



Southern Tier Chapter

American Red Cross  
Southern Tier Chapter  
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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **The Southern Tier Chapter Marks Red Cross Month by Thanking Supporters and Volunteers**

*Red Cross is responding to disasters down the street, across the country and around the world.*

**ENDICOTT, NY, MARCH 3, 2010** — With March proclaimed as Red Cross Month by President Barack Obama, the American Red Cross, Southern Tier Chapter today recognized and thanked the supporters and volunteers whose efforts enable the Red Cross to respond to disasters down the street, across the country and around the world.

“The Red Cross works tirelessly to be there with help and hope when people need it most—and we are grateful for the public support that enables us to continue our work – here at home and abroad,” said Cindy Gordineer, Regional Chief Executive Officer, Southern Tier Chapter. “Our community and our nation depend on the Red Cross in times of need, and the Red Cross depends on the support of people in America to achieve its mission.”

“During Red Cross Month, we want to recognize the valuable supporters whose generosity makes the work of the American Red Cross possible,” Ms. Gordineer added. “In addition, Red Cross Month is a great time for people to get involved with the Red Cross, such as donating blood; signing up for a CPR, first aid or another Red Cross course; giving a financial gift that can really save the day when the next disaster strikes, or getting involved as a volunteer.”

The Red Cross provides shelter, food, comfort and hope to survivors of nearly 70,000 disasters each year; helps prepare communities for emergencies; is the largest single provider of the nation’s blood; teaches lifesaving skills to more than 5 million people a year; supports military members and their families, and provides international humanitarian aid.

The American Red Cross touches the lives of millions of people every year through its network of 34,000 employees and more than 600,000 volunteers in more than 2,000 locations across the United States and more than 30 countries around the world.

“The Red Cross has responded following the Haiti earthquake in January, working to turn despair into hope,” Ms. Gordineer said. “The Red Cross is there in Haiti now – and we are also here each day across the country for families who need us.”

Although major disasters such as earthquakes, hurricanes and wildfires capture national media headlines, the day-to-day work of the Red Cross often takes place in local communities. In the past year, the Southern Tier Region provided 332 households with disaster assistance, delivered 1,520 services to armed forces, and trained 37,065 people in lifesaving skills. And, blood units collected from our region impacted 142,605 lives.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued the first Red Cross Month proclamation in 1943, recognizing the American Red Cross as a true reflection of the humanitarian and volunteer spirit and calling on Americans to “rededicate themselves to the splendid aims and activities of the Red Cross.” Every president since that time has recognized the work of the Red Cross with a Red Cross Month. President Obama signed the 2010 Red Cross Month proclamation on February 25.

The Southern Tier Chapter has a number of activities planned for Red Cross Month in March to thank the community for their outstanding support and encourage our entire community to prepare themselves to respond. The Chapter has partnered with the Sidney United Way to provide Adult CPR/AED & First Aid training to 10 participants from Delaware County, and will be hosting a Build-A-Kit event for youth. This program provides youth from infancy to age 18 and their parents or guardians with free First Aid kits. By building the kits themselves youth and parents have the added benefit of looking at each item, learning what it is, how each item is used, and why it belongs in their First Aid kit.

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***About the American Red Cross Southern Tier Chapter:** The Southern Tier Chapter of the American Red Cross celebrates its 101<sup>st</sup> year of providing relief to victims of disasters, teaching lifesaving skills, and supporting military members and families. The Southern Tier Red Cross, a charity and not a government agency, depends on voluntary contributions of time and money to perform its humanitarian mission in Broome, Chenango, Delaware, Otsego and Tioga counties. For more information about the Red Cross call 607-785-7207.*