

Disaster Response Summary Buffalo Area Blizzard

October 16, 2006

In response to the Buffalo Area Blizzard, the American Red Cross has opened a total of 4 shelters. 93 residents have sought out Red Cross shelters.

	Shelters Opened To Date	Total # of shelter Residents
New York	4	93

For the most up to date information on shelter locations, and Red Cross assistance please call 1-866-GET INFO

Mass Care:

During times of disasters the Red Cross provides mass care-food, shelter bulk distribution of disaster relief supplies, first aid and disaster welfare information.

Disaster Welfare Inquires

If your office receives calls from people outside the disaster area that are trying to locate family members in an affected area, have them contact their local Red Cross chapter for help. Red Cross chapters can be located at <u>www.redcross.org.</u>

Emergency Financial Assistance

The Red Cross provides direct financial assistance to disaster victims in the form of Client Assistance Cards for basic needs such as food, clothes and temporary housing.

Donation information: 1-800-Red-Cross

All American Red Cross disaster assistance is free, made possible by voluntary donations of time and money from the American people. You can help the victims of disasters across the country each year by making a financial gift to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund, which enables the Red Cross to provide shelter, food, counseling and other assistance to victims of disaster. The American Red Cross honors donor intent. If you wish to designate your donation to a specific disaster please do so at the time of your donation. Call 1-800-REDCROSS 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 <u>www.redcross.org.</u>

For further information, please visit <u>www.redcross.org</u>.

For any questions or assistance, please contact a member of the Red Cross Government Relations team below.

Neal Denton:	202/303-4348 (office) 202/302-1474 (cell)
Eric Mondero:	202/303-5778 (office) 703-470-8686 (cell)
Dawn Latham:	202/303-4219 (office) 703-675-0107 (cell)

The American Red Cross has helped people mobilize to help their neighbors for 125 years. Last year, victims of a record 72,883 disasters, most of them fires, turned to the nearly 1 million volunteers and 35,000 employees of the Red Cross for help and hope. Through more than 800 locally supported chapters, more than 15 million people each year gain the skills they need to prepare for and respond to emergencies in their homes, communities and world. Almost 4 million people give blood—the gift of life—through the Red Cross, making it the largest supplier of blood and blood products in the United States. The Red Cross helps thousands of U.S. service members separated from their families by military duty stay connected. As part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, a global network of more than 180 national societies, the Red Cross helps restore hope and dignity to the world's most vulnerable people. An average of 91 cents of every dollar the Red Cross spends is invested in humanitarian services and programs. The Red Cross is not a government agency; it relies on donations of time, money, and blood to do its work.