



PRESS
Press Room



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Red Cross Deploys Additional Volunteers to Southern California Wildfires

Colorado Springs, CO – The American Red Cross Pikes Peak Chapter will deploy **3 additional local volunteers** today and tomorrow to San Diego at the request of the American Red Cross National Headquarters. The Three volunteers are in addition to the 2 that left yesterday to deploy the Chapter's Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) to Southern California. Two of the volunteers are available for interviews late this afternoon by calling Paul Koch at 393-3663, but will be leaving town at 6pm today.

Deploying volunteers are Diane Chavez of Pueblo, Eric Renschler of Florissant, and Ed Flannery of Colorado Springs.

The ERV and volunteers will be reporting to the San Diego Chapter for further assignment. Red Cross Disaster Volunteers can provide mobile Mass Care services and Sheltering Services including safe shelter, meals, snacks, beverages, clothing, health services, and emotional support. The Pikes Peak Chapter remains on standby to send additional volunteer staff who can support shelter operations. The volunteers have committed to be available to serve up to 3 weeks in this relief effort.

The Red Cross Web site, www.redcross.org, features a secure section called **Safe and Well** where people in the disaster-affected area can register their well-being and where friends and family elsewhere can access that information. By registering themselves on **Safe and Well** before evacuations are ordered, or once safely away from wildfire, storm, or flood, residents can let loved ones know their status when telecommunication gets difficult. Anyone concerned about a loved one that they are unable to contact, can visit the "Search" page, enter the person's name and pre-disaster phone number OR address. If their loved one has registered, inquirers will be able to view the messages that they posted.

To identify yourself or someone else as **Safe and Well**, or search for someone from the affected area:

- Visit www.redcross.org and click on **Safe and Well**
- Or call **Safe and Well** by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
- If you hear from a loved one in the affected area, enter their information on the site to let people know they are **Safe and Well**
- If you have phone or internet access, share that with your neighbors who do not. Invite them to use your computer access to place themselves on the site. Share your cell phone with your neighbors who may need to call 1-800-RED-CROSS for help listing their information

All American Red Cross disaster assistance is free, made possible by voluntary donations of time and money from the American people. You can help the victims of thousands of disasters across the country each year, disasters like tropical storms and hurricanes, by making a financial gift to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund, which enables the Red Cross to provide shelter, food, counseling and other assistance to victims of disaster. The American Red Cross honors donor intent. If you wish to designate your donation to a specific disaster please do so at the time of your donation. Call 1-800-REDCROSS or 1-800-257-7575 (Spanish). Contributions to the Disaster Relief Fund may be sent to your local American Red Cross chapter or to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 37243, Washington, DC 20013. Internet users can make a secure online contribution by visiting www.redcross.org.

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Pikes Peak region...meet YOUR Red Cross