



CROSS + CONNECTION

Sacramento Sierra Chapter Welcomes New Chief Executive Officer



Sacramento Sierra Chapter CEO, Dawn Lindblom.

The Sacramento Sierra Chapter excitedly welcomed Dawn Lindblom as their new Chapter CEO in September. Coming directly from her highly successful role as Regional Executive Director for the Inland Northwest Chapter of the American Red Cross, Dawn’s dynamic style of leadership and diverse work history are leading the Chapter into a culture of innovation and success. “Dawn’s a perfect fit for this position given her collaborative leadership style and past track record,” Board Chair Steve Turner remarked.

Dawn was recently selected to serve as a member of National American Red Cross CEO Gail McGovern’s President’s Advisory Council, along with 20 other Chapter leaders, to provide feedback as the organization embraces “One Red Cross”. She will also be spearheading a new National Task Force dedicated to gathering and promoting best practices within the Chapter network.

At a local level she will be leading the Chapter’s year-end fundraising campaign with a goal of nearly half a million dollars. Local Red Cross supporters will have the opportunity to meet Dawn at the February Grand Opening of the Chapter’s new headquarters near CalExpo.

Annual Luncheon Honors 17 Local Heroes

In an afternoon of celebration at the Sacramento Sierra Chapter’s third annual Hometown Heroes luncheon, local heroes from nine different categories were honored on October 13 for their heroic achievements. Congratulations to the 2009 Hometown Heroes!

Animal Rescue Hero – Molly Casey

Education Heroes – Shandon Hoffmeier and Shelly Petersen

Good Samaritan Adult Hero – Robert Sweeny

Good Samaritan Youth Heroes –

Matthew Freedman, Bobby Hutton, Kami Kostenko, Nolan Negrete, Robert Negrete, Austin Nystrom, and Doug Stowers

Law Enforcement Hero – Deputy Kenneth Skogen

Military Hero – Staff Sgt. Bryan E. Hall

Professional Rescuer Hero – Debbie Mart

Spirit of the Red Cross Hero – Lucas Myers

Workplace Heroes – Joe Reilly and Justin Rawlins

Nomination forms for the 2010 Hometown Heroes are now available online at www.sacsierraredcross.org. Choose to nominate a hero in any of the following categories: Animal Rescue, Education, Good Samaritan (Adult, Youth, or Senior), Law Enforcement, Medical Professional, Military, Professional Rescuer, Spirit of the Red Cross, or Workplace.

Anyone interested in volunteering for next year’s event may contact Matt Lingo at 916-368-3172 or lingom@sacsierraredcross.org.



Rachel Hall and her daughter hold a photo of this year’s Military Hero, Staff Sgt. Bryan Hall, who was Killed in Action on April 10, 2009.



The 2009 Good Samaritan Youth Heroes (from left to right): Nolan Negrete, Robert Negrete, Austin Nystrom, Derek Hartley (the swimmer rescued by the teens), Doug Stowers, Kami Kostenko, and Matthew Freedman (Not pictured, Bobby Hutton).

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Service Statistics for 2009

- The Sacramento Sierra Chapter serves more than 2 million people in a nine county jurisdiction
- We trained more than 30,000 people in First Aid, CPR, and other lifesaving classes, and more than 8,000 people in aquatics courses
- Volunteers and staff responded to more than 240 local disasters, providing shelter, food and comfort to families when they needed it most
- We deployed trained disaster volunteers to disasters across the world, including American Samoa
- We provided emergency communications, attended pre-deployment briefings, and provided other essential services to more than 1,000 members of the active duty military, reserve, and National Guard
- Our chapter team consists of 22 full-time staff and more than 2,400 trained volunteers

Time, Talent, and Treasure

On Saturday, April 18, at the El Dorado Hills estate of Kathleen and Gary Westover, the second annual *Legacy Society and Tiffany Circle Society Ladies Afternoon Tea* took place. The ladies sported gorgeous hats in celebration of women who share their time, talent, and treasure as local area volunteers and donors.



Become a “Fan” of the Red Cross

facebook

The Sacramento Sierra Chapter of the American Red Cross has created a page on the social networking site Facebook (www.facebook.com), to share information about local programs, events, and services. As a Facebook member you can become a “fan” of the Chapter’s page, or join the American Red Cross Sacramento Sierra Chapter “Cause” where you can recruit volunteers or donors.

Chapter’s Disaster Action Team Responds to Wildfires in Auburn

Combine a hot foothill afternoon, a brisk wind, tinder dry grasses, and a spark from unknown origin, and in a matter of minutes, 63 homes and three businesses were destroyed by a wall of fire in the community of Auburn, located 30 miles north of Sacramento. About 450 fire personnel worked as the wind continued to fan the flames, while additional areas were affected by downed power lines. Soon over 3,700 homes were without power into the night. In the morning, all that remained were ashes and debris in the worst recorded fire in Auburn-area history.



The volunteers of the Sacramento Sierra Chapter, Placer District, responded by quickly opening two evacuation centers where the affected families could gather in safety, and receive updated information, snacks, and cold water. Within hours, 220 community members registered at the American Red Cross evacuation centers.

During the next several days, over 90 disaster response volunteers from the Sacramento Sierra Chapter assisted the affected families by opening and staffing overnight shelters and serving meals from three of the Chapter’s Emergency Response Vehicles. Red Cross disaster comfort kits and other donations brought additional relief to those affected by this disaster, while caring and trained Red Cross volunteer caseworkers provided nursing, mental health, and emergency financial assistance to help begin the rebuilding process.

The Red Cross is thankful for the wonderful community response, support, and donations big and small, which allowed us to respond effectively during this emergency. With continued support, the Sacramento Sierra Chapter will retain its strong commitment to providing needed relief and helping people prevent, prepare for, and respond quickly to emergencies like the disastrous 49 Fire.

