

# Southern California Wildfires Bring out Massive Movement of Red Cross Resources

## NORTHEAST MA VOLUNTEERS ARE DEPLOYED TO HELP

**(Beverly, MA), Thursday, October 25, 2007** — With the wildfires still escalating, Red Cross supplies and volunteers are en route to Southern California by the thousands. More than 500 American Red Cross workers have been hard at work since Sunday morning, and the Red Cross is expanding its services rapidly as the needs change and escalate. Here's what the Red Cross has provided as of 10/25:

- Thousands of cots, blankets and toiletry kits have arrived
- 50 Mobile feeding vehicles have arrived with 25 more en route
- 40 trucks full of supplies have already arrived.
- Other supplies include 14,000 rakes and shovels, 3,500 work gloves, 4,000 trash bags, and 16,000 dust masks.
- A large feeding kitchen is open at Petco Field to support the shelters, mobile feeding and the feeding to the emergency workers
- The Red Cross has provided over 15,000 overnight stays in its shelters.
- The Red Cross has nearly 3,000 workers on site in Southern California, including volunteers from all 50 states.

More than 6,000 people from Southern California spent last night at 24 Red Cross shelters in safe areas outside of their threatened neighborhoods. There, they found Red Cross workers providing a safe place to sleep, a hot meal and access to information. Red Cross mental health counselors are also on site to help clients manage the stress and fear that accompanies all disasters. The Red Cross continues to distribute water and food to firefighters and emergency workers in the affected areas as they work to battle the blazes and safeguard residents.

The Northeast Massachusetts Chapter is supporting these efforts by sending five volunteers to Southern California. Natalie Masotta, Beverly; Ron Beckley, Gloucester; Joie Busby, Gloucester, Sylvia Kolker, Gloucester and Cherie Antle, Amesbury are deployed to provide help in shelters, feeding, mental health support, health services and systems networking. They will join Red Cross volunteers from all 50 states who are helping to support the evacuees from the California wildfires.

Elizabeth Macomber, Executive Director  
American Red Cross of Northeast Massachusetts  
100 Cummings Center, Suite 207F  
Beverly, MA 01915  
978-922-2224 tel  
978-922-0325 fax  
[emacomber@northeastmassredcross.org](mailto:emacomber@northeastmassredcross.org)  
[www.northeastmassredcross.org](http://www.northeastmassredcross.org)

Area office: 31 Green Street  
Newburyport, MA 01950  
978-462-8243 tel  
978-465-1407 fax