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**American Red Cross** Tiffany Circle

#### Spring Edition

Dear Tiffany Circle members,

I hope you and your families are safe and healthy during these unprecedented times. In light of the new realities surrounding COVID-19, I wanted to reach out and first say **thank you**. The work of the American Red Cross doesn't stop, and we're grateful for your continued support.

Three years ago, our Tiffany Circle National Council set a strategic goal of reaching 1,000 members. As a result of our collective dedication and passion for the American Red Cross, we recently exceeded this milestone with **1,017 Tiffany Circle members** nationwide. To date, this powerful collective has provided gifts totaling \$124,713,036, and this year alone over 285 Tiffany Circle members have volunteered more than 14,500 hours in their communities. Thank you for helping us achieve this historic milestone.

It is an honor to be a part of this thriving Circle of women philanthropists with a passion to support and further the American Red Cross mission. If you are inspired by our work and would like to invite a friend or family member to be a part of this influential group of women leaders, please consider sharing this newsletter, the <u>2019 Year in Review</u> or <u>The Source</u>. Again, thank you for your continued support, commitment and all that you do down the street, across the country and around the world.

Warmly and with gratitude,

Beth Renner Chair, Tiffany Circle National Council

## **Coronavirus Outbreak–Together We Are Resilient**

As organizations around the world shift to cope with fallout from the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the American Red Cross is also adapting to continue our lifesaving mission while minimizing the risk for the people we serve and our workers.

As the pandemic spread, blood banks nationwide faced a severe blood shortage due to an unprecedented number of blood drive cancellations. In times like these, the Red Cross witnesses the best of humanity as people roll up a sleeve to help those in need. Thanks to the many who gave blood and scheduled upcoming appointments, we have been able to meet immediate patient needs.

During this uncertain time, we encourage individuals to keep scheduled blood donation appointments and to make new blood donation appointments for the weeks ahead. There is no known end date in this fight against coronavirus, and the Red Cross needs the help of blood and platelet donors and blood drive hosts to maintain a stable supply throughout this pandemic. In addition to maintaining our frontline blood collections workforce, we're also investing in the resources to safely collect, test and manufacture blood as the outbreak continues.

Even during a pandemic, other emergencies don't stop—and neither does the work of the Red Cross. Our brave volunteers are still responding to disasters like home fires, recent tornadoes in the Southeast and earthquakes, so impacted families receive help and hope—even during these trying times. To help ensure everyone's safety, we're moving much of our disaster relief casework to virtual settings.

As you may have heard, to ensure the safety of our volunteers, partners and the public, our spring 2020 *Sound the Alarm* home fire safety and smoke alarm installation events have been postponed until further notice. We appreciate the support Tiffany Circle members offered toward making *Sound the Alarm* a success.

One of the most important roles of a Tiffany Circle member is to serve as an informed advocate in our communities. People are looking for ways to help, and you can show them how:

- Make a financial gift to "Coronavirus Outbreak": Visit redcross.org/donate; call 1-800-RED CROSS or text "Coronavirus" to 90999 to make a \$10 donation.
- Donate Blood: If you are healthy and feeling well, please make an appointment to donate in the weeks ahead by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting <u>redcrossblood.org</u> or calling

**1-800-RED CROSS** (1-800-733-2767).

Please ask your friends, family and colleagues to join you in supporting our work.

#### **Red Cross Around the World**

In 2018, the American Red Cross Los Angeles Region launched the Red Cross Around the World event series, with a focus to continue conversations about global issues and the role of the Red Cross overseas. Each event is hosted by a different Consulate General and



focuses on the issues pertinent to their country. To date, the region has been hosted by England, Switzerland, Belgium, Turkey and Indonesia. On Thursday, February 20, the Tiffany Circle National Council joined us at the residence of The Honorable Saud P. Krisnawan, Consul General of the Republic of Indonesia. It was a special evening, where they heard about the extraordinary challenges in the region and Indonesia's humanitarian response alongside the work of the Red Cross.

#### Click here to see some memories from that evening.

This series has proven to be the most successful event model to date for the Los Angeles Region: The consulates fully sponsor each event and the Red Cross donors appreciate the opportunity to learn what's taking place globally.

We are grateful for the continued support of our work down the street, across the country and around the world. Together, we are the humanitarian movement.

### Lunch & Learn: Mental Health

Mental health was the topic of the afternoon when Dr. Jane Englebright hosted the Tennessee Region's annual Lunch & Learn on January 29. Many Tiffany Circle members came out to hear speaker, Vanessa McElreath, LMFT, discuss the need for mental health services during disasters, big or small.

Whether it's a home fire, a devastating hurricane, or a catastrophic wildfire, it's the most vulnerable time of a person's life, and Vanessa eloquently described her abiding principles she adheres to when serving her client's needs. She explained her client base is not only the victims of disasters, but the volunteers and staff, who can also be greatly affected working under such high stress situations. The ladies were moved by touching stories and photographs of her time volunteering for the Red Cross as a disaster mental health specialist, which she finds immensely rewarding.

Vanessa volunteers for the Nashville Chapter servicing home fires clients and has also deployed to many hurricanes and wildfires, all while maintaining a private East Nashville practice and being a single mother.

The ladies dined on Moe's fajita bar and all took home a Red Cross blanket to cuddle up in and count their blessings.



#### **Members on the Move** Chapter Chair Makes Her Support of the Military a Red Cross Family Affair

**Jennifer Wolcott**, Nashville, Tennessee Tiffany Circle Chapter Chair, hosted a very special day out on the town for 40 military wives of deployed Ft. Campbell soldiers from the 5th Special Forces, Green Berets. Jen and her husband Randy provided childcare and chartered a bus so the ladies could let their hair down, relax and enjoy a fabulous lunch and cocktail hour at Merchants restaurant before they attended the Cirque du Soleil AXLE performance at the Bridgestone Arena. Tiffany Circle member **Lisa Williams** and American Red

Cross Nashville Board member, Kim Thornton accompanied Jen in welcoming the ladies and making sure they had a day to remember.



### Meet Amy Lewis-Hofland, the newest member of the American Red Cross Tiffany Circle National Council

Senior Director Amy Lewis-Hofland leads the Crow Collection of Asian Art in Dallas, the preeminent museum dedicated to the arts and cultures of Asia in the southern United States. Hofland is a life-long student, dedicated to her



work at the museum and creating a more compassionate society. She recently led the Dallas Arts District's signing of the International Charter for Compassion and joined Compassionate DFW to lead the arts sector.

We recently spoke with Amy about her passion for supporting the American Red Cross mission of preventing and relieving suffering. And, we had some fun getting to know her more personally.

#### Here's some of our chat:

**TCNC:** Why have you chosen to be involved with the American Red Cross? **ALH:** *I* have been studying compassion and compassion in action for the past five years. Once I started learning about the American Red Cross' work I realized it is THE model of "boots on the ground" compassion. It is truly the place to learn how humans show up for each other in times of crisis and on "clear sky" days, too. I am proud to be part of such a truly and transparently compassionate organization.

# **TCNC:** Describe Tiffany Circle in a couple of words:

ALH: Thoughtful and Action Leaders

### **TCNC:** Most meaningful accomplishment during your career?

**ALH:** The Merging of the Crow Museum of Asian Art with the University of Texas at Dallas

### TCNC: Favorite saying or word?

**ALH:** Be gentle with yourself (new mantra during this time of Pandemic)

# **TCNC:** What are you currently reading, or what's your favorite type of book? **ALH**: *I am reading Wendell Berry's "This Day" and Parker Palmer's "The Courage to Teach"*

### **TCNC:** Something about you that would surprise people?

**ALH**: I was an extra in the movie "Rumble Fish" (S.E. Hinton/ Francis Ford Coppola) in the fourth grade in Tulsa, Oklahoma

### TCNC: Person you would most like to meet?

ALH: Thich Nhat Hanh

### TCNC: Best stress release?

ALH: Ten minutes of Mindful Meditation or Yoga Nidra

### In Memoriam: Betty Wockner

Lifelong Red Cross supporter and Tiffany Circle member **Betty Wockner** died on January 2, 2020. In 1951, Betty's brother received an emergency communication from the Red Cross while serving overseas. Betty believed in giving back to your local community and supported many causes in Washington State. She also believed that one should "be good but not too good that it's boring"!

### The Kentucky Region's Mugs & Muffins

The Kentucky Region's Tiffany Circle hosted their first virtual Mugs & Muffins on April 16, on Microsoft Teams platform. Sixteen participants joined the call (including staff) to learn more about what the Red Cross is doing at this time and to discuss our critical need for blood scales. Anne Brown, Biomed Services Fundraising Program Officer, presented the importance of the blood scales. The Kentucky Region's Tiffany Circle has selected this project for their FY20 campaign to be completed by June 30, 2020.

The Kentucky Region needs a total of 102 scales totaling \$171,000. The region is excited to share that Tiffany Circle member, **Joan Coffey** and her husband, Larry, stepped up with a \$25,000 match and another member, **Mary Gaylord McClean** matched that for \$25,000 to equal a \$50,000 start

to our campaign for Kentucky Region blood scales! This leaves \$121,000, 72 scales, to be purchased. It is our goal to raise the monies necessary to complete our Kentucky Region's remaining blood scales!

As the last agenda item, the group was asked to share some positive thoughts and/or actions they have done during this time. Wonderful stories of hope, laughter, meals and love were shared! Member **Luly Reinhardt**, has placed a large teddy bear in their front window to encourage her neighbors. **Madeline Abramson**, Chair, discussed working with a Seniors Group to call those isolated at home using a set of questions to delve a little deeper into the resident's emotional, physical and environmental health. She also mentioned a dear friend, a recovered COVID-19 patient, was accepted into the plasma program that the Red Cross is participating in to help current COVID-19 patients. Others have delivered meals, enjoyed long walks, conversations with each other and quiet times at home.

During this unprecedented time, the Kentucky Region's Tiffany Circle members remain hopeful and serve as advocates of the work of the Red Cross.

#### Amazon Smile—Did you know?



The American Red Cross is a featured charity of Amazon.com's charitable

online venture, AmazonSmile. Through this partnership, customers who visit the unique website <u>smile.amazon.com</u> may designate the Red Cross as their preferred charity, and .5% of the sale price of each eligible item purchased will be donated to the Red Cross for as long as they shop with AmazonSmile. As of February 2020, the American Red Cross has received \$3,909,698.53. To support American Red Cross when shopping via smile, please use the unique URL: <u>http://smile.amazon.com/ch/53-0196605</u>

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Staying in touch via the American Red Cross email list is the best way we have of keeping in regular contact with supporters like you, letting you know about how you can protect yourself and your loved ones from disasters and other emergencies, and how you can support our life-saving work.

<u>Click here</u> to unsubscribe from our list, but please know that if you leave, it will be harder for you to stay involved with the Red Cross and continue the work of which you've been such a critical part. It is only because of supporters like you that the Red Cross is able to respond when a disaster strikes or a home is impacted by fire, when someone needs CPR or a lifesaving blood transfusion, or when a family needs to contact a deployed service member in an emergency. And we don't want to lose you! Thanks for your support!

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Help people affected by disasters big and small.





The Red Cross is proud that an average of 90 cents of every dollar we spend is invested in delivering care and comfort to those in need.