



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Red Cross Responds to Gillespie Fire

Gillespie, IL: The American Red Cross Illinois Capital Area Chapter responded to a fire that occurred in Gillespie last night.

Casework interviewers and a mental health counselor from the Red Cross met with the one survivor to identify immediate needs resulting from the fire. Basic emergency assistance including food, shelter and clothing is being provided.

Every year, between the months of November and March (the months commonly referred to as “Fire Season”) the American Red Cross responds to roughly half of its responses for the entire year. Typically, these responses are to single-family fires. To date this year, the chapter has assisted nearly 40 percent more individuals than at this point last year.

The Illinois Capital Area Chapter has scheduled a “walk-thru” for Monday, December 5th in neighborhoods where fires have recently occurred. The purpose of the “walk-thru” is to provide fire prevention and fire safety information to individuals and families. One goal of the “walk-thru” is to encourage renters to acquire renter’s insurance to avoid risking losing everything that they own to a fire.

The community can help those affected by future disasters by making a contribution the Local Disaster Relief Fund. 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 522-3357. 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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