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**American Red Cross, Greater Cleveland Chapter
Launches Web-based Volunteer Management System**

Application provides ease and convenience for new and current volunteers

CLEVELAND (Dec. 3, 2007) – The American Red Cross, Greater Cleveland Chapter has launched a web-based Volunteer Management System designed to enhance and facilitate better communication with volunteers before, during and after a disaster. In addition, the web-based application, which is accessible via the organization's web site at www.redcross-cleveland.org/volunteer, provides individuals interested in volunteering with information about the mission of the American Red Cross and helps identify volunteer opportunities matching an individual's background, experience and interests, including disaster response volunteer positions as well as other opportunities throughout the organization.

The web-based Volunteer Management System:

- Gives disaster volunteers access to quick and accurate information during disaster situations, including where to meet and where victims are being taken
- Is secure to protect the privacy of disaster victims
- Offers easy access to learn about additional volunteer opportunities with the Red Cross
- Provides a comprehensive overview of the history, mission and programs of the Red Cross, as well as how to become a volunteer
- Allows potential volunteers the opportunity to complete an application and sign all legal documents securely online, which expedites the process of becoming a volunteer

For individuals who do not have access to a computer or the Internet, the Greater Cleveland Chapter recently installed an "Information Center" in the lobby of its headquarter's location at 3747 Euclid Avenue where potential volunteers can apply, or individuals can make a financial donation, sign up for a Red Cross class or learn about donating blood.

While the Web site can be accessed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week making it convenient to access information or to apply to be a volunteer, the Greater Cleveland Chapter will continue to hold one on-site session of “Getting Started As A Red Cross Volunteer” each month at Red Cross headquarters. The class schedule is available by calling 216.431.3010.

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. The Chapter also provides CPR, First Aid, Water Safety and preparedness training to thousands of individuals each year. The Greater Cleveland Chapter has been the respected humanitarian disaster response organization in our community for 102 years.

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