Purpose
The National Guard (NG) Emergency Management (EM) program is responsible for all activities and operations related to preparing for, mitigating the potential effect of, preventing, responding to, and recovering from all multi-agency and/or multi-jurisdictional emergencies on or impacting NG installations nationwide. The NG EM Program functions within an all-hazards environment consisting of all natural, technological (man-made), and terroristic hazards.

Vision
To provide the NG EM services when and where they are needed with the joint and interagency capacity necessary to effectively and efficiently protect the NG community and mission capabilities from all hazards.

Mission
To provide integrated and comprehensive NG EM services necessary to protect our community and mission capabilities from all hazards in a cost effective, implementable, and sustainable manner through resiliency.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO KNOW

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LA National Guard Joint Operation Center  888-278-8748

GOHSEP  225-925-7500

American Red Cross  1-800-RED-CROSS

Federal Emergency Management Agency  1-800-621-FEMA

National Poison Control Center  1-800-222-1222

National Domestic Violence Hotline  1-800-799-7233

This is Red Cross Month, so you guessed it, our bulletin will focus on the Red Cross.

Since their founding by Clara Barton on May 21, 1881, the American Red Cross has been dedicated to serving people in need. They received their first congressional charter in 1900 and to this day they are tasked by the federal government with providing services to members of the American armed forces and their Families as well as providing disaster relief in the United States and around the world.

Are you familiar with the classic images of Red Cross nurses helping American Soldiers and civilian war victims during World War I? In fact, as you read this Red Cross staff and volunteers are still deploying alongside America's military.

The best time to prepare is before the event happens. Always Remember, “Be Prepared”.

LANG EM WEB PAGE:
http://geauxguard.la.gov/resources/emergency-management/

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The Formation of the IFRC

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) was founded in 1919 in Paris in the aftermath of World War I. The war had shown a need for close cooperation between Red Cross Societies, which, through their humanitarian activities on behalf of prisoners of war and combatants, had attracted millions of volunteers and built a large body of expertise. A devastated Europe could not afford to lose such a resource.

It was Henry Davison, president of the American Red Cross War Committee, who proposed forming a federation of these National Societies. An international medical conference initiated by Davison resulted in the birth of the League of Red Cross Societies, which was renamed in October 1983 to the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and then in November 1991 to become the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

The first objective of the IFRC was to improve the health of people in countries that had suffered greatly during the four years of war. Its goals were "to strengthen and unite, for health activities, already-existing Red Cross Societies and to promote the creation of new Societies".

There were five founding member Societies: Britain, France, Italy, Japan and the United States. This number has grown over the years and there are now 190 recognized National Societies - one in almost every country in the world.
The Birth of an Idea

The Red Cross idea was born in 1859, when Henry Dunant, a young Swiss man, came upon the scene of a bloody battle in Solferino, Italy, between the armies of imperial Austria and the Franco-Sardinian alliance. Some 40,000 men lay dead or dying on the battlefield and the wounded were lacking medical attention.

Dunant organized local people to bind the soldiers' wounds and to feed and comfort them. On his return, he called for the creation of national relief societies to assist those wounded in war, and pointed the way to the future Geneva Conventions.

"Would there not be some means, during a period of peace and calm, of forming relief societies whose object would be to have the wounded cared for in time of war by enthusiastic, devoted volunteers, fully qualified for the task?" he wrote.

The Red Cross was born in 1863 when five Geneva men, including Dunant, set up the International Committee for Relief to the Wounded, later to become the International Committee of the Red Cross. Its emblem was a red cross on a white background: the inverse of the Swiss flag. The following year, 12 governments adopted the first Geneva Convention; a milestone in the history of humanity, offering care for the wounded, and defining medical services as "neutral" on the battlefield.

Henry Dunant – the destiny of the Red Cross

Jean-Henry Dunant was born on 8 May 1828 in Geneva to a middle-class Calvinist family. His early initiatives included participating in the creation of the Young Men’s Christian Association (YMCA) in 1852 and the world Alliance of YMCAs in 1855.

History

Clara Barton and a circle of her acquaintances founded the American Red Cross in Washington, D.C. on May 21, 1881. Barton first heard of the Swiss-inspired global Red Cross network while visiting Europe following the Civil War. Returning home, she campaigned for an American Red Cross and for ratification of the Geneva Convention protecting the war-injured, which the United States ratified in 1882.

Barton led the Red Cross for 23 years, during which time we conducted our first domestic and overseas disaster relief efforts, aided the United States military during the Spanish-American War, and campaigned successfully for the inclusion of peacetime relief work as part of the global Red Cross network—the so-called "American Amendment" that initially met with some resistance in Europe.

The Red Cross received our first congressional charter in 1900 and a second in 1905, the year after Barton resigned from the organization. The most recent version of the charter, which was adopted in May 2007, restates the traditional purposes of the organization which include giving relief to and serving as a medium of communication between members of the American armed forces and their families and providing national and international disaster relief and mitigation.
Each year, the President of the United States proclaims March “Red Cross Month.” The Red Cross’ commitment to the military never waivers. It helps members of the military, veterans, and their Families prepare for, cope with, and respond to the challenges of military service, and has served more than 1 million military Families since 9/11.

Its volunteers provide home comforts and critical services on installations and in military hospitals around the world; support military Families during deployments and emergencies; and continue serving our nation’s veterans after their service ends.

Every March id your chance to be a hero and help the Red Cross fulfill their mission. This March, uncover your inner hero. Choose one or more of the options below. Be a herotoday.

-**Donate.** Your donation impacts lives. Your donation powers the Red Cross response to nearly 70,000 disasters a year nationwide, providing shelter, food, emotional support and other necessities to those affected.

-**Give Blood.** Your donation matters! There is a serious need for all blood types. Please schedule an appointment to donate blood or platelets today.

-**Take a Class.** 10 million people learn emergency skills such as CPR through the Red Cross every year. Consider taking a class so you are prepared in the event of an emergency. Classes available near you are:
  -**First Aid.** Prepare for the unexpected with first aid training from the American Red Cross. Classes give you the skills you the information and the skills you need to help adults and children during many emergency situations.
  -**CPR Training.** American Red Cross CPR training classes give you the information and the skills you need to help adults, children, and infants during breathing and cardiaconeergencies.
  -**Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Certification.** Sudden cardiac arrest can happen to anyone, at any time. With Red Cross AED training, you can learn when—and how—to use an AED.

-**Volunteer.** Volunteers carry out 90% of the humanitarian work of the Red Cross. Your time and talent can make a real difference in people lives.

The Red Cross is still a vital resource for people in need across the world

In its early years, the Red Cross helped support soldiers in battle and communities in disasters

British Red Cross nurses carrying gifts from the US in 1941. Arthur Tanner/Fox Photos/Getty Images

A Red Cross nurse at a military parade circa 1900. George Rinhart/Corbis via Getty Images
Blood Needs & Blood Supply

Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. It is essential for surgeries, cancer treatment, chronic illnesses, and traumatic injuries. Whether a patient receives whole blood, red cells, platelets or plasma, this lifesaving care starts with one person making a generous donation.

Facts About Blood Needs

The Red Cross provides about 40% of our nation’s blood and blood components, all from generous volunteer donors. But supply can’t always meet demand because only about 3% of age-eligible people donate blood yearly. Each new donor helps us meet patient needs.

- Each year, an estimated 6.8 million people in the U.S. donate blood.
- 13.6 million units of whole blood and red blood cells are collected in the U.S. in a year.
- About 45% of people in the U.S. have Group O (positive or negative) blood; the proportion is higher among Hispanics (57%) and African Americans (51%).
- Type O negative red cells can be given to patients of all blood types. Because only 7% of people in the U.S. are type O negative, it’s always in great demand and often in short supply.
- Type AB positive plasma can be transfused to patients of all blood types. Since only 3% of people in the U.S. have AB positive blood, this plasma is usually in short supply.
- Red blood cells must be used within 42 days (or less).
- Platelets must be used within just 5 days.
American Red Cross Facts

Did you Know?
An average of 91 cents of every dollar the American Red Cross spends is invested in humanitarian services and programs. Everything we do depends on the needs of people that we serve.

Did you Know?
The American Red Cross is a charitable organization, not a government agency. It depends on volunteers and the generosity of people like you to perform our mission.

Did you Know?
The American Red Cross is part of the world’s largest volunteer network found in 187 countries.

“I request that during that month (March) our people rededicate themselves to the splendid aims and activities of the Red Cross.”

—President Franklin D. Roosevelt, first Presidential Proclamation of March as Red Cross Month, 1943

Did you Know?
10 million people learn emergency skills such as CPR through the Red Cross every year. Consider taking a class so you are prepared in the event of an emergency.

Nurse didn’t just help on the battlefield

American Red Cross nurses provided directions and information for enlisted men at Grand Central Station in New York City during World War I.

In England, Red Cross nurses delivered dried serum and dehydrated blood during World War II

Nurses in London during World War II. Popperfoto/Getty Images
Replace Your Batteries & Update Disaster Kit

Daylight Savings Time starts on March 14, 2021. We will spring ahead and lose an hour of sleep this time of year. Did you know that you should change the batteries in your smoke detectors and weather radio twice a year? If you make a habit of doing this when the time changes you will always remember. It is very important to have fresh batteries in these devices in case of a power outage when you would need them to work during a storm or a fire.

It is also a good time to refresh your Family disaster kit. Change out stored food and water supplies every six months. Re-think your needs every year update your kit as your Family’s need.