



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 4, 2006

American Red Cross Update April 4, 2006

Springfield, IL: The American Red Cross Illinois Capital Area Chapter is still in the process of responding to the recent storms. The following is a summary update of the most current information.

American Red Cross Shelters, Taylorville Jr. High in Taylorville and the Living Well Community Center in Riverton, were closed at 8pm 04/03/2006.

Disaster Assessment Teams have been surveying effected areas in Sangamon, Christian, Macoupin, Logan and Menard counties. Caseworkers are currently working one-on-one with clients in effected areas. Service-delivery teams are active in both Riverton and Taylorville providing meals and speaking with residents. Over forty Red Cross volunteers are currently responding to this disaster.

To date the following structural damage reports have been collected:

- At least thirty homes have been destroyed or suffered major damage. Furthermore, over forty others have sustained minor damage in the recent storms. Disaster Assessment teams continue to survey the disaster-struck areas to seek out more individuals in need of help.

Individuals who have need financial assistance because of storm-related damaged to their home should call the American Red Cross at (217) 522-3357 or 1-888-343-5766 to schedule an appointment with a caseworker.

With more severe weather possible for Thursday evening, it is important for all individuals to make sure that they are prepared. Communicate to your family members your disaster response plan and make sure that the food and water in your three-days disaster supplies kits is no more than six months old. Replace all necessary items for the unfolding severe weather season.

All American Red Cross disaster assistance is free, made possible by voluntary donations of time and money from the American people. To help the Red Cross continue to save lives, contributions can be made to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund by calling (217) 522-3357 or 1-888-343-5766. Contributions to the Disaster Relief Fund may also be sent to the Illinois Capital Area Chapter P.O. Box 1058, 1025 South Sixth Street, Springfield, IL 62705-1058.

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