



**American  
Red Cross**

Cape Cod and Islands Chapter

286 South Street  
Hyannis, Massachusetts 02601  
Phone: (508) 775-1540  
Or (866) 762-1928  
[capecodandislandsredcross.org](http://capecodandislandsredcross.org)

## Media Alert

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### ***American Red Cross, Cape Cod and Islands Chapter Looking for Volunteers***

Hyannis, MA, May 11, 2009 - The American Red Cross, Cape Cod and Islands Chapter, is looking for additional volunteers in Disaster Services and for general support in the next few months. Training will be provided, free of charge.

With Hurricane season starting on June 1<sup>st</sup> and “snow birds” back on Cape Cod and the Islands, the Chapter is gearing up its activities and is looking for people who may be interested in volunteering some time in their community.

Volunteers will typically be active in one of the zones near their own town: Upper Cape, Mid Cape, Lower Cape, Martha’s Vineyard or Nantucket. Occasionally, travel to the chapter house in Hyannis may be necessary. Volunteers are needed for the following areas:

**Disaster Staff Services**, to support the chapter during normal business hours, and in the case of a disaster relief operation, to help in shelters in their own community or in one of the regional shelters. Some volunteers are also needed to help the chapter on off-hours to support clients who have suffered a loss as a result of a house fire or other disaster, and to help rehab first responders on the scene.

**Emergency Operations/Government Relations**, to represent the chapter to our government and emergency management partners by attending monthly meetings, and when assigned to incident command and multi-agency coordination centers and other emergency management settings.

**Nurses and Health professionals and liaisons**, to work primarily in three settings depending on their level of expertise and experience. These settings include Red Cross operated Shelters, where disaster victims take temporary shelter for their basic needs of daily living; Red Cross Service Centers, where clients go to interview with caseworkers; and Red Cross Staff Health, where RNs / Physicians have responsibility for the health and well-being of Red Cross staff.

**Mental Health Professionals** to provide essential mental health services to ensure the highest quality of care to disaster victims in their time of need. Disaster Mental Health is an integral part of the Red Cross Disaster Services to provide and respond to the psychological needs of our clients before, during, and after local and national disasters.

**Service to Armed Forces/Military Families Volunteers**, preferably people with access to Mass Military Reservation, to support the chapter in expanding the service to military families, on and off base.

**Community Preparedness Education**, to support the chapter by providing talks and group presentations to educate local community groups, schools and other interested organizations in emergency preparedness awareness and other training. This will require some evening or weekend activities.

**Web support, Data-entry** and people interested in helping with **Fundraising** and **Marketing** efforts of the chapter. Other volunteer opportunities are available as well.

This Volunteer Drive is part of the Chapter’s goal to ensure that all areas on Cape Cod have enough volunteers who are adequately trained to operate shelters as local emergency officials open them. Volunteer forms are available for download on the web at [capecodandislandsredcross.org](http://capecodandislandsredcross.org); click volunteer. Call (508) 775-1540 or stop by the Chapter at 286 South Street, Hyannis, MA 02601.

All American Red Cross disaster assistance is free, made possible by voluntary donations of time and money from people in our local communities. Training to registered volunteers is free. For more information about volunteering, please contact the Chapter by emailing [volunteer@cciredcross.org](mailto:volunteer@cciredcross.org). You may also write to American Red Cross, Cape Cod and Islands Chapter, 286 South Street, Hyannis MA 02601 or call toll-free (508) 775-1540. More info is also available on [capecodandislandsredcross.org](http://capecodandislandsredcross.org)