



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 13, 2006

### **Red Cross Shelter Open for Storm Victims**

**Springfield, IL:** The American Red Cross Illinois Capital Area Chapter has set up a shelter at Lanphier High School, 1300 N. 11<sup>th</sup> in Springfield, to assist victims of last night's storms. Lanphier High School was one of the only facilities that had power last night and was close to the affected area. Over 80 individuals were sheltered from the storm and damaged areas last night at Lanphier High School.

Red Cross Disaster Action Team (DAT) members are working to make sure that people are comfortable and safe. Members of the DAT are volunteers with the Illinois Capital Area Chapter, specially trained in various aspects of disaster response, including casework interviews, damage assessment, shelter and feeding, health services, and mental health crisis counseling.

Red Cross mobile feeding units have been dispatched to affected areas in the community. The units will be providing food and drinks for storm victims and rescue personnel. Feeding and sheltering will continue.

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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