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For immediate release
Contact: Charles McCaul, Red Cross Emergency Manager, 800-934-5344

Red Cross Seeks Volunteers for Critical Emergency Positions

The American Red Cross Chapter of Northeastern California, which is headquartered in Yuba City, is seeking volunteers to help staff the agency in large scale emergencies, as well as volunteers to help the Red Cross provide assistance to families after fires and with tracking down members of the military when there is a family emergency.

Charles McCaul, the local Red Cross Emergency Manager, appeared before the Sutter County Board of Supervisors on November 20 to make an appeal to the community for volunteers.

Mr. McCaul stated that volunteers are needed for 30 different positions in a large scale disaster impacting the entire community, and that volunteers are also needed to assist in the day to day emergencies, such as providing housing, clothing and other resources to families after they are burned out of their homes.

The Red Cross provides training to all volunteers who become part of the Disaster Action Team, Mr. McCaul stated. The Red Cross Chapter of Northeastern California covers 12 Northern California counties, including Sutter, Yuba, Colusa and Butte counties.

Among the positions for which volunteers are being sought are the following: County Disaster Director, Public Affairs Officer, Emergency Operations Center Liaison, EMTs, LVNs, RNs, mental health professionals, CPR/First Aid instructors, emergency evacuation shelter managers, disaster assessment leaders, local responders to house fires to provide food, shelter, and clothing to victims, and volunteers to provide service to Armed Forces caseworkers.

Mr. McCaul stated that the Red Cross works with the Department of Defense to locate and notify members of the Armed Services when family members need to reach them in a time of family crisis, such as an accident, illness or death. Volunteers are used to work with the family and the Defense Department to locate the service member, who is usually on a plane back home within 48 hours.

For more information about volunteering for the American Red Cross Disaster Action Team, contact Red Cross Emergency Manager Charles McCaul at 800-934-5344, or through e-mail at emergencymanager@arcnec.org