



**American  
Red Cross**

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## **San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Donates \$850,000 to American Red Cross**

*Donation Supports National and Local Disaster Response and Preparedness Programs*

**SAN BERNARDINO, CALIF. April 6, 2015** — The American Red Cross announced today that the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians has joined the American Red Cross Annual Disaster Giving Program (ADGP) at the \$500,000 level. The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians has also donated an additional \$350,000 to support free Red Cross community preparedness programs, and CPR/First Aid trainings for San Bernardino and Riverside county residents.

After providing the Red Cross assistance to help people affected by disasters such as Hurricane Sandy, Midwestern winter storms, and Typhoon Haiyan, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians is the first American Indian Tribe to join the Red Cross Annual Disaster Giving Program (ADGP).

ADGP members pledge donations in advance of major disasters to help the Red Cross ensure an immediate response to meet the needs of those affected by disasters of all sizes, at no cost, and regardless of income.

“Thanks to the support of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, the Red Cross can immediately respond to the needs of people impacted by disaster in the United States,” said, American Red Cross President and CEO Gail McGovern. “Members of the ADGP program generously help create a reliable funding base for disaster relief services, providing food, shelter, emotional support and other essential assistance to disaster victims.”

Based on a culture of giving, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians has an 11 year history of supporting the Red Cross; this partnership exemplifies the positive outcomes possible when non-profits and an American Indian Tribe work together to protect and preserve lives.

“San Manuel stands ready to assist when disasters and crisis affect people locally, nationally and around the world,” said San Manuel Chairwoman Lynn Valbuena. “It is in keeping with our traditional worldview to assist those in need, especially those who are impacted by disasters. We have found a very like-minded and effective partner in the American Red Cross, and San Manuel is proud of this partnership which safeguards so many.”

“We are honored to be the recipient of such a generous donation.” said American Red Cross San Bernardino County Executive Director Yevette Ramos. “This gift will help us to build more resilient communities that are better prepared to help each other and respond to emergencies and disasters.”

Free community preparedness programs and trainings available include: Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED courses<sup>1</sup>, Community Earthquake and Disaster Preparedness Presentations, and Red Cross Preparedness Puppet show and Pillowcase presentations focused on educating elementary aged children. To learn more about these programs go to [www.redcross.org/ie](http://www.redcross.org/ie)

**About the American Red Cross:**

*The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.*

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<sup>1</sup> Offer is limited to quantity available