

Lifesaving Awards



American Red Cross

Training Services

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Inspiring Stories by Region

First Responder Acts in Southeastern Pennsylvania Region Rescue

Even for professional responders, using skills in a crisis requires quick thinking and decisive action. That's just what Allison Yannacone did

when she was alerted to an emergency this past summer on the outside pool deck. The facility patron had blue hands and lips and was not exhibiting a pulse. Allison called 911 then began CPR, switching to compressions only while the officer who initially responded took over breathing using a bag-valve mask. In presenting Yannacone with the Lifesaving Award for Professional Responders, Regional CEO Guy Triano connected her actions to the Red Cross mission of preventing and alleviating human suffering in the face of emergencies. Read the [full story](#) on the Red Cross Philly Blog.



L to R: Allison Yannacone and Guy Triano, CEO, Red Cross Southeastern Pennsylvania Region

Girl Scout Leader in Kansas and Oklahoma Region Receives Award in Front of Troops

Meagan Snider performed abdominal thrusts to save her sister's life, drawing on a CPR class she took 13 years ago with the Red Cross. The Greater Kansas chapter presented Meagan with the Certificate of Extraordinary Personal Action for her heroic efforts. Snider still exhibits disbelief at the situation and her actions, saying, "I had to think about it for a while; I literally had to decompress because I just saved a life." But the leader of Girl Scout Service Unit 704, who received the award in front of her scouts, also recognizes that others look up to her as a hero: "I'm proud to set this example for the Girl Scouts." [Watch](#) Snider tell her story and be presented with her Lifesaving Award or look at the [Facebook page](#) to see another quote from Snider.



Meagan Snider (center) is presented her award by leaders from the American Red Cross Kansas-Oklahoma region.

Pool Supervisor from the North Texas Region Saves a Life While on Vacation

Chris Alban began his career as a lifeguard and now serves as an aquatics facilities manager for the city of Plano, Texas. While on vacation in

Mexico, he noticed a woman at the pool floating face down and unresponsive. His years of training as a lifeguard led him to take quick action to get her out of the pool. At that point she began faintly breathing, so Alban put her in the recovery position while others went for help. "Chris was able to act quickly and decisively during a crisis," said Megan Dulgar, Interim CEO of the American Red Cross North Texas Region. View the [Facebook post](#) for a link to the story about how Alban earned his Certificate of Merit, and watch the local TV news story [here](#).



L to R: Red Cross DFW Metro East Board Member Janelle Anderson, Red Cross North Texas Interim CEO Megan Dulgar, Chris Alban, Kelly Alban, Plano Mayor John Muns

Instructor Spotlight

Steven Sakadales

Each month we highlight Instructors whose student(s) used their lifesaving training to save or sustain a life. This month we recognize Officer Steven Sakadales, the Instructor for two separate Lifesaving Award recipients in the National Capital and Greater Chesapeake Region. In one incident, an officer saved the life of a three-year old boy from choking; in the other, an officer applied a tourniquet before EMS arrived, saving the life of a woman who had been struck by a vehicle. At the award ceremony, which you can watch [here](#), Central Maryland Executive Director Misty Bruce stated, "Officer Sakadales...made sure that our officers in Taneytown had the skill set necessary to provide lifesaving efforts on scene day after day."



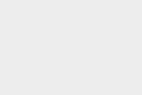
Lifesaving Awards Vault

From the vault of the Bradenton Herald (Bradenton, Florida), May 29, 1957

The first Lifesaving Award in Manatee County, Florida, was presented to Patty Oliver by Casper Sharp, representing the Red Cross Manatee Chapter. Oliver, a first aid student at the local chapter and a senior at Manatee County High School, rescued a five-year-old boy from a swimming pool.



Boothby Presented Red Cross Lifesaving Award



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](https://www.redcross.org/lifesavingawards) to nominate them.

Want to see if you have a

local hero in your area?

Take a look at our [map](#).



Get Inspired!

As we head into the holiday season, be aware and be prepared when moments matter. Whether you're spending time on vacation, traveling or staying at home, knowing how to respond in an emergency can make a difference. More than 4.6 million people are trained in Red Cross lifesaving programs every year – make yourself the next one! Visit us at [redcross.org/training](https://www.redcross.org/training).