

Purpose

Welfare Information is an integral part of American Red Cross Disaster Response. All across the country, Welfare Information volunteers--

- Encourage families to develop communication plans **before** they are affected by a disaster.
- Aid in the search for disaster-impacted individuals with health and mental health concerns.
- Assist families and individuals in registering themselves on the "Safe and Well" website in the aftermath of a disaster.
- Help concerned loved ones to search for posted messages.
- Provide a way for chapters to effectively manage phone calls concerning the whereabouts of loved ones.
- Give peace of mind to individuals concerned about loved ones during disasters.
- Spread the word about www.safeandwell.org

Contact your local
American Red Cross Chapter
for additional information



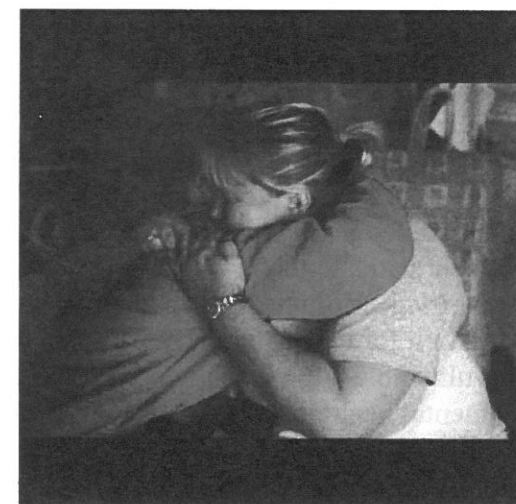
Greater Houston Area Chapter
2700 Southwest Freeway
Houston, Texas 77098

866-526-8300



Disaster Welfare Information

Helping to Reconnect
Families and Loved Ones



Safe and Well Website

Providing Peace of Mind to Those
Concerned about Loved Ones
During Disasters

Tradition

In 1865, Abraham Lincoln placed Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross, in charge of the search for the Civil War's missing soldiers. By writing letters and placing newspaper ads, she helped trace the fates of over 22,000 men.

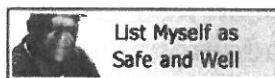
Today, Welfare Information volunteers continue Clara Barton's work through use of the American Red Cross *Safe and Well Website*.

When disasters strike, family and loved ones can become separated. Welfare Information volunteers assist people in communicating their status to those who may be worried. Volunteers also aid in the search for the particularly vulnerable—those with health and mental health conditions.

Make Safe and Well Part of Your Family Communication Plan

- 1) Know how to contact one another—and where to meet if it's not possible to go home.
- 2) Choose an out-of-state relative or friend as an emergency contact.
- 3) Familiarize your family with the Safe and Well website and make sure they know how to use it.

www.safeandwell.org

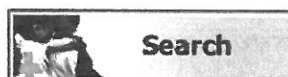


People *within* a disaster area can register themselves as “safe and well” by posting one of the following standard messages:

- I am safe and well
- Family and I are safe and well
- Currently at a shelter
- Currently with family/friends
- Will phone when able
- Will email when able

Those without Internet access can register by calling toll free:

1-866-GET-INFO



Concerned family and friends *outside* the disaster area can search for their loved ones on the website.

You will need the last name as well as the phone number or home address of the person you are seeking.

Access to the Safe and Well website is made available at shelters, service delivery sites, and many partner agency locations.

Privacy is preserved. No specific location or contact information is ever displayed.

For Chapters

Promote this information during disasters, and encourage callers to visit the Safe and Well website. You can also register callers who do not have Internet access or help them perform a search. The website is easy to use and does not require any training.

Use of this website assists chapters by reducing the number of phone calls from the public.

The website is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

You CAN make a difference!

Regardless of which activity you are working in, you have the ability to help clients with the Safe and Well website.

Simply remember to ask clients “Have you contacted your family or loved ones?” If they haven't, they can register anywhere Internet access is available. They can also call 866-GET-INFO (1-866-438-4636) or their local chapter for assistance.