



Together, we can save a life

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Camden County American Red Cross Opens New Headquarters in Pennsauken

PENNSAUKEN, N.J. – The Camden County Chapter of the American Red Cross held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the grand opening of its new headquarters in Pennsauken, N.J. last week.

More than 60 guests including local officials, American Red Cross staff and volunteers, blood donors and others gathered to listen to remarks by Building fund campaign co-chairs, Jack Tarditi and Joe Holman, as well as Chapter Chairman Dr. Tom Tudor of Cherry Hill and Executive Director Camy Trinidad, also of Cherry Hill. Special guest, former Audubon resident Thelma Chew, who has served as a Chapter volunteer for over 50 years, participated in the ceremonies, underscoring the dedication of Red Cross volunteers to the humanitarian mission of the organization.

The second floor of the building now accommodates offices and interview rooms for disaster and military clients, as well as meeting and training space. The ground floor was completely gutted this spring to create a state-of-the-art Blood Donor Center where blood donors are able to donate platelets and red cells on a seven-days-a-week schedule.

“We’re deeply thankful to everyone who contributed to the building fund campaign, especially to Jack Tarditi and Joe Holman for leading the way,” said Chapter Chairman Dr. Tom Tudor. “We’re delighted to have moved into a more accessible building in a great location which will bring all Chapter activities under one roof. This building will be a rallying point for community service as it serves our more than 3,000 volunteers and trainers.”

The Camden County American Red Cross is a congressionally chartered chapter of the American National Red Cross. Founded in the city of Camden in 1917, the Chapter has served the disaster relief, safety and health training, blood and military communications needs of its residents of its residents over the decades.

Providing 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week response to local disasters like fires and floods, preparing for major catastrophic events with the local emergency management office and teaching persons of all ages to prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies has been a major activity for the Chapter. The Chapter also sends trained, skilled disaster volunteers to serve beyond our borders when disasters strike throughout New Jersey and the country. Recently, seven Camden County Red Cross Disaster volunteers helped staff shelters and feed those left homeless by Hurricanes Gustav and Ike along the Gulf Coast.

The Camden County American Red Cross certifies more than 12,000 persons each year in lifesaving skills such as first aid, CPR, automated external defibrillator training, water safety, and lifeguarding. In addition, the Chapter also provides training in babysitting and supplies Lifeline Emergency Response units to elderly and chronically ill.

In collaboration with the American Red Cross Blood Services, Penn-Jersey, a Blood Donor Center on the first floor of the new Chapter home will enable the Red Cross to collect blood and blood products, helping to supply local hospital patients with blood for surgery, cancer therapies, burn treatment, and chronic diseases requiring specialized blood products.