



# Chapter Matters



December 2010 | A monthly newsletter for friends and supporters of the American Red Cross

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(From left to right: Evan, Nick, and Drew)

## An AmeriCorps\*VISTA Farewell

A big thank you to three of our AmeriCorps\*VISTAs (Volunteers In Service To America). As part of the national service initiative, AmeriCorps\* VISTAs expand and foster programs at non-profit organizations throughout the United States as they serve one-year terms with their host organization.

Evan Brazitis has expanded community outreach events throughout northeast Indiana, organizing multiple events and engaging Red Cross volunteers to serve as presenters and speakers. He plans to return to his home state of Washington where he hopes to seek employment either within the federal government or teaching English as a second language overseas.

Drew Simmons has been active in engaging local businesses through Red Cross workplace preparedness seminars. He has also assisted the Health & Safety Services Dept. with budgeting and forecasting needs. Drew has accepted another national service position with the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) in Mississippi where he will lead a team of service volunteers in various projects along the Gulf Coast.

Nick Spoltman has expanded local Red Cross marketing and financial development efforts, assisting in implementing a comprehensive marketing calendar of initiatives. He has also worked to expand social media initiatives and collect Red Cross client testimonials. Nick plans to attend graduate school next fall in order to earn his Masters of Business Administration.

Thanks to each of our AmeriCorps\*VISTA members for their hard work and dedication to the Red Cross! You will be missed.

## Give the Gift that Saves the Day this Holiday Season!

Now more than ever, we all want to give gifts that really matter. That's why the Red Cross is excited to announce our new [2010 Holiday Giving Catalog](#). It's a wonderful way to make the season more meaningful while helping others in need. Every gift is a unique way to honor the friends and loved ones on your holiday list by making a gift in their name.



Whether you choose to provide emergency family kits to disaster victims, phone cards for our troops or a warm blanket for a child in need, any gift you choose will bring both comfort and hope. Because every tax-deductible gift goes towards our overall mission, you'll help save the day for people in need whenever a crisis happens.

You'll also receive free greeting cards or e-cards with each donation to let your recipients know about the meaningful gift you gave in their name. You can also qualify for other free items with a minimum donation. Shop now at [redcross.org/gifts](http://redcross.org/gifts)!

## Supporting our Military Men & Women: Holiday Mail for Heroes

For the fourth year in a row, the American Red Cross and Pitney



Bowes are working together to send holiday greeting cards to service members, veterans, and their families. Give back this holiday season by sharing your kind words and thanks with those who have given so much to our country.

### GOLD SPONSOR:



### SILVER SPONSOR:



Who can get involved? Everyone! You, family, friends, neighbors, churches, businesses, organizations, boy and girl scout troops, and anyone else you can think of!

### **Cards are being accepted now thru December 10, 2010.**

After reading the guidelines located at our blog on [redcrossofnei.org](http://redcrossofnei.org), create and send your card(s) to the following address:

Holiday Mail for Heroes  
P.O. Box 5456  
Capitol Heights, MD 20791-5456



### **One Dollar = One Life Saved: The Measles Initiative**

Each day, 450 people in our world die from measles--a disease that is entirely preventable with a vaccine that costs less than \$1. One dollar for a life that is priceless.

We can help save lives and have joined the [Measles Initiative](#) in an effort to vaccinate children in village after village across the globe and we hope that you will consider joining us. Most parents in the United States make sure

their children are vaccinated and healthy. Help us save another mother and father's child. Our parents made sure that we were vaccinated against measles. Now, let's give this opportunity to another family.

If we join together asking our friends, classmates, and colleagues to help, we can vaccinate an entire village of people! Our hope is that our team can collect at least \$1,000 to protect the lives of 1,000 children. Will you join us to vaccinate a village of children and help put an end to this fight? Measles can be prevented. When we donate, they vaccinate. And we all save lives.

Visit our blog at [redcrossofnei.org](http://redcrossofnei.org) to learn more, donate, and join our [Vaccinate a Village team](#).

Let's help vaccinate a record number of children this year! The chapter is selling special Measles Pins for \$1 to help the cause!

Contact Raymond Miller at (260) 484-9336 ext. 228 or [MillerRa@usa.redcross.org](mailto:MillerRa@usa.redcross.org) for more information on how your organization can get involved!

(Measles Pin)



### **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Society for HOPE Fundraising Breakfast A Success**

On Friday, November 19, the American Red Cross of Northeast Indiana hosted its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Society for H.O.P.E. (Helping Others Prepare for Emergencies) fundraising breakfast at Ceruti's in Fort Wayne. Nearly 250 attended the event, raising nearly \$50,000 for local Red Cross programs and services. Local Red Cross clients and volunteers shared their stories on how the Red Cross has affected their lives significantly, from the use of effective CPR and AED (automated external defibrillator) training to international aid in a war-torn country of Eastern Europe. Many thanks to all those who attended the event to help make it such a great success!

**Calendar of Events:** For details on these and other events, please visit <http://redcrossofnei.org/calendar.php>.

#### ***December is Multicultural Information Exchange Month***

- **December 2<sup>nd</sup> and January 26<sup>th</sup>:** Board Meeting
- **December 10<sup>th</sup>:** Holiday Mail for Heroes (Postmark date deadline)
- **December 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>:** Chapter closed for Holidays
- **January 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>:** Changing Lives Tours, 12:00pm
- **January 17<sup>th</sup>:** MLK Day of Service (Chapter closed)

**You can help the Red Cross go green and cut costs. For instant access to news, events, and other opportunities, sign up to receive *Chapter Matters* via e-mail. Visit <http://www.redcrossofnei.org/downloads.html> for details!**