



**American
Red Cross**

Pikes Peak Chapter

Pikes Peak Chapter
1040 South 8th Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
www.pparc.org

News Release
NEWS RELEASE

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RED CROSS VOLUNTEERS RESPOND TO THREE HOUSE FIRES IN TWO DAYS

Colorado Springs, CO –The American Red Cross Pikes Peak Chapter volunteers have been busy responding to three house fires in Colorado Springs on June 9th and 10th. Disaster Action Team (DAT) members were called to care for individuals at two fires on June 9th; another on June 10th.

Caseworkers from the Red Cross are meeting with the families to discuss and identify immediate needs resulting from the fire. Typically, basic human needs such as a place to stay, food, clothes, necessary medications or health items and mental health counseling are provided for first.

Since July 1, 2006 the American Red Cross Pikes Peak Chapter has responded to 21 disasters in the Pikes Peak region providing more than \$13,000 in direct relief to families and individuals. The Red Cross typically sees a decrease in house fires during summer months. With this sudden surge, Red Cross wants to urge families and individuals to check the batteries in their smoke detectors and develop a Family Disaster Plan. "Every household should be testing their smoke detectors once a month and changing the batteries twice a year", said David Just, CEO of the Pikes Peak Chapter. "And every family should have a disaster plan which includes how to escape safely if their house catches fire and should be practicing that with their family twice a year".

For more information, contact the Pikes Peak Chapter at 719-785-2724 or visit www.pparc.org or www.redcross.org.

The American Red Cross helps people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. Last year, almost a million volunteers and 35,000 employees helped victims of almost 75,000 disasters; taught lifesaving skills to millions; and helped U.S. service members separated from their families stay connected. Almost 4 million people gave blood through the Red Cross, the largest supplier of blood and blood products in the United States. The American Red Cross is part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. An average of 91 cents of every dollar the Red Cross spends is invested in humanitarian services and programs. The Red Cross is not a government agency; it relies on donations of time, money, and blood to do its work. Contributions to the American Red Cross may be sent to American Red Cross Pikes Peak Chapter, 1040 S. 8th Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906.
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