



Back Row: Steve Reed, Debbie Reed, Linda Buswell, Chuck Pulver, Manuel Pedraza, Connie Hoffer, Milt Johnson
Front Row: Eloise Martucci, Esther Kissell, Liz Steinweg, Jennifer Mariano, Carol Clark, Debby MacSwain, Mary Moorhouse, Bev Embry, Linda Johnson

LOCAL RED CROSS CHAPTER TRAINS 15 NEW DISASTER INSTRUCTORS

When a disaster strikes our community (more than sixty times a year on average), trained volunteers from the Pikes Peak Red Cross quickly respond to provide for basic human needs such as food, clothing, blankets, water, safe shelter, health services, and professional emotional support.

Each of the more than 350 local volunteers receives ongoing Red Cross training in preparation to respond to disasters ranging from a single family home fire to a major natural disaster.

The Pikes Peak Chapter recently hosted a 2-day Disaster Instructor Specialty Training (DIST) course for 15 new instructor candidates. Adding new instructors increases the number of volunteers that can be trained and is one strategy toward the goal to continually improve disaster response readiness in Southeast Colorado.

The participants came from Casper and Cheyenne Wyoming, Greeley, Rye, Pueblo and Colorado Springs. They include nine local volunteers Steve and Debbie Reed, Linda Buswell, Chuck Pulver, Manuel Pedraza, Eloise Martucci, Liz Steinweg, Mary Moorhouse, and Bev Embry.

The nationally developed American Red Cross course was co-taught by Carol Clark of Pueblo, Debby MacSwain from Colorado Springs, and Marie Tasker, the Red Cross Training Officer from Las Vegas. By co-teaching the class, Carol and Debby completed their last requirement to become Trainers of new instructor candidates.

The new Instructors and two new Instructor Trainers will now be able to provide a variety of training to local disaster volunteers in relief roles such as Health Services, Shelter Management, Client Casework, and will help new volunteers to pursue relief roles that fit their skills and interests.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact the chapter at (719) 632-3563 or email: jwilliams@pparc.org.