



**American  
Red Cross**

of the National Capital Area

**For Immediate Release**

## News Release

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### **American Red Cross of the National Capital Area Holds Pre-Deployment Orientation for Volunteers Going to Texas to Assist Victims of Ike, Sat., Sept. 13**

*Fairfax, Va.* (Sep. 13, 2008) – The **American Red Cross of the National Capital Area** will hold a **pre-deployment orientation** for the volunteers from the D.C. Metropolitan area who will be joining the relief efforts in Texas following Hurricane Ike. The orientation will be held at **4 p.m.** on **Saturday, Sept. 13**, at the **Montgomery County office, 2020 East West Highway, Silver Spring**.

**Sixteen volunteers** with the **American Red Cross of the National Capital Area** who have been **assisting the victims of Hurricane Gustav will redeploy to Ft. Worth, Tex.** to prepare to assist those affected by **Hurricane Ike**. Additional volunteers from the National Capital Area Chapter will be deployed beginning Sunday to help victims in the aftermath of the storm.

The local Red Cross chapter had more than 50 volunteers in its Regional Disaster Coordination Center (RDCC) and throughout the region last weekend helping local residents who experienced floods and power outages as a result of Hurricane Hanna that blew through the area on Saturday, Sept. 6.

The national headquarters of the American Red Cross has requested that 1,391 volunteers be deployed for Hurricane Ike relief. Red Cross Headquarters has requested that chapters deploy 38 health services and disaster mental health workers to Baton Rouge; 50 volunteers to help staff the Red Cross call center in Ashburn, Va., and 1,303 volunteers to deploy to Texas to assist victims of Hurricane Ike.

Shelters set up for Hurricane Gustav victims in Montgomery, Ala. and Mississippi have now closed, and many of those workers will now travel to Texas to assist. Although there are still many shelters that remain open in the New Orleans vicinity.

Updates will be available throughout the weekend.

The **American Red Cross of the National Capital Area**, with a ratio of approximately 55 volunteers to each paid staff member, provides relief to victims of disaster and empowers people in our community to prevent, prepare for and respond to disasters and other life-threatening emergencies. Financially supported by the generosity of the local community, the National Capital Area Chapter responds 2-3 times each day to local disasters, while continuing to build its capacity to effectively prepare for and respond to the next major disaster striking our community. Contributions may be mailed to the American Red Cross of the National Capital Area, 8550 Arlington Blvd, Fairfax, VA 22031. Internet users can make a secure online contribution by visiting [www.redcrossnca.org](http://www.redcrossnca.org). Or contribute by phone by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS.

For details on the National Capital Area Red Cross' response to this or other disasters, contact Kathy Thompson, 240-375-9020, or Kim Covington, 202-437-7348.

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