not flooded out. I consider them honorary Red Cross volunteers. One woman was looking for gloves. It was about 40 degrees and her hands were cold. Without skipping a beat, Karen peeled off her gloves and handed them to her. I looked across the street and saw a desolate and desperate looking old man, rolling by in his motorized wheelchair. The pleading look he gave me will haunt me for the rest of my life. I took him a meal and a drink and gave him a hug. He said, "Thank you. God bless you." As he rolled up the street, his face totally crumpled, and he started crying. That was when I lost it. I dealt with everything until we got into the truck to go back, and then I started crying. Even tonight, dealing with exhausted volunteers, I saw a woman who was frustrated earlier, gave her a hug and a bottle of water, and asked if she was feeling better. She said she was. I went over to get another bottle of water and another volunteer said, "I could use one of those too." I started to grab another water bottle and she said, "No, I need a hug." So I gave her one too.

**Red Cross is a hug. Sometimes the hug is from the arms, sometimes in the form of a meal, sometimes a blanket, sometimes shelter from the cold. HUG. "Sleeves up, hearts open, all in." This is what Red Cross is all about.**

### Give Something That Means Something

Every year, we buy stuff for friends, families, and special people in our lives. But how many golf shirts does your father really need? This holiday season, give something that means something by donating to the Red Cross in their name. Visit [www.redcross.org/gifts](http://www.redcross.org/gifts). Your donation can help provide infant care kits for babies in emergency shelters, phone cards for deployed military heroes to call home, hot meals and blankets to provide warmth and security for disaster victims in shelters, comfort kits for wounded warriors, or lifesaving measles vaccinations for children around the world. Help support our mission of saving lives and giving hope to those in need.

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

## Saving Lives & Giving Hope Here at Home, Every 4 Days

Gail from Maui shares how the Red Cross assisted her after a house fire. “A little over a year ago, my house totally burned down. I lived with my mom and my dad who were in their 90s. I was just really numb and this person came and she had 3 people in training so 4 of them came to talk to us. They were really calm. I felt taken care of. And they helped me, walked me through certain things. When it happens, it’s so overwhelming, you don’t even know where to start. So this is what I ended up with...the dress I was wearing, the underwear I was wearing, the pair of shoes I was wearing. Luckily, since I was at work, I had my purse with me. The thing about this whole organization.. that it’s so amazing. It’s all about volunteers. All of these people are volunteers. They have regular jobs, regular lives, they have families, and yet they come out...and they come out really fast. That part is the most amazing thing for me.”



An Oahu couple writes: “Thank you very much for the help extended to our family after our home was destroyed by fire. We finally moved back to our home. I did not forget the women who showed up on site and did everything they could to help us. I did not forget the giving of the American Red Cross. Thank you very much. You made the future a little brighter for us.”

“Our sincere thanks to all our dedicated volunteers and our caring supporters. Without your involvement and generosity, we could not do what we do. Because of you, we are there when people need help, when hope is lost. We are so grateful to each and every one of you and wish you all a safe and happy holiday season.”



### Donate Your HawaiianMiles to the Hawaii Red Cross

Log onto [www.hawaiianair.com](http://www.hawaiianair.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 and match the donation total up to 500,000 miles. Mahalo for your support!

### 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 4.7%-9% 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	4.7%	80	6.8%
70	5.1%	85	7.8%
75	5.8%	90	9.0%

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: Renee Kurdzos at 855-291-5222 (toll free) or [renee.kurdzos@redcross.org](mailto:renee.kurdzos@redcross.org).



**American Red Cross**  
Hawaii State Chapter

**Hawaii Red Cross Headquarters**  
4155 Diamond Head Road, Honolulu, HI 96816  
Phone: (808) 734-2101, Fax: (808) 735-8626  
[www.hawaiiredcross.org](http://www.hawaiiredcross.org)



You received this mail because you supported the American Red Cross and/or expressed interest in future communications from us. We appreciate that you have chosen to receive emails from us so we can keep you informed of events as they happen. If you received this email in error or do not wish to receive future emails from the American Red Cross, please email [timothy.kim@redcross.org](mailto:timothy.kim@redcross.org) noting your desire to be removed from the mail list. We respect your desire for privacy and will not share your name and address with third parties. 2006 The American National Red Cross, Hawaii State Chapter. All Rights Reserved.