



RESPONDER IMPACT REPORT

HELPING THE MOST VULNERABLE AFTER DISASTER

When sudden disasters like house fires or floods hit, they are particularly devastating for the most vulnerable individuals in our communities. With your support, the Red Cross is there providing shelter and other basic needs.

It was just after 2:30 a.m. when thick black smoke started billowing from the top floor of a shelter for women in Ottawa.

More than 60 occupants were immediately evacuated to safety. Many of them fled the building with nothing more than the clothes on their backs.

As firefighters battled the blaze, a Red Cross disaster response team rushed to the scene to provide assistance.

"Some of them were not able to leave with proper outfits. They were a bit distressed, but we did everything we could to make them feel as comfortable as possible."

– Clement Giraneza, Red Cross volunteer

Once at a Reception Centre, the Red Cross team took the evacuated residents under their care, providing blankets, shoes, clothes, food and comfort kits.

Red Cross volunteers remained by their side throughout the night, helping the women overcome the worst of their ordeal until they were able to return the next day.



YOUR DONATION AT WORK

- 45%** Disaster response
- 28%** Health Equipment Loan Program (HELP)
- 16%** Violence, Bullying and Abuse Prevention education
- 11%** Other programs (injury prevention, community initiatives, humanitarian education)

STOPPING BULLYING BEFORE IT STARTS

Bullying can cause serious harm to a young person resulting in lifelong damage—but it can be prevented. With your support, the Red Cross is reaching out to youth across Canada to give them the tools they need to stop bullying before it starts.

Like many young people in Canada, Emma McGaffney went through teasing, name calling and exclusion in elementary school. It got even worse in middle school.

Fortunately, Emma had the opportunity to participate in a Red Cross Beyond the Hurt workshop at her school in British Columbia.

Beyond the Hurt recognizes that most participants in bullying are bystanders. It teaches young people to become leaders and take a stand to prevent bullying before it starts.

For Emma, the workshop was life changing.

"My experience with bullying no longer affects me," she says now.

Emma was such a strong believer in the program's unique approach that she decided to become a facilitator. Today, she teaches other students how they can use their personal power to resolve and prevent bullying.

Emma says having youth teaching other youth opens up opportunities that may not exist if the program was taught by adults.



"I met a girl in grade 5 who was going through the same things I did at that age. I could see the way it was controlling her life, as it once had mine. I was able to tell her the things I wish someone would have told me when I was younger."

– Emma, Red Cross youth facilitator

HOW YOUR DONATION ENABLES US TO RESPOND TO DISASTER

The Red Cross must always be ready to act on a moment's notice. Your donation makes sure we have all the essential resources in place long before disaster strikes. Here's what your support enables us to do:



Recruit expert disaster volunteers across Canada and provide them with first aid and psychosocial training



Purchase specialized equipment (vehicles, utility trailers, command modules)



Stock warehouses with relief supplies (blankets, food, water, clothing, hygiene kits and items to comfort children)



Coordinate disaster responses across the country 24/7