



American Red Cross

Southeast Missouri Chapter
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News Release
NEWS RELEASE

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Red Cross to Hold Shelter Operations Trainings

The Southeast MO Chapter of the American Red Cross, as part of an ongoing effort to continue to improve disaster readiness in our local area, will provide Shelter Operations Training on **Saturday March 7th** 9am – 4pm, First Baptist Church, 1101 N. Main **Sikeston**, MO, 63801 and **Saturday March 21st** 9am – 4pm, First United Methodist Church, 300 College Ave, **Kennett**, MO 63857. Registration is requested. The purpose of this basic level Disaster Services course is to prepare local individuals, churches, and volunteers to manage shelter operations effectively and sensitively as a team while meeting the needs of people displaced as a result of a disaster.

When disaster strikes the sheltering of people affected is a primary concern of the Red Cross and of the communities affected by the emergency. The goal of this training is to increase the ability of the community to partner with the Red Cross to successfully develop and maintain a local disaster readiness, preparedness and response program to ensure prompt and effective care of displaced families and individuals.

Trainers will discuss tactics and strategies needed to help coordinate and manage a response to disaster events, particularly how to effectively shelter victims. This training is also aimed to help build volunteer recruitment and retention and look for ways to improve community partnerships during disaster response.

The American Red Cross is an organization that is dependent upon volunteers. During a disaster response volunteers have large roles in every aspect of a relief operation. From running shelters to operating a mobile feeding unit, volunteers make our work possible. In order to facilitate this, the American Red Cross offers training courses that prepare volunteers to work in disaster services roles.

Red Cross Aid is an outright gift. It is provided by voluntary contributions from the American people. All Red Cross Disaster help is free. For training details and to register for this training, schedule additional training, for more information on volunteer opportunities, or to make a donation, call (573) 335-9471, or email Jamie Koehler at jkoehler@semoredcross.org.

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