

Lifesaving Awards



American Red Cross

Training Services

NOMINATE NOW

Inspiring Stories by Region

Electrician's Fast Response Stops Severe Bleeding and Saves a Life on the Job in the Cascades Region

Electrician Bryan Barker was awarded the Certificate of Merit for his heroic response to a workplace emergency. While working on a job site, Bryan sprang into action after a carpenter fell 20 feet and suffered a severe arm injury. Drawing on decades of first aid experience and his Red Cross Adult First Aid/CPR/AED training, Bryan quickly assessed the situation, stopped the bleeding and kept the injured worker calm until paramedics arrived. His leadership and composure under pressure helped save a life. The worker received nearly 40 stitches and made a full recovery. Bryan's courage is a powerful reminder that preparedness and compassion can make all the difference when seconds count. Read more about Bryan's incredible act of courage and compassion on the region's [LinkedIn page](#), and be inspired by how one person's quick action made all the difference.



Bryan Barker with the Certificate of Merit he received for saving a colleague's life.

Quick Thinking and CPR Skills Turn Crisis into a Second Chance in the Michigan Region

Amanda "Mandi" Garvey, a Red Cross certified instructor in CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer and former paramedic, was awarded the American Red Cross Lifesaving Award for Professional Responders after saving a woman's life at a traditional Native American event known as a Pow Wow Circle. When dancer Debbie Hassinger collapsed, Mandi, who was working as a volunteer medic at the event, immediately began CPR, coordinated emergency response and helped deliver AED shocks that revived Hassinger. Mandi urges everyone to learn CPR because you could be "minutes from brain death once breathing stops. Ambulances can't reach you that fast, but someone trained in CPR can." Her story is a powerful reminder that preparedness saves lives. To see the full story, visit the region's [webpage](#) and watch the inspiring [video](#) on the local news site.



L to R: Debbie Hassinger, Tony Gerheiser, Mandi Garvey and Brittany Linstrom

A Midnight Rescue That Saved a Life in the Eastern New York Region

In the early hours of January 4, 2025, Trooper John Schroeder responded to a flipped tractor-trailer on the region's interstate highway. It was a scene that could have ended in tragedy. Acting swiftly, Trooper Schroeder climbed into the wreckage and began emergency treatment, applying a tourniquet and stabilizing the injured driver in a confined space. His quick response bought precious time until paramedics arrived, ultimately saving the driver's life. Witnesses say the man was fading in and out of consciousness, but Trooper Schroeder's courage made all the difference. Read more about this remarkable story, for which Trooper Schroeder was presented with the Certificate of Extraordinary Personal Action, on the region's [Facebook page](#) and see it in this local [news video](#). It will inspire you.



L to R: Trooper John Schroeder is presented with his certificate by Captain Gianni Bove.

Instructor Spotlight

Courtenay Chaffin

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 **Courtenay Chaffin**, an Instructor and Instructor Trainer who also received a Lifesaving Award for Professional Responders for her role in this rescue.



Responders and Training:

- **Courtenay Chaffin** – Lifeguarding Instructor Trainer & Lifeguarding Instructor
- **Malachi Roark, Jason Keck, Michael Waun, Aidan Wonderly, Kaylee Sink, Garek Logue** – Lifeguarding with CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers, First Aid, Emergency Oxygen
- **Christian Williams** – CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers with First Aid

Last year, a man drowning at Prairie Township Community Center in Columbus, OH was rescued thanks to the swift, coordinated response of eight trained staff members. From water rescue to CPR, AED use and oxygen administration, each person played a vital role in saving his life. Their teamwork and readiness reflect the impact of Red Cross training.

We extend our thanks to Courtenay for providing the quality training that allowed this team to take action when it mattered most.

Lifesaving Awards Vault

From the vault of The Baltimore Sun (Baltimore, MD), May 22, 1940

Joseph W. Hodges Dies; Won Life-Saving Award
Former Police Sergeant Who Kept Two From Burning Retired Three Years Ago

On this date in history, The Baltimore Sun recognized the death of former Sergeant Joseph "Joe" Hodges. Hodges was a patrolman in 1918 when he saved a small child and her aunt from being burned to death. When he came upon them, he immediately stripped off his raincoat and smothered the fire. For his actions, the Red Cross presented him with a Lifesaving Award.



Nominate.



Recognize.

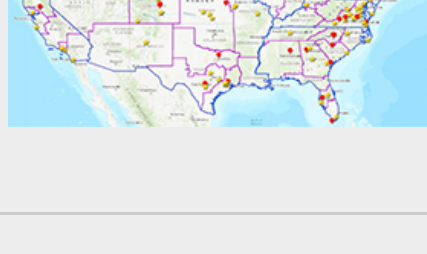


Inspire.

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](#) to nominate them.

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



Get Inspired!

October is Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Month. Don't miss our next live event on October 16, which also is recognized as World Restart A Heart Day. Whether you're able to view live or on demand, this engaging session with Gina Peattie, executive director of the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation, will delve into topics from the cardiac arrest incident to survivorship and recovery outcomes that impact the whole family. You can access the event, "Real Stories of Cardiac Arrest Survival and the Training That Saves Lives," through the Training Services [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) accounts.