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### **American Red Cross Serves More than 60 Travelers Caught in Winter Weather**

The American Red Cross Illinois Capital Area Chapter provided shelter to 68 travelers seeking refuge from winter weather Friday night January 20, 2012. The travelers got caught on Interstate 55 as icy weather conditions resulted in car accidents and slowed traffic down almost to a standstill. About 40 of the travelers at the shelter were high school basketball players and students from south Alton who had been riding two buses.

Montgomery County emergency management authorities called in the Red Cross Friday night around 9:30 p.m. as they pulled drivers off the road. Red Cross volunteers worked with Litchfield Middle School staff to open the shelter, provide cots, blankets as well as food and coffee overnight. The shelter also provided a continental breakfast before closing Saturday morning.

The community can help those affected by future disasters by volunteering with the American Red Cross and/or making a contribution to the American Red Cross for Local Disaster Relief.

All American Red Cross disaster assistance is free, made possible by voluntary donations of time and money from the American people. The best way to help those affected by disasters is through a financial donation to the American Red Cross. Donations of money help tailor disaster relief to the needs of victims and restore the economic vitality of disaster-affected communities. Your gift enables the Red Cross to provide shelter, food, emotional support and other assistance to victims of all disasters. Contributions to the Disaster Relief Fund may be sent to 1045 Outer Park Dr., Springfield, IL 62704 or donations can be made online at [www.il-redcross.org](http://www.il-redcross.org). On those rare occasions when donations exceed Red Cross expenses for a specific disaster, contributions are used to prepare for and serve victims of other disasters.

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