



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**

### **LOCAL RED CROSS PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES DEVASTATED BY PULLMAN FIRE**

**KALAMAZOO, MI, - Oct. 8, 2009** - The Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter of the American Red Cross continues to assist the families devastated by a Pullman fire in Allegan County. Fire broke out at the home in the early morning hours Thursday. The intense fire engulfed the home quickly and claimed the life of one child and critically injured another. The ten residents of the home, including five children, were members of two related families. Red Cross case workers continued interviews today with the families, to assist them with their immediate emergency disaster caused needs. The needs of the families are being reviewed as their situation changes. The Red Cross provides financial assistance to victims of house fires based on individual emergency disaster caused needs for food, clothing and shelter. Ongoing assistance is provided to help those individuals make plans for recovery and for any disaster caused mental health needs.

#### **How to Help:**

You can help people affected by disasters like house and apartment fires, by donating to the Local Disaster Relief Fund. The immediate response that the residents of our four county area (Allegan, Cass, Kalamazoo and St. Joseph) count on from the Red Cross is funded by the Local Disaster Relief Fund. Your gift enables the Red Cross to provide shelter, food, counseling and other assistance to victims of all disasters. For more information on the American Red Cross you can visit the Chapter's website at [www.greaterkzooredcross.org](http://www.greaterkzooredcross.org). For more information on the American Red Cross and its role in disaster response, visit its website at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org).

#### **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](http://www.greaterkzooredcross.org).

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