Description: NewsRelease

ST. LOUIS, MO

April 18, 2013

Media Hotline: (314) 406-1920

**RED CROSS SHELTER OPEN IN JEFFERSON COUNTY; ASSISTING AT SHELTER IN EAST ST. LOUIS**

The American Red Cross St. Louis Area Chapter has opened a shelter at the First Baptist Church, 2000 Grace Way, DeSoto, Jefferson County. This is due to flash flooding in the DeSoto area.

There, the Red Cross is providing food, shelter and emotional support to affected residents.

The Red Cross is also assisting with the shelter open in East St. Louis, at the Clyde C Jordan Senior Citizen Center at 6755 State Street. The Red Cross is providing cots, blankets, drinks and snacks to those in need.

Those in need of Red Cross Disaster Assistance should call 314-516-2700. Those wishing to donate to the disaster relief effort can call 314-516-2800 or visit redcross.org.

The Red Cross is able to respond quickly when emergencies happen thanks to our generous donors. The American Red Cross St. Louis Area Chapter is a proud member agency of the United Way of Greater St. Louis, which makes significant investments every year in Red Cross services.

The Red Cross is part of the “All Ready” campaign, a unified effort among emergency preparedness experts in the bi-state region that focuses on the importance of individual preparedness. The campaign encourages the three critical steps of preparedness: Make a plan, Get a kit, Be informed.

**About Red Cross Emergency Services:**

*The American Red Cross provides immediate assistance with food, shelter and other critical needs immediately following emergencies. The Red Cross is able to respond 24/7 throughout the region thanks to the dedication of thousands of volunteers and generous donors. All Red Cross disaster relief assistance is free. For other emergency and long-term needs, call the United Way’s 2-1-1 resource center, where a trained specialist is always available. Those with cell phones only should call 1-800-427-4626.To learn more about Red Cross services, call 1-800-RED-CROSS (733-2767) or visit* [*redcross.org*](http://www.redcross.org)*.*

**About the American Red Cross St. Louis Area Chapter:**

*Celebrating 95 years of dedicated service in the region, the American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies. Thousands of volunteers and generous donors provide community support services including disaster relief, preparedness efforts, training in lifesaving skills, service to military families and blood services. The St. Louis Area Chapter is the headquarters of the Greater St. Louis Region, which covers St. Louis City, and 72 surrounding counties in Missouri and Illinois. All disaster relief services are free. To learn more about the Red Cross and how you can help, contact your local Red Cross by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS (733-2767) or visit* [*redcross.org*](http://www.redcross.org)*.*