

American Red Cross

MEDIA ALERT

POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS RECOGNIZES AMERICAN RED CROSS EFFORT WITH \$95,000 DONATION

When: Thursday, September 29, 2005; 3:00 p.m.

Where: Poarch Band of Creek Indians Reservation
5811 Jack Springs Rd.
Atmore, AL 36502
Building 400

Contacts:

American Red Cross
Paula Tillman
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Poarch Creek Indians
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(251) 368-3085

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians Tribe will present representatives from the American Red Cross Alabama Gulf Coast Chapter with a donation in the amount of \$95,000 on Thursday, September 29, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. at the Poarch Creek Reservation.

The donation, which is part of the Tribe's ongoing Planned Giving Campaign, represents an \$85,000 gift to National Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund and a \$10,000 contribution for the Alabama Gulf Coast Chapter.

"After Hurricane Ivan hit, our local Red Cross chapter really came through for all of us who live in this area," noted April Sells, Tribal Emergency Management Director for the Poarch Creeks. "The Red Cross set up a distribution site for meals, provided counselors to assist our children, and provided cleanup kits for our community. Through their support, we were able to feed everyone in the community twice a day after the storm; it didn't matter if they were Tribal members or not."

"The Tribe's donation is our expression of appreciation for the American Red Cross's assistance when we needed them most," says Robert McGhee, President of Creek Indian Enterprises. "Now it's our turn to help. We want to support the Red Cross as they help other communities in need."

The American Red Cross continues to help those who have been affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita by providing shelter to over 2.8 million people, serving more than 14.4 million meals and providing an extensive amount of financial assistance to those in need.

The Alabama Gulf Coast Red Cross Chapter continues to provide local assistance to those affected by these storms by providing shelter, food and financial assistance.

The local Red Cross sheltered close to 700 people immediately after the storm and continues to provide sheltering to over 150 people who are looking for more permanent housing. The Red Cross has helped these residents with their healthcare needs, registering their children for school in addition to providing for their basic needs for food, clothing and shelter.

Over 224,000 snacks and more than 150,000 meals have been distributed through 3 fixed kitchens and Emergency Response Vehicles continue to deliver meals, snacks, and water in the affected areas.

In the Alabama Gulf Coast Chapter five county service area over \$25 million in emergency financial assistance has been given to over 20,000 client cases affected in these counties in addition to evacuees from Mississippi and Louisiana.

All American Red Cross disaster service is free, made possible by voluntary donations of time and money from the American people. You can help the victims of this disaster and thousands of other disasters across the country each year by making a financial gift to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund, which enables the Red Cross to provide shelter, food, counseling and other assistance to those in need. Contributions to the Disaster Relief Fund may be sent to the local American Red Cross, Alabama Gulf Coast Chapter, P.O. Box 1764, Mobile, AL 36633 (251) 438-2571. Internet users can make a secure online contribution by visiting www.redcross.org.

Together, we can save a life