



## YOUR AMERICAN RED CROSS

The American Red Cross in New York State is comprised of 34 chapters and the New York-Penn Blood Region. For more than 100 years, the Red Cross has had a presence in nearly every community in our State helping New Yorkers prepare for disasters and providing assistance when disasters strike. In addition, the blood region is the primary provider of blood products in 46 counties in the State. Our health and safety programs which train our citizens in life-saving skills including first aid, CPR and aquatic, enroll hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers.

Last year alone, Chapters in New York State responded to nearly 5,000 disasters. Many of these disasters never make the evening news: they are often single-family home fires or building collapses. When disasters happen, firefighters put out the fire and police maintain law and order, but who takes care of the victims? Who gives them a safe place to sleep, money for food and clothing, warm blankets, crisis counseling, replacement medications, and compassionate faces for support? This is the role of the Red Cross.

The American Red Cross in New York State provided the following services in 2008:

- Responded to **4,921** local disasters (*more than 13 disasters per day*)
- Trained **374,967** people in CPR, First Aid, use of automated external defibrillators and our health and safety programs
- Trained **259,887** in swimming and water safety
- Trained **255,244** people in emergency preparedness through our community disaster education programs
- Collected more than **339,000** units of blood\*
- Provided **107** hospitals with **528,000** blood product units\*
- Assisted **38,602** people under our Armed Forces Emergency Service and Community Outreach programs

\* Based on 2007 Data