



**American  
Red Cross**

Pikes Peak Chapter

*News Release*  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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

**Contact:** Catherine Nowak  
**Director of Development & Marketing**  
**Phone:** 719-785-2711  
**Cell:** 719-360-6030  
**Email:** cnowak@pparc.org

## Colorado Springs, CO

**Tuesday, June 1, 2011-** Severe weather continues to batter the country and the Pikes Peak Red Cross is responding to flooding in Montana and North Dakota, even as tornado relief efforts continue in Joplin, Missouri and other areas.

- We also are preparing for additional flooding in Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota as rivers throughout the area threaten to overflow their banks.
- In just the past week, the Red Cross has started new disaster operations in Louisiana, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Minnesota, Montana, South Dakota, Texas and Wisconsin while simultaneously continuing to help people in the South affected by flooding and last month's tornados.
- More than **150 people in Montana sought refuge from flooding Tuesday night** while food and water are being delivered throughout the Crow Nation where flooding has left people stranded in their homes. **Pikes Peak Chapter has one volunteer deployed to this region, Donna Martinez. She is assisting with public affair needs.**
- Shelters are also open in South Dakota and North Dakota for residents forced from their homes due to flooding, and in Minnesota where more than 40 people have been displaced from last week's severe weather. In anticipation of more assistance due to ongoing flooding, **The Pikes Peak Chapter is deploying Red Cross Volunteer Dennis Jenks as Sheltering Supervisor.**

Dennis is a volunteer who transferred in to the Pikes Peak Chapter in 2010 from Syracuse, NY. He was a Disaster Action Team captain and trained in Mass Care to become a Shelter Supervisor. While he was with the Syracuse Red Cross, he deployed to one National Disaster Relief Operation in 2008. He supported Mass Care Sheltering operations for three weeks in Louisiana for Hurricane Gustav. Currently, Dennis is on a local Disaster Action Team and as part of our Mass Care team, and he is working with our current Logistics Supervisor to help support activities such as surveying potential sheltering facilities and completing formal agreements to support the growth of our sheltering capacity across the region.



**Dennis Jenks**

**Joplin Photo sets**

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/americanredcross/sets/72157626860215570/>

**Flooding in Montana Photo sets (most taken by our PPARC Volunteer on scene)**

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/americanredcross/sets/72157626726694253/with/5781838812/>

The Red Cross estimates that it will spend as much as **\$41 million** responding to the disasters which have occurred since March 31. This estimate includes the Red Cross response to the continuous string of disasters which have hit the United States over the past two months, including the wildfires in Texas, the dozens of tornadoes which devastated areas of the South and Midwest and the Mississippi River flooding response. Over the past two months, the Red Cross has raised more than **\$39 million** for disaster response. Nationally, the American Red Cross must raise about \$378 million annually to respond to an average of 70,000 disasters each year, and these major disasters over the past several weeks add \$41 million more to this amount. Our work isn't done yet, since tornadoes are historically frequent throughout June and the 2011 hurricane season, starting June 1, is predicted to be above average.

Please consider making a donation today to help the thousands of people who have been affected by these disasters. To donate, you can visit [www.pparc.org](http://www.pparc.org). You may designate your assistance.

*The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies nearly half of the nation's blood; teaches lifesaving skills; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a charitable organization — not a government agency — and depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please contact the Pikes Peak Chapter at 719-632-3563 or visit [www.pparc.org](http://www.pparc.org)*