

Emergency Services Update

August 2011



Spotlight !

Community Partnerships:

I would like to announce that we have formed a new partnership with Phillips Electronics who has a headquarters located here in Gainesville, FL. Phillips has graciously decided to sponsor us with a \$5,000 per year commitment through our Adopt-A-Family program as well as form their own Disaster Action Team for response in Alachua County. Partnerships like these help us provide our key services throughout our jurisdiction. We hope to find many more partners this year.

Thank you Phillips from the entire Emergency Services Department!

Humanity

Impartiality

Neutrality

Independence

Voluntary Service

Unity

Universality

RUNNING TO THE RESCUE

During the month of July, **YOU**, the **VOLUNTEERS** have assisted **20 families**, **50 individuals**, in our eight county jurisdiction! Interested in joining the Disaster Action Team? Contact Casey @ CSchmelz@redcrossncfc.org to find out how!

We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.

– Franklin Delano Roosevelt

So, what are we doing?

Chasing Hurricanes of course! The North Central Florida Chapter deployed seven volunteers during the month of August to support relief efforts in North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey. The support that these volunteers provided provides support to our mission not only locally, but nationally. A special thanks goes out to Pat Gilliland, Scott Brantley, Molly Jansen, Maria Fitzgerald, Jim Frank, Doc Cox, and Kathleen Aust O'Shea for their tireless efforts on the Hurricane Irene response.

Red Cross and their acronyms:

After a few years I have learned many things, mainly that the American Red Cross uses more acronyms than any organization I know! It is my goal to introduce these acronyms to you and help you become familiar with them for every day use. Each month I plan on introducing one or more acronyms to you to help build your knowledge within our organization.

DRO (Disaster Relief Operation):

A Disaster Relief Operation is a temporary administrative organization created by the Red Cross to focus resources on, and accomplish service delivery for, a specific disaster.

NRP (National Response Plan):

The National Response Plan is an all-hazards plan that establishes mechanisms for federal government involvement in, and coordination of, incident management operations; the American Red Cross helped draft the plan and plays a significant role in it.

North Central
Florida Chapter

1425 NW 6th Street
Gainesville, FL 32601

Lake City
Service Center

265 N Hernando St,
Suite 102

Take a Look Inside Our Chapter:



Volunteers of the Month:

For the Month of August it was hard to find one single volunteer who had really gone above and beyond the call of duty. The two volunteers who are highlighted this month are almost considered one singular unit.

Molly and Maria are Interns this semester in the Emergency Services Department. On their fourth day of their internship (after beginning extensive training early on) they deployed to the North East to support relief efforts in New York due to Hurricane Irene. Their enthusiasm to support their neighbors in other parts of the country and eagerness to accept the challenge at hand didn't go un-noticed, a communications team from National Headquarters decided to do a feature story on them due to their positive spirit and willingness to go the extra mile. These ladies are a great example of the next generation of American Red Cross Volunteers. Check out their feature story on our website internship home page:

www.RedCrossNCFC.org/Internships

Melanie Saxon: The New Face of the North Central Florida Chapter

The North Central Florida Chapter would like to welcome our new Executive Director, Melanie Saxon, to our chapter!

Melanie Saxon, a liberal arts graduate of the University of Florida, is a twenty year nonprofit management and fundraising professional. Her past experience includes serving as Executive Director of Voices for Kids of Southwest Florida and the Enzian Theater/Florida Film Festival in Orlando. Most recently she served as Operations Manager for Kids Count in Alachua County. She is past President of the Junior League of Fort Myers and is currently serving on the Junior League of Gainesville Membership Development Committee. Melanie is a Stephen Minister with Trinity United Methodist Church.

Melanie joined the chapter with a goal to bring the face of the organization to a broader community as well as achieving the financial support our chapter needs in order to provide support to our community in the years to come.

In the coming months Melanie will be working hard on many projects for our chapter including:

- **Adopt-A-Family**
- **Holiday Giving Program**
- **Third Annual Celebration of Taste Event**
- **Second Annual Golf Tournament**

Melanie is actively seeking Volunteers to support her fundraising efforts. Please feel free to email Melanie at MSaxon@redcrossncfc.org for more info.

