



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

June 2009

During early and mid-May, severe storms and flooding swept over central and eastern Kentucky, resulting in severe damage and destruction for the area. The Bluegrass Chapter responded swiftly and conducted disaster operations in Pike, Floyd, Estill, Magoffin, Breathitt, Lee, Madison, Owsley, and Wolfe Counties. Nearly 200 Red Cross staff and volunteers assisted in the disaster relief efforts.

Paducah resident Carlos Chirio was one of the many volunteers who deployed to the stricken area. Carlos says he volunteers for the Red Cross because he has experienced first-hand the assistance the organization provides.

Carlos was living in New Orleans during August 2005 when Hurricane Katrina struck Louisiana. Carlos evacuated New Orleans and began driving north. Eventually, he stopped in Paducah, where someone referred him to the American Red Cross for assistance.

Carlos became a volunteer for the Red Cross because he says he wants to give back to the organization that helped him. Through the dedication of Carlos and our Red Cross staff and volunteers, more than 1000 clients were assisted in central and eastern Kentucky. The Red Cross served 22,705 meals and distributed 59,930 bulk items, such as cleaning supplies and hygiene kits, to families and individuals affected by the floods.

For more information on the Bluegrass Chapter and the many ways you can help our neighbors, please visit our website at www.redcrosslexky.org.