

Red Cross has history of service

By LAURIE PELLICHERO
Special to The Times

The American Red Cross of Central New Jersey, recipient of this year's Times Holiday Appeal, is a humanitarian organization, led by volunteers, that provides relief to victims of disasters and helps people in our area prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. The local chapter has been serving the community for more than 100 years.

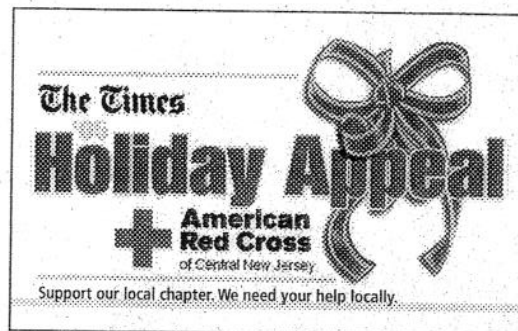
In 1862, Henry Dunant helped establish the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva, Switzerland. The American Red Cross was established in 1881 by Clara Barton. In 1914 the Princeton Chapter, serving Mercer County, was founded by John Hibben. In 1917, Eliot Wadsworth Arting founded the Hunterdon County Chapter.

Today, all three of these chapters form the American Red Cross of Central New Jersey, which provides hundreds of local disaster victims with food, clothing, shelter and emotional support each year, along with many other vital services and programs.

The American Red Cross of Central New Jersey is dedicated to providing high-quality, caring, timely and relevant services; using its expertise and resources to mobilize and train people in short periods of time to respond to emergency events.

It serves an increasingly diverse public with a diverse workforce and attracts and retains the best volunteers, paid staff, youth and young adults to ensure the continuation of its proud heritage.

It also brings hope, compassion and caring to those served; acts as a resource by collaborating, supporting and participating with other organiza-



tions; fosters innovation by responding to new opportunities for service; and strives to be known for service excellence.

The American Red Cross of Central New Jersey is extremely grateful for the overwhelming generosity of the community in support of the hurricane victims along the Gulf Coast and sent 100 percent of donations earmarked for relief to the affected area. But it is also in great need of funds to support the programs and services provided for the residents of our area.

To make a donation in support of the American Red Cross of Central New Jersey, please make your check payable to The Holiday Appeal and mail or hand deliver it to: 500 Perry St., Box 847, Trenton, NJ 08605. All gifts will be acknowledged and anonymity, if requested, will be granted.

The Times deducts no overhead expenses. All money goes directly to the designated nonprofit agency.

For more information about the American Red Cross of Central New Jersey, please visit the Web site at njredcross.org or call (609) 951-8550.