

Dear Friends,

We are proud to present you with this report on our services, delivered to our communities July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

In a record year of disaster locally and nationally, our chapter sent more than 40 highly trained Disaster Volunteers to respond to Hurricanes Dolly, Fay, Gustav and Ike. Here at home, we responded to our own hurricane related disaster as Ike moved across the midwest causing widespread flooding. With volunteers on national assignment, we were heartened by the return to service of many of our most experienced, retired volunteers. Many, many community partners assisted us in the relief effort from the first days, through clean-up and renovation.

We saw all too clearly the devastation and loss suffered in two fatal house fires. Multi-unit, multi-family fires challenged our Disaster Action Team volunteers and Emergency Services staff, as well as all community first responders.

We wish to thank all of our volunteers, financial supporters and lifesaving blood donors for their gifts and service. Your commitment allows us to continue to provide our life changing services.

Ted Hartridge  
Chapter Chair

Cathy McNulty  
CEO

**Officers and Board of Directors,  
Fiscal Year 2009**

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Certificate of Merit recipient Frank Fey, with Rick Van Enk, Board Vice-Chair. The Certificate of Merit, signed by the President of the United States, is the highest honor the American Red Cross awards for saving a life.



An unprecedented year of fires in our area challenged our Disaster Action Teams and strained our Local Disaster Relief budget.  
*Photo: Dover Hills Apartment Complex  
October 2008*

***We're There When You Need Us  
2009 Report to our Communities***



**American  
Red Cross**

Greater Kalamazoo Area

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[www.greaterkzooredcross.org](http://www.greaterkzooredcross.org)

Proudly serving the people of Allegan,  
Cass, Kalamazoo and  
St. Joseph Counties

*The American Red Cross empowers ordinary people to perform extraordinary acts in emergency situations. We train. We mobilize. We connect donors and volunteers to those in urgent need of a helping hand. Whether it is a hurricane or a heart attack; a call for blood or a call for help, the American Red Cross is there.*

### **Mission Statement**

The American Red Cross, a humanitarian organization led by volunteers and guided by its Congressional Charter and the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross Movement, will provide relief to victims of disaster and help people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies.

### **Disaster Relief & Disaster Education**

Helps victims of disasters, including house fires, by meeting emergency needs for food, clothing, shelter, prescriptions and medical equipment, and crisis counseling. Helps people prepare for, cope with and respond to disasters through community education efforts. For FY09 there were 109 local disaster responses, including 103 house and apartment building fires. We provided aid to 366 area families who were affected by these disasters. Fiscal Year 2009 was certainly the most costly year for direct financial assistance to clients since the 1980 tornado in Kalamazoo. We reached 2,427 people with community disaster preparedness presentations.

### **Health and Safety Training**

It continues to be one of our most important goals - making our communities safer places to live, work and play. Our Chapter was proud to present Certificates of Merit to Frank Fey, Emily Kuiper and Tom Novak. This is the highest honor the American Red Cross bestows for saving the life another person. Our work to train more people continued in FY09, as 10,025 people were enrolled in our First Aid & CPR courses, 3,053 in Water Safety and 679 in Babysitter's Training. The Chapter also re-introduced Pet First Aid Classes with a very enthusiastic response. Local veterinarian Curt Dame, DVM and Karen Updike, DVM who teach these classes, were given Outstanding Community Volunteer awards at the June 2009 Annual Meeting.

### **International Services**

Provides social services and tracing for local persons who become separated from family due to war, disaster or civil strife in other countries. This includes tracing for Holocaust and War Victims. These tend to be very complex cases and generally extend over several months; our Chapter served one case in 2009. We also enrolled 12 students in International Humanitarian Law classes and certified one new instructor.

### **Service to the Armed Forces**

As part of our Congressionally Chartered mission the Chapter provides verified information & emergency communication access to families of active duty service personnel. Access to military financial aid societies, counseling and referrals, as well as transportation to the VA Hospital are included in our services. In FY 09 we provided 274 SAF related services, including 240 emergencies. We also provided 616 rides for Veterans living in Kalamazoo County.

### **Blood Services**

The Chapter works with Great Lakes Regional Red Cross Blood Services in all aspects of blood services. We assure volunteer staffing at blood drives, educate people regarding blood donations and recruit volunteer blood donors. In FY 09 there were 486 blood drives held, and 19,830 units of blood collected. We also welcomed 4,260 first-time blood donors.

### **Our Dedicated Volunteers**

The Chapter provides services because of the generosity of our volunteers. They plan, prepare, respond and train. This was an extraordinary year for our Local Disaster Action Teams and our highly skilled national Disaster Services volunteers. They responded to serious local flooding, spring flooding in the Plains, wildfires in California and Hurricanes in the Gulf Coast. We are tremendously proud of the 3,201 volunteers that served the Chapter in FY 2009.

## **Statement of Financial Position For the Year Ending June 30, 2009**

### **Income**

Direct Contributions & Bequests	470,274
Grants	234,148
Products & Services	165,242
Investment Income	(217,972)
Inter-Red Cross Revenue	263,312
United Ways & Federal Employee Campaigns	492,005

**Total Contributions, Revenues,  
Gains (Losses) \$ 1,434,696**

### **Expenses**

Services to Armed Forces	117,581
Disaster Services	478,842
Blood Services	131,283
Health & Safety Training	322,711
International Services	15,890
Volunteer Mgmt./Youth Services	53,790
Services Beyond the Chapter	256,084
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>\$ 1,351,712</b>
Fundraising	224,295
Management and General	199,564

**Total Expenses \$ 1,769,699**

*A complete audited financial statement is available on-line at [www.greaterkzooedcross.org](http://www.greaterkzooedcross.org) or by contacting the chapter.*



The Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter of the American Red Cross received FY 2009 financial allocations from the United Ways of Allegan, Greater Kalamazoo, and St. Joseph County.