



**American  
Red Cross**

Cape Cod and Islands Chapter

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*Media Alert*  
**MEDIA ALERT**

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**American Red Cross to Honor Disaster Volunteer Jonathan O'Neil of Hyannis at its 8th Annual Heroes Breakfast on March 4th**

Hyannis, Mass, February 15, 2010 - The American Red Cross, Cape Cod and Islands Chapter, is pleased to announce that Jonathan O'Neil of Hyannis will be honored with the American Red Cross Volunteer Achievement Award at its 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Heroes Breakfast on Thursday, March 4, 2010 at the Resort and Conference Center at Hyannis, MA from 7:00-9:00 A.M. For tickets or sponsorships, check out [www.cciredcross.org](http://www.cciredcross.org) or call (508) 775-1540.

For the past two years, Jonathan O'Neil has done many things for our community in his role as a Red Cross Volunteer. He is the chapter's dispatcher and is on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. He receives all of the calls requesting assistance from the Red Cross and a majority of these calls come between the hours of midnight and 6 a.m. It is not unusual for him to be awakened several times a week to handle these calls.

In addition to his responsibilities as dispatcher, Jonathan is the Lead for the Cape Cod and Islands Chapter Sheltering Activity Group. In this position his main focus this past year has been working with the Regional Emergency Planning Committee in getting the Regional Shelters setup, bringing together all different groups operating at the shelter, setting up complex drills to make sure we are ready when called to help our communities. Jonathan is also Sheltering Lead with the Mass Care Massachusetts State Consortium Group and he is working with other Chapters across Massachusetts to plan and implement Regional Shelters in the state.

He is also a member of the leadership team of the Mid Cape Zone and on many occasions has filled in and acted as the Mid Cape Zone Leader. On one such occasion, August 23, 2009, he received a call from the Centerville Osterville Marstons Mills (COMM) Fire Department requesting Red Cross assistance for a rescue/drowning incident in Osterville. Jonathan managed many facets of the operation from providing the emergency personnel with food to assisting the family with Disaster Mental Health (DMH) while the operation went on for hours and family and friends were awaiting information.

It is impossible to list all that Jonathan has done and continues to do in his role as a Red Cross Volunteer. He is always there to help when needed.

The Red Cross touches lives in our community every day through programs and services such as disaster relief and health and safety training. As an organization committed to helping the community, the Red Cross is honored to salute individuals who are making a difference through their actions at its 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Red Cross Heroes Breakfast.

Tickets are available online at [cciredcross.org](http://cciredcross.org) or can be obtained by calling toll-free (508) 775-1540, ext. 21. Different levels of sponsorship are also available. You can write to: American Red Cross, Cape Cod and Islands Chapter, 286 South Street, Hyannis MA 02601 or send an email to [heroes@cciredcross.org](mailto:heroes@cciredcross.org).

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