



Home Fire Campaigns Success

The Home Fire Campaign is a 5-year nationwide initiative to reduce the number of deaths and injuries due to home fires by 25%. The plan is to target high-risk areas, canvass them to check for working smoke detectors, and install them “Free of Charge” wherever needed. Local Fire Departments help select the areas and with installation. While the alarms are being installed, volunteers talk to the families about fire safety, disaster preparedness, and help them create a family escape plan. If all they need is new batteries, those are provided and installed free as well. Volunteers from churches, civic clubs, , businesses local government and just public-minded people have worked alongside Red Cross volunteers and firefighters to keep families safe. Over 5,000 smoke detectors have been installed in Kentucky since July 1st. Get involved!

Regional Volunteer Needs Assessment

This fall the entire Region participated in a Volunteer Needs Assessment where we looked at our mission and service expectations to determine the human resource requirements. It gave us a greater understanding of how many active and trained volunteers it takes to serve our public. There was no surprise that we NEED all of our volunteers, but we also realized we need MORE. Volunteer Recruitment Task Forces around the Region have been busy working on recruitment plans and strategies for acquiring the volunteer base that we need to meet our service demands.

There is no greater advertisement for the Red Cross than our current volunteers. Do you talk to people you know about the Red Cross? How you volunteer? What you do? How it makes you feel to volunteer?

If you don't, then we need for you to do just that. Reach out to your family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors. Ask them if they ever considered volunteering with Red Cross. It's easy to get started. Just guide them to www.redcross.org/volunteer where they can complete an online application. If they are not particularly “computer savvy”, then tell them to call a Red Cross office and request a paper application.



Give Something that Means Something

Red Cross does not receive governmental funding. We rely on the generosity of public donations. Your donation this holiday has lasting impact for those you help such as servicemen and women, people in need of lifesaving blood, families impacted by disaster and more. Visit <https://www.redcross.org/donate> or call 1-800-RED-CROSS.

Volunteer to Make a Difference

Neighbors helping neighbors is what the Red Cross is all about. Volunteers make up 96 percent of the total work force needed to carry out our humanitarian mission, which includes:

- Responding quickly to home fires and other disasters
- Connecting displaced families
- Training others to be prepared
- Delivering messages to our U.S. service members, and more

To learn more about volunteer opportunities, visit redcross.org/volunteer.

What's Happening?

Mark your calendar now for the 19th Annual Red Cross Bean Soup Lunch fundraiser on January 28, 2016, 11 am - 1 pm at the VFW at 104 E. Second St. in Frankfort. Come and enjoy your choice of white or brown beans, beverage, cornbread and dessert. All for just \$6/person. Bring your family, friends, and co-workers. You can eat in or carry out. Free delivery to locations within Frankfort that have a minimum of 10 orders going to 1 location. Phone orders can be made at 502-223-1795.

Disaster Training is always ongoing as procedures change. Be sure to stay up-to-date on training that helps you serve our clients. You can always take online training at <https://embarc-learning.sabacloud.com> in the comfort of your home. But if you prefer the classroom setting here are some upcoming options:

- Defensive Driving - (Required for anyone who will drive a Red Cross vehicle) Saturday, Jan. 2, 9 am - 1 pm. at the Red Cross office at 318 Washington St., Frankfort.
- Psychological First Aid - (Recommended for all disaster responders) on Saturday, Jan. 2, 2 - 6 pm at the Red Cross office at 318 Washington St., Frankfort.



Have you updated your profile in Volunteer Connection lately?

Volunteer Connection is the site where Red Cross keeps all your volunteer information such as current contact information, hours you've worked, positions you hold, etc.

But in order for this to be helpful to us, it must be current. If you have not been to Volunteer Connection for awhile (or ever), just go to <https://volunteerconnection.redcross.org> and update your profile. This is the most efficient way for us to be able to contact you quickly when we need your help; especially for disasters. If you need assistance with logging in, contact the Red Cross at 1-800-578-4904 for help. We appreciate your efforts to keep this up-to-date.

Not sure your volunteers hours are getting "counted"? There are a couple of ways to ensure that you are getting credit for the good work you do. You can log in to Volunteer Connection (address above), and scroll down to the bottom of the home page to "Submit Hours" and enter them there. Too cumbersome for you? Then just send your volunteer hours to us at Frankfortredcross@redcross.org or call them in to 1-800-578-4904 and our administrative volunteers are happy to enter them for you. Your hours are very important to us (and I hope they are to you too).