

Peak Press

Linking people, programs and services
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Gulf Coast Hurricane Recovery is Ongoing

Operations supporting relief efforts in the wake of Hurricanes Gustav and Ike will continue for some weeks, as there has been severe damage to different areas in the Gulf states. Right now it is estimated that relief efforts will continue for at least another 6-8 weeks, and most likely into the new year. Anyone wishing to deploy can contact Jaici Williams at 719-785-2724 or jwilliams@pparc.org.



September 15, 2008, Wallisville, Texas. House destroyed by Hurricane Ike. *Photographer: Gene Dailey/American Red Cross*

Volunteer Kudos and Accomplishments

Thank you to the volunteers who responded beautifully to the Buena Vista senior apartment fire during the week of September 7th, 2008:

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Dennis Burdick | Linda Buswell |
| George Cary | Donna Martinez |
| Bev Embry | Gay Miller |

Thanks also to those volunteers who have deployed in support of relief efforts for Hurricanes Ike and Gustav:

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Doug Van Allen | Jeremy Rousseau |
| Don Espinosa | Chris Palmberg |
| Peter Booth | Cheri League |
| Debra Pitou | Joe Baker |
| Kathy Sharkey | Guy Mayo |
| Lovena Porter | Catie Lally |
| Carol Clark | |

Connecting Trained Babysitters with Parents

The Pikes Peak Chapter is introducing a new Health & Safety community service this quarter to parents looking for a babysitter. Each year, our chapter trains an average of 700 11-15 year olds in our Babysitter Training course. We frequently receive phone calls from parents in the community, sometimes new to the area or in the military, seeking to hire a babysitter. We now have the ability to connect these parents with trained babysitters! In the next few months, Health & Safety staff will be implementing the Babysitter List Service. Parents of the babysitters that we've trained will be given the opportunity to include their son or daughter on our Babysitter List, giving us permission to release their contact information when a parent from their neighborhood calls us looking for a babysitter. The Babysitter List provided to the public is not a "referral" program; it is a service offered by the Pikes Peak Chapter based on community requests and needs. Although we believe that the teenagers on our Babysitter List should be qualified to babysit, we do not know them personally and thus encourage both parties (prospective babysitters and parents) to conduct interviews of each other to determine whether it's a good match. This service will be provided free of charge to both parties, though donations will be encouraged. If you have any questions, contact Heather in Health & Safety at hwalma@pparc.org.

Health & Safety Update

Fiscal Year 2008 was a successful year for Health & Safety! Including both our Colorado Springs and Pueblo offices, a total of 20,089 students were trained in Health & Safety classes including First Aid, CPR, Wilderness First Aid, Pet First Aid, Lifeguarding, Water Safety, and Babysitter Training. Revenue exceeded \$350,000. Great job Health & Safety team - we couldn't do it without our volunteer instructors!



Upcoming Ambassador Program Events

On **Wednesday, October 22** the Pike's Peak Chapter of the Red Cross will have a booth at the Comcast First Annual Health and Safety Fair.

This event will be held from **10:00 am - 3:00 pm** at:

4920 Centennial Blvd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

On **Thursday, October 23** we will have a booth for the Pikes Peak Behavioral Health Group Employee Wellness Fair (250 attendees) at:

2864 S. Circle Drive (Phoenix Tower)
Colorado Springs, CO 80906

On **Saturday, November 8** we plan to have a blood drive with Bon Fils in the Sam's Club parking lot from **10:00 am - 12:00 pm**. This event is not yet confirmed. Check back for updates in the November newsletter, or contact Cindy Smith, Community Disaster Education, for more information