



**American
Red Cross**

Hawaii State Chapter

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOUR HAWAII RED CROSS VOLUNTEERS DEPLOY TO SUPPORT TORNADO RELIEF EFFORTS

HONOLULU, April 30, 2011 - Four Hawaii Red Cross volunteers have been sent to support the relief operations set up in response to the storms that devastated areas of the south. Two of those volunteers, Elizabeth Norcross of Honolulu and Cathy Lewis of Captain Cook are traveling to Alabama tonight. Tom Worthington of Kula left yesterday to manage computer operations for the relief effort in Arkansas. Esther Lau of Honolulu has been in Alabama since Thursday evening. Other Hawaii Chapter volunteers around the state are on alert and may be sent over the coming days.

From the Deep South to the Northeast, the American Red Cross is at work in 11 states to help people devastated by the recent deadly tornadoes and floods. Ensuring people have a safe place to stay is a major priority. Red Cross shelters are currently open in Alabama, Georgia, New York, Tennessee, Missouri, Illinois, Mississippi, Indiana, Kentucky, North Carolina and Virginia.

More than 1,500 people spent the night in a Red Cross shelter Thursday night. In hard-hit Alabama, 12 Red Cross shelters are open across the state. Red Cross disaster workers, relief supplies, blood products and equipment have been sent into Alabama, along with more than 50 emergency response vehicles and 25,000 ready-to-eat meals. Red Cross nurses and mental health workers have also been deployed to help people cope with the aftermath of this disaster.

The Red Cross is working with its partners around the clock to help people in every affected state, and will continue to focus on making sure people have a safe place to stay, food to eat, emotional support, basic health services and relief supplies. The Red Cross will continue to be there in the coming weeks as they help residents get back on their feet.

The Hawaii State Chapter volunteers are part of a national network of Red Cross disaster volunteers who are trained to deploy to large relief operations for up to three week assignments. Community members interested in becoming disaster volunteers should contact their nearest Red Cross office or visit the chapter's web site at www.hawaiiredcross.org. All Red Cross disaster training is open to the public and offered at no cost.

The Red Cross depends on financial donations to help in times of disaster, both here in the United States and around the world. Those who want to help can make a donation to support American Red Cross Disaster Relief. To make a donation, visit www.hawaiiiredcross.org or call 1-800-RED-CROSS. To send a contribution, mail your check to:

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