



Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter
*Serving the people of Allegan, Cass, Kalamazoo
and St. Joseph Counties*

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NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Marilyn Vineyard Retires After 40 Years of Red Cross Service

Kalamazoo, MI – January 7, 2009 Marilyn Vineyard's first day with the Greater Kalamazoo Area American Red Cross Chapter was March 9, 1989. She had previously served the Red Cross in various positions throughout Illinois, Indiana and Michigan for 20 years before joining the Kalamazoo team. Now, after 19 years of extraordinary service and dedication to our community, Marilyn is retiring.

The Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter has shown tremendous growth under the leadership of Marilyn Vineyard, who has greatly enhanced the services our Chapter provides for the community. With her steady hand at the helm, Marilyn blends the needs of her staff, volunteers and clients to maximize the efficient delivery of services in a timely and caring manner.

It is a credit to Marilyn's organizational and leadership skills that the Chapter was able to conduct a very successful capital campaign, which resulted in an outstanding headquarters facility that officially opened in December 1998. Marilyn recently led the Chapter through the renovation of a large unfinished room on the lower level; it is now being used as a community meeting room or training facility. This year we will celebrate our 10th anniversary in this lovely building.

Marilyn has given unselfishly of herself to make the local Chapter of the American Red Cross one of the community's truly outstanding nonprofit organizations. With the formation of regional chapter groupings, Marilyn assumed the role of Regional Executive Director with 17 counties under her capable jurisdiction.

For almost 20 years, we have benefited from her strong commitment of service to the people of this community; for 39 years the American Red Cross has benefited from her leadership.

When asked to comment on her tenure, Marilyn in her typically gracious and modest fashion observed, "No one here does anything alone and I am no exception. Don't ever forget it takes great volunteers to make this work."

At this time, please join with the Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter in wishing Marilyn a long, healthy and happy retirement.

About the American Red Cross:

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and counsels victims of disasters; provides nearly half of the nation's blood supply; teaches lifesaving skills; 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 humanitarian mission. For more information on the Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter of the American Red Cross, please visit www.greaterkzooredcross.org.