



**American  
Red Cross**

Inland Northwest Chapter  
315 W. Nora  
Spokane, WA 99205  
[www.spokaneredcross.org](http://www.spokaneredcross.org)

*News Release*  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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## **American Red Cross Increases Pledge to \$250,000 for Chile**

*Donations now being accepted for response and recovery*

**[SPOKANE], March 3, 2010** — The American Red Cross has increased its pledge to \$250,000 for relief operations in Chile following Saturday's 8.8 magnitude earthquake; and it stands ready to mobilize additional support, including relief supplies, trained personnel and additional financial assistance.

**Following a request for international assistance from the Chilean Red Cross on Tuesday, the American Red Cross is now accepting donations specifically for response and recovery in Chile. Donations can be made by:**

- Visiting [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)
- Calling 1-800-REDCROSS or 1-800-257-7575 (Spanish)
- Texting "CHILE" to 90999. An automatic \$10 donation will be applied to your cell phone bill.
- Mailing or dropping off a donation at the Inland Northwest Chapter office (315 W. Nora Ave, Spokane 99205) – designate your donation for "Chile"

The Chilean Red Cross is mobilizing its volunteers to distribute food, hygiene articles and blankets to survivors. It has also called upon Chileans to donate blood in order to keep up with demand from hospitals. Additionally, a five member regional Red Cross team of disaster experts is in Chile to provide technical support to Chilean Red Cross response activities and in making damage assessments as well as health, relief and information management.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has launched a Family Links Website aimed at enabling people in Chile and abroad to register the names of relatives with whom they wish to restore contact. People seeking news from their loved ones can register the name of the missing individuals directly on the site at: <http://www.icrc.org/familylinks>

### **About the American Red Cross:**

*The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies nearly half of the nation's blood; teaches lifesaving skills; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a charitable organization — not a government agency — and depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) or join our blog at <http://blog.redcross.org>.*

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