



**American
Red Cross**

American Red Cross of
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News Release
NEWS RELEASE

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American Red Cross to Open Shelter in Eagle, Provide Comfort for Residents Affected by Flooding

Anchorage, May 8, 2009– The American Red Cross of Alaska will open a shelter in Eagle for residents who have been displaced by the recent Yukon River flooding. Six Red Cross disaster response volunteers are expected to arrive in the community this evening to begin setting up the shelter at the Eagle Community School, and will assist residents by offering a safe place to stay, a hot meal, minor first aid, and a shoulder to lean on.

“In the days and weeks to come, the American Red Cross of Alaska will be coordinating with emergency officials and local community partners to help residents impacted by the flood get back on their feet,” said Michelle Houlihan, CEO. “The Red Cross will keep shelters open as long as needed, in addition to providing mobile feeding and mental health support to those affected by the flood.”

65-70 Eagle residents are expected to receive shelter assistance. Cots, bedding, and comfort kits have been sent to the area. All residents in the affected area may utilize the shelter being provided by American Red Cross at no cost.

The Red Cross is keeping close watch on flooding throughout the Interior and is working with state and emergency officials for potential response in other communities.

How to Help: Help people affected by disasters like floods, by donating to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. On those rare occasions when donations exceed Red Cross expenses for a specific disaster, contributions are used to prepare for and serve victims of other disasters. Your gift enables the Red Cross to provide shelter, food, counseling and other assistance to victims of all disasters. Call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or 1-800-257-7575 (Spanish). Contributions to the Disaster Relief Fund may be sent to your local American Red Cross chapter or to the American Red Cross, P. O. Box 37243, Washington, DC 20013. Internet users can make a secure online contribution by visiting www.redcross.org

For More Information: For additional information about this incident or American Red Cross services, please call Kelly Hurd, Public Affairs Office, American Red Cross of Alaska, (907) 646-5412 office, (907) 227-6011 mobile.

About the American Red Cross of Alaska: Governed by volunteers and supported by community donations, the American Red Cross of Alaska is dedicated to saving lives and helping Alaskans prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. Led by over 1,500 volunteers and 27 employees, last year the American Red Cross of Alaska mobilized relief to 631 Alaskans affected by disaster, trained 31,515 people in lifesaving skills, taught more than 5,000 Alaskans how to be better prepared for disasters, and exchanged 2,100 emergency messages for U.S. military service personnel and their families. For more information about the American Red Cross of Alaska, please visit our website at www.alaska.redcross.org.

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