

# Lifesaving Awards



**American Red Cross**  
Training Services

**NOMINATE NOW**

## Inspiring Stories by Region

### A Hero Emerges at Lunchtime in the Kentucky Region

Kerry Taylor was attending a lunch meeting when he noticed a woman across the restaurant choking. Without hesitation, he rushed to her side, introduced himself and gained consent to help. Kerry assisted her out of the booth and delivered three abdominal thrusts, successfully clearing her airway. Thanks to the skills he learned in a Red Cross Adult First Aid/CPR/AED course, he was able to turn a frightening moment into one of relief and hope. For his quick thinking and compassion, Kerry received the American Red Cross Certificate of Merit. See how one person's quick action made all the difference, and find more uplifting lifesaving moments on the region's [Instagram page](#).



Kerry Taylor (center) surrounded by co-workers, the Louisville Area Chapter board chair, Regan Nichols, and the Red Cross Kentucky Region CEO, Nadine McCrindle

### When Every Second Counted, Teamwork Became Lifesaving in the Central and South Texas Region

A team of five SeaWorld San Antonio employees received Lifesaving Awards for Professional Responders when they used their Red Cross training to save a co worker who collapsed. Lifeguard Robert Gonzalez conducted the initial assessment and alerted EMS. Supervisors Skyler Ramirez and Auri Mancik arrived next. Skyler found the man had no pulse and began CPR while Auri retrieved an AED. Jonathan Turner and Joshua Kelly joined, assisting with ventilations, CPR rotations and AED setup. They performed about 25 cycles of CPR and delivered five shocks before fire department responders took over. The employee recovered, and all five credited the save to their extensive Red Cross training in Lifeguarding (including Deep Water and Waterpark Skills) as well as CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers and First Aid. You can learn about their story on the region's [Facebook page](#) – then watch and the powerful [news footage](#) that brings it to life.



The Lifesaving Award recipients, along with one of their Instructors (far left) and Dr. Daniel P. Martinez, executive director, Greater San Antonio chapter of the American Red Cross (far right)

### A Teammate Steps Up in a Moment of Crisis in the Iowa and Nebraska Region

Drew Carraher received the Certificate of Extraordinary Personal Action for the exceptional care and courage he showed when a teammate experienced a seizure during basketball practice. Drawing on his knowledge of seizure care steps, Drew gently supported his teammate by laying his head in his lap, turning him on his side into the recovery position and timing the seizures while speaking calmly to steady his breathing. His presence, compassion and quick actions brought comfort in a frightening moment until emergency responders arrived. Discover more about this inspiring moment on the region's [Facebook page](#) and watch the full Lifesaving Award ceremony [here](#) to see the impact for yourself.



Drew Carraher, second from right, with regional leaders from the Red Cross of Iowa and Nebraska

## Instructor Spotlight

### Samantha Brock

Each month we highlight an Instructor whose student(s) have used their Red Cross lifesaving training to save or sustain a life. This month we recognize Samantha Brock. Two of her students profiled in the second story above, Joshua Kelly and Robert Gonzalez, recognized that a SeaWorld San Antonio colleague was suffering a cardiac arrest and jumped into action. Undoubtedly, the skills she taught them – American Red Cross Lifeguarding (including Deep Water and Waterpark Skills) as well as CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers and First Aid – helped save this man's life.

We extend our thanks to Samantha for providing the quality training that allowed her students to take action when it mattered most.



## Lifesaving Awards Vault

### From the vault of the Gage Record (Gage, OK), September 1, 1960

On this date in history, Harry Carey accepted the Red Cross Lifesaving award for administering CPR to revive a drowned 2-year-old boy. The 22-year-old former lifeguard was swimming offshore when he became aware of someone on the beach in distress. There, he found the young boy's mother holding her unresponsive son. Harry took the child and immediately began CPR with rescue breaths. After being revived, the child was taken to the hospital where he was examined and released.



Lifeguard Honored



*Nominate.*



*Recognize.*



*Inspire.*

### Saving Lives Starts Here

If you or someone you know has used **skills** and **knowledge** learned in an American Red Cross Training Services course to help save or sustain a life, visit [LifesavingAwards.org](#) to nominate, recognize or be inspired.

### Interactive Map of the Lifesaving Awards

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



### Get Inspired!

February is National Heart Month. Do not miss [this article](#) by Elizabeth Hewett Brumberg, MD, a pediatric emergency physician, mom and member of the Red Cross Scientific Advisory Council. In it, she urges people to take a First Aid/CPR/AED class to be ready when moments matter – whether it be to protect your little ones or to jump in when you're out running errands. You could save a life.