



Disaster Relief

Eastern Massachusetts Region
Cape Cod and Islands Chapter
286 South Street, Hyannis, MA 02601
(508)775-1540, 24 hours
www.cciredcross.org



FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

Note, not for publication: Karen Melchione is available for interviews at (508) 566-7162

American Red Cross sends Karen Melchione of Pocasset to Support Shelter in Binghamton, NY

HYANNIS --- Cape Cod and Islands Chapter, American Red Cross is deploying Karen Melchione of Pocasset to Binghamton, New York in support of the Red Cross Disaster Relief Efforts after Tropical storm Lee affected the area. This is Karen's first National deployment. She will be working in a shelter for two weeks. Karen is also active as a blood donation volunteer and for the past two years has led the various Service to the Armed Forces support activities on the Massachusetts Military Reservation.

The American Red Cross is still helping people in Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey after widespread flooding over the past several weeks. Hundreds of Red Cross workers are supporting shelters in areas where people can't return home and helping people clean up their neighborhoods. Dozens of Red Cross response vehicles are distributing meals and snacks prepared in kitchens with the support of partner organizations such as the Southern Baptist Convention. Volunteers are handing out thousands of relief supplies like rakes, work gloves, trash bags, dust masks and coolers. Trained Red Cross workers are providing emotional support and assisting people who have lost medications or items like eyeglasses.

In just the past three weeks, more than 8,000 Red Cross workers have:

- Provided more than 66,000 overnight stays in nearly 600 shelters.
- Served more than 2.2 million meals and snacks.
- Handed out more than 348,000 relief items.
- Provided more than 38,000 mental health and health consultations.

All American Red Cross disaster assistance is free, made possible by voluntary donations of time and money from the American people. A financial gift to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund enables the Red Cross to provide shelter, food, counseling and other assistance to those affected by a disaster. On those rare occasions when donations exceed Red Cross expenses for a specific disaster, contributions are used to prepare for and serve those affected by other disasters.

Those who want to help can click or text to support American Red Cross Disaster Relief. Donations can be made by visiting www.redcross.org, calling 1-800-REDCROSS, or texting the word REDCROSS to 90999 to make a \$10 donation. Contributions to the Disaster Relief Fund may also be sent to your local American Red Cross Chapter at 286 South Street, Hyannis, MA 02601. Tel. (508) 775-1540 ext. 21. Internet users can make a secure online contribution by visiting cciredcross.org xxxxx