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**American
Red Cross**
of Greater Columbus

Making a Difference

In your neighborhood

columbus.redcross.org

Disaster Relief & Preparedness • Service to the Armed Forces • International Tracing Services
CPR & First Aid Training • First Aid Service Corps • Water Safety Instruction • Community Transportation • Blood Services

After the Fire: A Father's First Thoughts

Scott and Patricia Goffin, and their three young sons, had practiced fire drills at their Westerville home in the past. That practice saved their lives when three-year-old Kody ran out of his bedroom one night and, seeing smoke in the hallway, yelled, "Fire! Get out of the house!"

Holding hands, the family safely made their way out of their smoke-filled home. Scott remembers, "The kids were very calm. As soon as we made it out of the house they ran to wake up the neighbors and call 911."



The Goffin Family

"You don't think about the value of the food in your refrigerator or the coats in the closet until you are standing in your front yard in the middle of the night watching your house on fire," Scott continued.

"The Red Cross truck pulled up before the fire was even out. They gave us money to replace the food we lost. We are forever grateful for the support."

I don't know how I would have fed my family that first week without the Red Cross."

-Scott Goffin, Westerville

Since July 2007, nearly 36 local families every month have been helped by the Red Cross after a home fire. Financial assistance to replace essential clothing, food, and prescriptions and, in some cases, rental deposits total more than \$200,000. Comfort items like toothbrushes and toothpaste, teddy bears for children, a warm blanket and plenty of hugs have also been provided. Because of your financial donation, your Red Cross will continue to bring comfort and hope to families like the Goffins.

Compassion In Action



With a family history of service to the American Red Cross it comes as no surprise that Kathryn Flynn, owner of Kathryn's Gallery in the Short North, became a founding member of the newly formed Tiffany Circle. These women leaders and philanthropists annually invest \$10,000 to benefit local Red Cross services. "It tugs at my heart to see disaster victims suffering, but I am comforted by the fact that the Red Cross is prepared to help. The American Red Cross is an established, trustworthy organization and I am happy to be involved."

-Kathryn Flynn



Your Red Cross **IMPACT** 7/1/07 - 3/31/08



Medical trips for seniors.....12,215



Individuals trained in CPR/First Aid.....30,620



Families assisted after fires.....321



Financial assistance provided to home fire victims.....\$206,108



Emergency messages conveyed on behalf of military families.....559

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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.

American Red Cross
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AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER SUPPORTS DISASTER READINESS



A unit of American Electric Power

While not prone to hurricanes and earthquakes, the greater Columbus area is at risk for major disasters including tornadoes and flooding. Efforts are constantly underway to prepare for **when, not if**, a major disaster strikes. American Electric Power, a long-time ally of the American Red Cross, is once again demonstrating their commitment to a safer community with their local lead sponsorship of the American Red Cross *Ready When the Time Comes* program.

The program develops a network of trained volunteers from local companies and organizations that can quickly mobilize to provide disaster relief services in the event of a local, large-scale disaster. Having these individuals trained and available prior to a disaster striking the area is essential to the Red Cross's disaster response efforts.

W.W. Grainger is the National Founding sponsor of *Ready When the Time Comes*, which has launched in 16 of chapters nationwide.

Message from those YOU help

"I think many take the ability to drive wherever they need to go on their own for granted. When I had absolutely no one, the American Red Cross was there for me."

-Theresa Parsley,
Community
Transportation Client



When you think of transportation clients you think of the elderly, but many young cancer and dialysis patients, like Theresa, rely on the Red Cross to drive them to treatment. Your support is vital to their recovery.

Thank You