

Local Red Cross Receives \$50,000 Donation

Updated: Monday, December 8 2014, 08:34 PM EST



ASHEVILLE, N.C. -- Providing compassionate care to those in need is the mission of the American Red Cross.

Monday, the local Red Cross chapter received a generous donation to aid those in need right here in Western North Carolina and the Upstate.

"American Red Cross does a lot with both preparedness for disaster and disaster relief. And this time of year particularly with space heaters and Christmas trees, fire, home fires, is a huge issue for us," David English said, Board Chair of the Asheville Mountain Area Chapter of the American Red Cross.

In fact, the local chapter is taking on the nationwide Red Cross initiative to try to reduce fire deaths and injuries by 25 percent. Lending a hand to support Red Cross efforts in the mountains and Upstate is C.P.A. firm Dixon Hughes Goodman. Seven partners within the firm banded together to donate \$50,000 Monday morning to the local Red Cross.

"They touch so many lives. Between blood donations, helping with house fires, helping with whatever happens right here in Western North Carolina," Michael Crawford said, Regional Managing Partner of the Carolinas with Dixon Hughes Goodman.

Crawford understands personally how the Red Cross helps.

"Twenty-five years ago my family had a house fire and I've seen first-hand what it means when somebody comes together to help you through a crisis," Crawford says.

In October, News 13 saw the Red Cross providing assistance at the Southwood Apartment Complex in Arden. The Red Cross says 19 people were displaced after the complex caught fire. "We work with local law enforcement and fire departments to try to respond as quickly as we can," English said.

In fact, in just the past 6 months the Red Cross has assisted 95 Western North Carolina families, a total of 304 people, displaced by house fires.

With a donation like this, the Red Cross can continue to lend a hand in time of need.

"We're excited to get every gift. We're happy to take a very small donation and any large donation. But this, this really can be put to good use," English said.

If you would like to make a contribution, or more information on the local Red Cross chapter, [click here](#).

By: Lauren Brigman

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