After a surgery a few years ago, Kadyn Culp needed blood and fast. “I would tell the blood donors that I’m forever grateful for them donating blood. Without them, I’m not sure I would be alive,” he said. Kadyn, 19, is paying it forward. As a high school senior at Capital High School in Helena, Kadyn became part of the Leaders Save Lives Blood Program and organized his first blood drive. Through his drives, the Red Cross has collected 90 units — up to 270 people helped. “I saw how many lives were impacted in just five hours,” he said. “That’s a great impact in a short time.”

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Seeking onboarding volunteer

Help us spread the word

The Red Cross annual Sound the Alarm campaign concludes May 8, but there is still time for you to participate! Each year, home fires result in thousands of injuries and fatalities. But by educating households about the importance of prevention and how to escape their homes in the event of a fire, we plan to help more families stay safe.

How you can help:

Refere those in your network to register for a virtual home fire safety visit conducted by a team of regional home fire safety educators.

Register by calling or by following the links below.

By phone: 800-272-6668
On the web:
For Idaho/East Oregon residents
https://www.redcross.org/home safet yID
For Montana residents
https://www.redcross.org/home saftyMT

You also can commit to educating those in your network about home fire safety. To engage in this way, please contact scott.davis2@redcross.org.

We’ll equip you with the knowledge and resources to drive these home fire conversations.

Did we mention there are incentives? By completing and documenting five virtual home fire safety visits or referring five households in your network, you will be entered in a drawing for a Red Cross emergency radio. The individual with the most virtual home fire safety visits or referrals will also receive a deluxe 3-day emergency preparedness kit.

In The Know keeps volunteers in the loop about opportunities and updates. Explore the position of the month, helping guide and develop other volunteers. Also, don’t miss a chance to visit with other Red Crossers, and learn how you can support our work in Idaho as you file your taxes.

POSITION HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH:

Are you looking for a leadership role? Are you organized and computer savvy? Are you able to provide clear directions? If so, you may be interested in joining the Service to the Armed Forces department as an onboard/training completion and phone coverage.

Responsibilities:

- Conducts department interviews, and onboard/training completion and phone coverage.
- Provides support on onboard/training completion and phone coverage.
- Creates support on the job.
- Provides support to other Red Crossers.

Location: Virtual work from home

Need to have reliable internet service and phone coverage.

Qualifications:

- Ensures that new volunteers understand the job’s scope and duties
- Explains how service to the Armed Forces supports the Red Cross mission
- Provides access to training
- Enhances volunteer satisfaction, offer access to resources and provide feedback as needed

Thank you for your interest and dedication to keeping our communities safe.

Gratitude: Teen’s experience drives loyalty

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location. They were more than happy to help me out, ”he said.

Now Kadyn is a Red Cross Blood donor ambassador and a Montana State University psychology student. His fourth drive is set for May 14. As a donor ambassador, Kadyn checks in people, takes temperatures, and refreshes the canteen, and “everything I did at the blood drives, just with a different title.”

“I try to tell how impactful it is,” he said. “If they haven’t gone through the experience of needing blood – which is good, it’s not a fan experience – they don’t quite understand.”

— Story by Red Cross writing team volunteer Kristen Inbody

To donate blood

You can schedule an appointment today to donate, or search for a blood drive near you by visiting our Web site, RedCrossBlood.org. You may also call 800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Allow about an hour for the entire donation process.
Volunteerism is the engine that drives the work done by the Red Cross. As a thank-you to some of our spectacular volunteers during National Volunteer Week, we highlighted some of our unsung volunteer heroes.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES. Our Recruitment Team Lead, Cami Boettcher, has been an amazing volunteer. She does a TON of work behind the scenes and does a fantastic job helping our youth volun- teers be the BEST! She tosses out ideas and always suggests ways to im- prove our materials. She takes what we have and makes it better and then engages our volunteers with meaningful projects. She has created an interactive newsletter that was shared through our three levels of service. Continuing Education Units are available. And she represents both the Idaho and Montana regions and the Pacific Divi- sion.

May 4. Disaster Health and Mental Health Services – Click here to join.
May 11. Blood Services – Click here to join.
May 18. SAF and Training Services – Click here to join.
May 25. International Services – Click here to join.

Thank you to our nurses! National Nurses Week is May 6 to May 12, and we are celebrating our nurses across the region, including Idaho, Montana, and East Oregon. The Red Cross is grateful to our dedicated, selfless nurses.

Michele Appel, Mandy Baker, Mary Beyer, Nondie Brown, Alex Carr, Abbie Cohusi, Robin Cory, Angela Dantonio, Nancy Dezefl, Jamie Eastman, Annabeth Elliott, Jo Erickson, Lisa Garrison, Barbara Graham, Kate Harrison, Diana Homung, Linda Hudson, Sarah Knapp, Katie Lane, Patricia Maurer, Shannon McCalla, Judith Miller, Kimberly Monson, Christel Navar, Frances Nelsen, Jennifer Olmscheid, Alexandra Potts, Linda Sabel, Karen Sare, Susan Smith, Toni Taylor, Christina VanSchaick, Marguerite Weiss and Kathryn Yarish.

Barbara Gumbert joined the Idaho/Montana region as a Disaster Health Volunteers as part of the monthlong celebra- tion. Nursing and Health Services

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