



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **American Red Cross Responds to Springfield Apartment Fire**

**Springfield, IL:** The American Red Cross Illinois Capital Area Chapter responded to an apartment fire Friday evening at Near North Village, 401 E. Jefferson St. The fire displaced forty residents.

Seventeen of the displaced residents were provided shelter at the Mansion View Hotel, while the other displaced residents stayed with friends and family Friday evening through Sunday afternoon. As of Sunday afternoon, 39 of the 40 displaced residents were allowed to return to their apartments at Near North Village. The resident who occupies the apartment where the fire originated is staying with family until that apartment is habitable.

Red Cross caseworkers met with affected individuals to identify their immediate needs resulting from the fire. Emergency assistance including food, clothing, replacement medications and mental health counseling was provided for those in need. The Red Cross will continue working with the residents to make sure their clothes are cleaned; much of the clothing has water damage as a result of the fire.

This is the second apartment fire the Illinois Capital Area Chapter has responded to in two weeks. On June 5 the chapter responded to a fire at Chatham Hills Apartments and provided assistance for affected individuals.

On average, the Illinois Capital Area Chapter responds to a disaster every two days. Last year alone responding to more than 115 disaster incidents, including 104 house fires, 2 incidents of flooding, 1 winter storm, 1 windstorm, 1 transportation accident, and 6 other incidents, providing emergency assistance to 534 individuals.

The community can help those affected by future disasters by making a contribution to 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 Local Disaster Relief Fund by calling (217) 787-7602. Contributions may also be sent to the Illinois Capital Area Chapter P.O. Box 1058, 1045 Outer Park, Springfield, IL 62704-1058.

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