

In-Kind Donations

Supporting Disaster Relief Operations

GIFTS OF GOODS & SERVICES

Corporations supply the majority of in-kind donations used by the Red Cross because of the large quantities of products that are needed to support a disaster relief operation.

The American Red Cross can only accept products donated in quantities large enough to ensure items can be distributed equitably to everyone we assist. In this way, the Red Cross may only accept bulk donations of products that are expressly needed on a disaster relief operation, such as bottled water, clean-up and comfort kits and food products. Donors are asked to cover the cost of shipping in-kind donations directly to disaster sites.



Some donations, though well-intentioned, have hidden costs and pose many complications for the relief efforts. These include collections of items such as used clothing, furniture, toys and canned goods or small, individual donations of items of any sort. The Red Cross cannot accept these unsolicited, spontaneous donations because:

- The Red Cross must distribute all products equitably among the affected population.
- Collections require time, money, and personnel to process, all precious resources in disaster relief. Following a disaster, all relief workers and resources are focused on meeting the immediate needs of those affected.
- The Red Cross cannot determine the origins, conditions, or expiration dates of collected items, and therefore, the usability or safety of such items.
- The Red Cross makes every attempt to procure items locally to help stimulate the economy of the area affected.



*For more information, please contact the
American Red Cross National Headquarters
In-Kind Donations Department at:*

*431 18th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006*

*1-800-7-INKIND (hotline)
(202) 303-5526 (Disaster Operations Center)*

The American Red Cross, a humanitarian organization led by volunteers, guided by its Constitutional Charter and the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross Movement, will provide relief to victims of disasters and help people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies.

In-Kind Donations

Other Giving Opportunities

BIOMEDICAL

Through our extensive network of 36 blood service regions, nine National (Blood) Testing Labs, and National Headquarters operations, the American Red Cross provides critical blood products to the American public 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year. From national disasters in the public eye to everyday tragedies like automobile accidents, the American Red Cross responds as the largest single collector, manufacturer and distributor of blood products in the nation. We are responsible for nearly half of the nation's blood supply and a trusted provider for patients in more than 3,000 hospitals.

We welcome the opportunity to talk with companies about ways to support our biomedical services team through an in-kind product donation.

CHAPTER SUPPORT

The Red Cross works because we have a nationwide network of chapters providing life-saving services in local communities. That is the heart of the Red Cross. The In-Kind Office at National Headquarters in Washington D.C. works with our network of more than 700 local chapters to identify opportunities for sharing resources and potential donation information for the over 70,000 disasters the Red Cross responds to each year.



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

The International Red Cross and the Red Crescent Movement is the largest humanitarian network in the world.

International Services will periodically accept offers of in-kind goods and services on a case-by-case basis.

Certain gifts of goods and services may be inappropriate for cultural, political, economic or administrative reasons.

Responders to international disasters also make it a priority to purchase available goods locally to stimulate the damaged local economy.



After consulting with the appropriate Red Cross entity, International Services will coordinate with the In-Kind Office at National Headquarters to see if any of the needs can be met through specific in-kind product offers.

SERVICES TO THE ARMED FORCES

Red Cross Service to the Armed Forces (SAF) personnel work in 756 chapters in the United States, on 58 military installations around the world and with our troops in Kuwait, Afghanistan and Iraq. The SAF military programs support not only the active troops and their families stationed domestically and overseas, but also to the veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. In-kind donations to support the SAF programs at the American Red Cross have the potential to be valuable, cost-saving contributions.

*Help people affected by disasters by donating to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. On those rare occasions when donations exceed Red Cross expenses for a specific disaster, contributions are used to prepare for and serve victims of other disasters. Monetary donations can be made to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund by calling **1-800-Red Cross** or **1-800-257-7575** (Spanish).*

