

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**VOLUNTEERS ARE KEY TO SUCCESS AT
AMERICAN RED CROSS, GREATER CLEVELAND CHAPTER**

Cleveland (July 9, 2007) - A recent study conducted by The Corporation for National and Community Service claims only 27.5 percent of Clevelanders contribute their time per year in community service -- ranking it 30th out of 50 metropolitan areas studied. And only 13 percent of that figure donates their time to social or community organizations.

The American Red Cross, Greater Cleveland Chapter (ARC,GCC), an organization led by volunteers, could not fulfill its mission without the support of its approximately 1,000 volunteers in Cuyahoga, Geauga and Lake counties -- a figure that unfortunately continues to decrease annually. Red Cross volunteers respond to an average of one fire per day every day of the year in addition to other disasters that occur in the three-county service area. In addition, Red Cross volunteers are key in community preparation and life-saving skills, including First Aid, CPR, water-safety skills and babysitting classes.

Cleveland needs more of its residents to donate their time to social or community organizations -- and the ARC,GCC is no exception.

The ARC,GCC relies on volunteer support to meet the needs of citizens of Cuyahoga, Geauga and Lake Counties, and to help fulfill its mission of preventing, preparing and responding to disaster. Volunteers are needed in many areas, including:

- Disaster Response
- CPR and First Aid Training
- Fundraising
- Marketing
- Public Speaking
- Special Events

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To learn more about volunteer opportunities at the American Red Cross, Greater Cleveland Chapter, email volunteering@redcross-cleveland.org or visit www.redcross-cleveland.org and click on Volunteer.

The Greater Cleveland Chapter helps people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies by providing shelter, food, clothing and mental health counseling to families affected by disasters in Cuyahoga, Geauga and Lake counties. All disaster relief is free and is made possible by generous donations from the American people.

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