



# News Release



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## American Red Cross of Wyoming Receives \$26,700 Grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation

### *Grant to support disaster response*

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**Cheyenne, WY** (May 01, 2009) – The Wyoming American Red Cross Chapter announced that it is receiving a \$26,700 grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation, to upgrade chapter disaster response capacity through the purchase of necessary emergency equipment and volunteer recruitment and training. The outcomes of these funds will be increased preparedness to more effectively serve individuals impacted by disasters. The grant funds will be used to improve disaster response services statewide. The Wyoming Chapter is one of 128 Red Cross chapters awarded funds as part of the Wal-Mart Foundation’s initiative to support disaster response and capacity building projects nationwide.

“The Wal-Mart Foundation grant will have a major impact in assisting Red Cross volunteers and staff in Wyoming to respond quickly and efficiently in case of disasters such as wildfires, major winter storms or other incidents impacting our citizens” said Chief Executive Officer David Block of the Wyoming Chapter.

The Wal-Mart Foundation partnered with the American Red Cross to create a \$5 million Disaster Readiness and Capacity Building Grant Program. This grant will benefit communities across the country that reside near Red Cross chapters located in remote areas that often become isolated during times of disaster and whose chartered jurisdictions serve less than one million people – like the state of Wyoming.

“At Wal-Mart, helping communities is what we do every day. And when a crisis strikes, that charge becomes an even greater priority,” said Margaret Mckenna, president of the Wal-Mart Foundation. “Our long-standing support of the American Red Cross is evidence of our commitment to supporting local disaster relief efforts. We are hopeful that the \$5 million we have given to local Red Cross chapters across the country will result in the swift, effective response to disasters, and the development of resources *before* disaster strikes.”

The Wal-Mart Foundation stands ready to help and to work with local leaders, community organizations and elected officials in the instance of a disaster. With a long-standing

commitment to supporting local disaster relief efforts, the Wal-Mart Foundation works with the American Red Cross and other organizations in an effort to help its neighbors and communities during times of need.

“We are appreciative to the Wal-Mart Foundation for this much needed grant to enhance our local chapters’ ability to serve their communities,” said Michael Brown, Vice President of Corporate and Foundation Partnerships at the American Red Cross. “Because of their generous support, we will be better positioned to prevent, prepare for and respond to disasters in communities across the country.”

**About the American Red Cross**

*The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and counsels victims of disasters; provides nearly half of the nation's blood supply; teaches lifesaving skills; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a charitable organization — not a government agency — and depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its humanitarian mission. For more information, please visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) or join our blog at [www.redcrosschat.org](http://www.redcrosschat.org).*

**About Philanthropy at Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.**

*Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. (NYSE: WMT) and the Wal-Mart Foundation are proud to support the charitable causes that are important to customers and associates in their own neighborhoods. Through its philanthropic programs and partnerships, the Wal-Mart Foundation supports initiatives focused on creating opportunities in education, workforce development, environmental sustainability, and health and wellness. In 2007, Walmart, Sam’s Club and the Wal-Mart Foundation gave \$296 million to communities across the United States. To learn more, visit [www.walmartfoundation.org](http://www.walmartfoundation.org)*

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