



PRESS
Press Room



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RED CROSS RECRUITING MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE STORM RESPONSE IN LOUISIANA

Colorado Springs, CO – As a result of last year’s experience in Louisiana, massive numbers of evacuees are expected to seek congregate shelter in the event of an impending landfall which would be likely to significantly exceed the capabilities of Red Cross units in that state. In response to this probability the American Red Cross has recently been tasked by governmental agencies to be prepared to shelter upwards of 180,000 evacuees in the state of Louisiana. **The American Red Cross Pikes Peak Chapter is seeking to establish a ready reserve of 20-25 allied health professionals to serve on Rapid Shelter Response Teams. Health professionals such as RNs, LPNs, CNAs, EMTs, and physicians must have a current, active, unencumbered license or certificate.** These volunteers would receive the appropriate training in Red Cross sheltering services and must be able to commit to being on call during the hurricane season with the purpose of rapid response and a deployment commitment of 30 days.

“It’s very likely that even the smallest of storms in the Gulf could cause Louisiana residents on the coast to seek shelter inland for fear of more flooding and damage”, says David Just, CEO of the Pikes Peak Chapter. “The Red Cross will make sure these people are taken care of but we need to quickly establish the cadre of volunteers to make this possible.”

Training for the new LPN, RN, CNA and EMT volunteers is tentatively scheduled for the weekend of August 26th. Volunteer applications, background checks and proof of licensure will be required. If you’re interested, please contact Jennifer Mariano, Emergency Services Coordinator for the Pikes Peak Chapter at (719) 785-2721.

MEDIA NOTE: All questions from media representatives can be directed to David Just, CEO of the Pikes Peak Chapter, at (719) 632-3563 or djust@pparc.org

The American Red Cross is where people mobilize to help their neighbors—across the street, across the country, and across the world—in emergencies. Each year, in communities large and small, victims of some 70,000 disasters turn to neighbors familiar and new—the nearly one million volunteers and 35,000 employees of the Red Cross. Through almost 900 locally supported chapters, more than 15 million people gain the skills they need to prepare for and respond to emergencies in their homes, communities and world. Some four million people give blood—the gift of life—through the Red Cross, making it the largest supplier of blood and blood products in the United States. And the Red Cross helps thousands of U.S. service members separated from their families by military duty stay connected. As part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, a global network of 181 national societies, the Red Cross helps restore hope and dignity to the world’s most vulnerable people. 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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Pikes Peak region...meet YOUR Red Cross