



**American  
Red Cross**

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## Media Alert

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**For Immediate Release**



### **Cape Cod and Islands Chapter, American Red Cross Volunteers Support Carnival at Massachusetts Military Reservation**

Hyannis, Mass., June 24, 2011 – Several Services to the Armed Forces volunteers from the Cape Cod and Islands Chapter, American Red Cross took part in facilitating a carnival at the Massachusetts Military Reservation (MMR) on Saturday, June 18, 2011. The carnival, enjoyed by some 300 children of military families and their parents, was sponsored by the Cape Cod Spouses Club. Food and snacks were provided by the Red Cross. Children of all ages participated in a variety of games, staffed by members of the Spouses Club and Red Cross volunteers. Funds generated by the carnival will assist the Spouses Club in continue to providing services to military families in the area. Some 3,000 military and their families are involved, either in active or in Guard reserve status, at Camp Edwards, Air Station Cape Cod, Otis Air National Guard Base and other units on the Massachusetts Military Reservation.

In the past three years the American Red Cross, Cape Cod and Islands Chapter reached over 3,000 people with military support information and helped 159 military families with emergency communication services. In 2010, the Chapter started operating a special Military Family Resource Center on the base, staffed by specially trained Services to the Armed Forces volunteers.

The **American Red Cross** is the nation's foremost emergency response organization, offering neutral humanitarian care to the victims of war and devastating natural disasters as well as local disasters such as fires, Hazardous Materials accidents and more, providing victims of these disasters with shelter, food and emotional support. Today, in addition to domestic disaster relief, the American Red Cross offers compassionate services in five other areas: **community services** for affected victims after a disaster; **support and comfort for military members and their families** including **emergency messaging**; the **collection, processing and distribution of lifesaving blood and blood products**; **educational programs** that promote health and safety; and **international relief and development** programs.

The Red Cross is not a government agency and does not receive federal or state funding. Local Chapters do receive some human resource support from the American Red Cross Headquarters, however, each Chapter is responsible for raising adequate funds to support all of its activities, including recruiting and training volunteers, and teaching life saving skills within its geographical coverage area. It relies on donations of time, money, and blood from the American public to successfully do its work.

To find out more about Services to the Armed Forces, volunteering for the Red Cross, for class schedules, for disaster preparedness information in English, Spanish or Portuguese, or to donate, please contact the American Red Cross, Cape Cod Islands Chapter, 286 South Street, Hyannis, MA 02601, call (508) 775-1540 ext. 21 or visit [www.cciredcross.org](http://www.cciredcross.org)