



**American
Red Cross**

Hawaii State Chapter

Hawaii State Chapter
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MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOUR HAWAII RED CROSS VOLUNTEERS TO DEPLOY FOR HURRICANE IRENE

What: Four American Red Cross volunteers from Hawaii will be leaving for Boston to assist with bulk distribution of emergency relief items to victims of Hurricane Irene. Over 60 other Hawaii Red Cross volunteers are on standby to deploy, if needed, within 24 hours to assist in relief efforts.

When: Thursday, September 1, 2011, 4pm on Delta Airlines

Who: **Bill Berg** and **Christina Bell** were deployed earlier this year to help with the Midwest floods in Missouri. They provided mobile feeding through Emergency Relief Vehicles to areas that were cut off due to the floods. Both are very active with the local Red Cross Logistics Committee to ensure that supplies are ready for response to local disasters.

Renise Bayne has assisted with local disasters and community disaster presentations. This is her first deployment for a mainland disaster.

Trevor Keetch volunteers as a hotline dispatcher, receiving calls from different emergency agencies and deploying Red Cross Disaster Action Team volunteers to the scene of a disaster within 1 hour of notification. This is his first mainland deployment.

Why: Thousands of people from North Carolina to New England have turned to the American Red Cross for help in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, as flooding, widespread power outages and wind damage have devastated many communities. The footprint of Irene is huge and the cost of Red Cross response will be in the millions:

- Since Friday, the Red Cross has provided about 52,000 overnight shelter stays.
- Ten kitchens, capable of serving about 140,000 hot meals each day, are operating or being set up in North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland and New York.
- About 260 feeding vehicles - every Red Cross feeding truck east of the Rocky Mountains - has been mobilized to support recovery efforts.
- The Red Cross is shipping thousands of relief items like clean-up kits, rakes, ice chests and tarps to North Carolina, New York and key areas in New England to help people clean up their homes. --- MORE ---

People who can help are encouraged to click, text or call to donate to American Red Cross Disaster Relief. Visit www.redcross.org , call 1-800-RED CROSS or text the word REDCROSS to 90999 to make a \$10 donation. Contributions may also be sent to the American Red Cross, Hawaii State Chapter, 4155 Diamond Head Road, Honolulu, HI 96816, or to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 37243, Washington, DC 20013.

The Red Cross is a non-profit humanitarian organization which provides assistance to meet the immediate emergency needs of those affected by disasters. All Red Cross assistance to disaster victims is free. The Red Cross is not a government agency; it depends on public contributions to help others. Your gift supports the lifesaving mission of the American Red Cross in your community, across the country and around the world.

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