



**American
Red Cross**

of Greater Indianapolis

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Indianapolis, IN 46202
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News Release
NEWS RELEASE

Serving Boone, Clinton,
Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks,
Henry, Johnson, Marion, Morgan
and Shelby counties

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**GREATER INDIANAPOLIS RED CROSS RECEIVES \$1M GIFT FROM LILLY ENDOWMENT
Designated for Catastrophic Disaster Relief in Indiana – Present and Future.**

INDIANAPOLIS, *November 11, 2005* – In the past three and a half months, we have witnessed the unmatched devastation of life and property throughout the South due to hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma. With the support of Hoosiers, the American Red Cross has worked hard to lend a hand and offer financial assistance to those who were affected by this series of horrible hurricanes. Now, we are responding to a catastrophe and loss of life in our own backyard – the rare November tornado that ripped through Southern Indiana on November 6.

Lilly Endowment Inc., a constant and dedicated supporter of the American National Red Cross, today announced a \$1million grant to the American Red Cross of Greater Indianapolis to support relief operations for catastrophic disasters throughout Indiana, such as the Southern Indiana tornado. This follows an earlier grant of \$10 million to the American Red Cross to support relief efforts in the Gulf Coast area after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

“This un-seasonal Southern Indiana tornado reminds us that disasters are often unpredictable. With this generous grant from Lilly Endowment, the American Red Cross of Greater Indianapolis will create and administer a state-wide relief fund that will be a resource for current and future catastrophic disaster operations,” said John Lyter, chief executive officer of the Greater Indianapolis Red Cross.

Lyter continued, “This fund will enable Red Cross chapters throughout Indiana to be ready and respond immediately to events like floods and tornadoes that affect large numbers of people here in our communities.”

To help those affected by this devastating tornado, the American Red Cross immediately opened emergency shelters in Warrick and Vanderburg Counties and initiated mobile and fixed site feeding operations in coordination with the Salvation Army.

Since November 6, the Red Cross:

- Deployed 228 trained, compassionate disaster relief workers including caseworkers, mental health/stress management counselors, logistics managers and operations workers.
- Provided more than 7,000 meals and snacks or about 1,500 meals per day.
- Provided shelter to five families and has made contact with all of the other families who have located to either temporary or immediate housing.
- Met with more than 150 families to provide emergency assistance.
- Provided basic first aid for physical injuries and stress related trauma.

– *More* –

Red Cross Receives Lilly Endowment Gift/Add One

American Red Cross chapters throughout the state, including the Greater Indianapolis Red Cross, are working together and in cooperation with other volunteer organization active in disaster relief, such as the Salvation Army to meet the disaster-caused needs of our neighbors in Southern Indiana.

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About Lilly Endowment Inc.

Lilly Endowment Inc. is an Indianapolis-based, private philanthropic foundation created in 1937 by three members of the Lilly family to support the causes of community development, education and religion.

About the American Red Cross of Greater Indianapolis

The American Red Cross is the only non-government organization with mandated responsibilities under the National Response Plan. As part of a network of more than 800 Red Cross chapters nationwide, the Greater Indianapolis Red Cross mobilizes its trained volunteers and employees to assist on large-scale disaster relief operations throughout Indiana and around the United States. Local workers lend their expertise and hone their skills in various disaster response functions as they collaborate with thousands of trained Red Cross disaster workers from around the country to provide care and comfort to those affected by major hurricanes, earthquakes, wildfires, floods, aviation and man-made disasters. The Greater Indianapolis Red Cross also manages one of the busiest National Disaster Warehouses in the country and operates one of 15 National Response Centers throughout the country that answers calls from individuals in disaster-affected areas who need assistance. Learn more about the American Red Cross of Greater Indianapolis at indyredcross.org.