

Lifesaving Awards



American Red Cross
Training Services

NOMINATE NOW

Inspiring Stories by Region

Responding to an Off-field Cardiac Emergency in the Missouri-Arkansas Region

Last summer, 17 year-old Davis Dwight was at hitting lessons working with his coach, Nik Crouch, when he collapsed and went into sudden cardiac arrest. Nik yelled for someone to call 911, and his instinct to start CPR kicked in. Mike Macfarlane, retired Kansas City Royals catcher, jumped in to help. The pair worked as a team to administer CPR while waiting for first responders to arrive. Check out photos of the pair with their Certificate of Extraordinary Personal Action awards and the full story of the quick-thinking heroes on the region's [news page](#). Watch this truly inspiring [video](#) of these quick-thinking heroes on the local news channel.



L to R: Mike Macfarlane, JoAnn Woody, executive director of the Greater Kansas City and Northwest Missouri Chapter of the American Red Cross, Nik Crouch

Lifeguard Trio's Actions Save a Life in Wisconsin Region

Three Red Cross-trained lifeguards at the Michigan Tech Pool used their training, skills and teamwork to help save a life last summer. A patron began experiencing chest pains while swimming. Leah Komarzec began to escort the patron to a pool exit point and activated the emergency response plan. After the patron began to lose consciousness in the water, two other lifeguards, Brett Ceane and Skyler Spitzley, arrived on the scene to help pull the patron from the pool. While Leah called 911 and got the AED, Brett and Skyler began CPR and continued until EMS arrived. The patron credits his survival to the quick action of the lifeguards. "I know I owe God, the lifeguards and Red Cross for my being alive today," he said. "Bless you, lifesavers." Read the remarkable details on the Wisconsin region's [blog](#).



L to R: Leah Komarzec, Brett Ceane and Skyler Spitzley

Brothers Handle Severe Bleeding Emergency in the Central & South Texas Region

Jaime and Jesse Medina were driving down the highway when they observed a motor vehicle crash. The two brothers pulled over to help and saw a driver with a life-threatening injury. Jaime instructed Jesse on how to assist him in applying direct pressure to control the bleeding until EMS arrived. Paramedics stated that the brothers' actions kept the man from bleeding out, thus saving his life. Jaime had received CPR/First Aid certification from the Red Cross several months earlier and received the Certificate of Merit for this act. Jesse, who was not trained, was awarded the Certificate of Extraordinary Personal Action. View multiple pictures of this heroic pair on the region's [Facebook page](#).



L to R: Members of the Red Cross Central and South Texas region, Jaime Medina and Jesse Medina

Instructor Spotlight

Marcella Andrade

Each month we highlight an Instructor whose student(s) used their lifesaving training to save or sustain a life. This month we recognize Marcella Andrade, who taught Jaime Medina (featured above) First Aid/CPR/AED just five months prior to his using it to treat a car crash victim suffering from severe bleeding. We thank Marcella for providing the quality training that allowed Jaime to save a life.



Lifesaving Awards Vault

From the vault of the Sacramento Bee (Sacramento, California), September 16, 1994

Three-year old Kailey McGivern was lifted, blue and seemingly lifeless, from a backyard pool in the summer of 1994. Her aunt and uncle performed CPR on her until EMS arrived. Her mother calls it "a miracle" that Kailey is alive today. The local fire department deemed it a testimonial to the lifesaving power of CPR. Red Cross Lifesaving Awards went to the aunt and uncle who helped save the little girl's life.

Rescuers honored as girl who nearly died jumps about



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.AmericanRedCross.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!

Inspired by these stories? Make a splash this June and swim 15 miles to support the lifesaving work of the Red Cross. Join the hundreds of community members who are taking on the 15-Mile Swim Challenge hosted by the American Red Cross and sweetFrog Premium Frozen Yogurt. You can engage, interact, track your miles and create a fundraiser with others through this virtual Facebook event. [Join](#) the Facebook group and, starting June 1, you can track your progress as you work towards your 15-mile goal.