

Making a Difference in your neighborhood



American
Red Cross
of Greater Columbus



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Preventing Health Emergencies One Ride at a Time

When Helen Baker received the news that she would need dialysis for the rest of her life, she did not know how she would make it to her appointments. With the help of the Red Cross Community Transportation Program, she has received her treatments three times a week for the last six years.

"I don't know what I would do without them," Baker, who lives southeast of downtown Columbus, said. The program, she added, is a vital part of the community. "I hope nothing happens that makes it stop."

One of the reasons Baker feels comfortable with the program, which drives people to their medical and other appointments, is the group of drivers. Most of them are volunteers.

"I feel like we're all family," Baker said. "I have not had a driver I haven't fallen in love with."

Jim Heil of Groveport is one of those drivers. A volunteer of three and a half years, Heil takes two to three shifts a week. Over the years, he has built a friendship with Baker during their trips to Mount Carmel West Hospital together.

Peter Conrad, the program's coordinator, said he is very thankful to have volunteers like Heil. "This program is keeping seniors in our community independent," Conrad said. "Without the volunteers, we wouldn't be able to do it."

Conrad added that he receives praise about the program from clients all the time.



"On the whole, to our clients, this is a godsend for them. They say it's an answer to their prayers."

Baker, who has also built a relationship with Conrad over the years when scheduling pickups, agreed.

"It's not something they have to do. But they do it," Baker said. "They're caring people. I love them."

If you, or someone you know, needs transportation to medical appointments, call us. We can help. 614.235.6705

Red Cross is Strong Because of You

The Red Cross is human nature ... with forethought mixed in.



Michael Carroll, CEO

As Chief Exec for the American Red Cross of Greater Columbus, I spend a lot of time on "administration." This is important; our donors expect us to be efficiently managed and boring old infrastructure is the platform from which we help disaster victims and many others every day. But there's something more basic ... and reaffirming ... at the heart of the Red Cross.

When people see or hear about others in trouble ... a family huddled in blankets outside their burning home ... a coworker on the office floor clutching his chest ... a child who needs repeated transfusions to fight leukemia ... we instinctively want to help. But how? What should be done? The Red Cross is a powerful answer to these questions. To human nature, we add planning and training so that disaster victims get effective help. Anyone can save a life with CPR; but only if they've had the training. And blood must be on hospital shelves before its needed and it can only come from under our sleeves.

Our supporters, financial contributors, volunteers, and blood donors enable the Red Cross to add forethought to our natural capacity for caring to create real effective action.

Thanks for being part of the Red Cross; I hope you'll take some pride this holiday season knowing that you are doing your part.



American Red Cross

of Greater Columbus

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MISSION

of the American Red Cross

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 disasters and help people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies.



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Your Red Cross IMPACT

07/01/11 - 11/30/11

- Medical trips for seniors..... **6,501**
- Families assisted after fires **197**
- Financial assistance provided to disaster victims..... **\$75,120**
- Individuals trained in CPR and First Aid **7,044**
- Emergency messages conveyed on behalf of military families **178**

The American Red Cross provides assistance like food, shelter and support. Not only during disasters, but everyday.

GIVE SOMETHING *that*
MEANS SOMETHING



Make a gift in honor of a loved one at redcross.org



Disaster Relief & Preparedness • Service to Military Families • International Tracing Services •

CPR & First Aid Training • First Aid Services Team • Water Safety Instruction • Blood Services • Community Transportation

columbus.redcross.org

