

Lifesaving Awards



American Red Cross
Training Services

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Inspiring Stories by Region

Two Airmen Recognized for Lifesaving Actions in the Minnesota and Dakotas Region

Thanks to Red Cross and emergency training, as well as their quick response and professionalism, Airman 1st Class Damian Cordoba and Staff Sgt. Nicholas Thompson saved two lives.

- Damian, off duty and working a shift at a local restaurant, realized that a patron was choking. Without hesitation, he began performing abdominal thrusts on the man as well as a finger sweep. The obstruction was dislodged successfully.

- Nicholas was posted at Minot Air Force Base's South Gate when he heard a loud crash and observed a fellow airman bleeding from a severe arterial cut on his forearm. Nicholas applied a tourniquet to stop bleeding until EMS arrived on the scene.

The impressive details behind Cordoba's Certificate of Merit and Thompson's Lifesaving Award for Professional Responders can be found on the region's [blog](#).



L to R: Airman 1st Class Damian Cordoba, Zoe Wergeland Manstrom, Executive Director of the Western North Dakota Chapter of the Minnesota and Dakotas Red Cross, and Lorie Herbel, Service to the Armed Forces Regional Program Manager



L to R: Zoe Wergeland Manstrom and Staff Sgt. Nicholas Thompson, 5th Security Forces Squadron

Driver Rescued by Quick-Thinking Good Samaritan in the Indiana Region

Craig Gay was on his way home from work when he noticed a single-vehicle car accident on the side of the road. The driver was incoherent and unresponsive. Craig flagged down two additional drivers to assist. Together they were able to cut the driver free of her seatbelt. They then carried her to safety as first responders arrived.

[Read more](#) about Craig's selfless actions that resulted in him receiving the Certificate of Extraordinary Personal Action.



L to R: Craig Gay, Terry Stigdon, chief executive officer, Indiana Red Cross

Husband Performs Lifesaving CPR on Wife in the Wisconsin Region

When Dale Hintz found his wife unresponsive, he knew he had to act. His wife had suffered cardiac arrest, and Dale called upon his training in the Navy, as a boy scout leader, and through his job in maintenance. He immediately checked her pulse and called 911. Although it was a struggle to stay calm, Dale performed CPR for 11 minutes until EMS arrived and revived his wife with an AED. Read

about this remarkable save that garnered Dale the Certificate of Extraordinary Personal Action on the region's [Twitter feed](#) and watch the impactful [video](#) on the local news site.



Dale Hintz with his Certificate of Extraordinary Personal Action Award

Instructor Spotlight

Ruth Davidson-Gordon

Each month we highlight an Instructor whose student(s) have used their lifesaving training to save or sustain a life. This month we recognize Ruth Davidson-Gordon, who trained Nigme Negron-Pieretti in Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED. Nigme saw one of her students choking during a lunch and rushed over to perform lifesaving back blows and abdominal thrusts. Afterwards, Nigme spoke with Ruth and thanked her for the training, which enabled her to know what to do when critical minutes mattered. We also extend our thanks to Ruth for providing the quality training that allowed Nigme to save a life.



Lifesaving Awards Vault

From the vault of The Tribune (San Luis Obispo, California), June 26, 1957

A 12-year-old girl received the Certificate of Merit for rescuing a playmate who had fallen into a water-filled gravel pit. The girl, Judy Charlebols, received the award, which was signed by President Eisenhower. Judy is credited with using her Red Cross lifesaving skills to save the life of 10-year-old Sherri Slatter, who fell into the pit while playing.

American Red Cross Award to El Cajon Girl



Nominate.



Recognize.



Inspire.

Saving Lives Starts Here

If you or someone you know has used **skills** and **knowledge** learned in a Red Cross Training Services course to help save or sustain the life of another individual, visit [LifesavingAwards.org](#) to nominate them.

Want to see if you have a local hero in your area? Take a look at our [map](#).



Get Inspired!

Whether you're a professional responder or just want to learn how to be prepared when moments matter, the Red Cross has a course for you. More than 4.6 million people are trained in Red Cross lifesaving programs every year. Trust us to deliver unmatched lifesaving training and supplies to your business, organization, friends or family. Visit us at [redcross.org/training](#).