



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Social Services

2401 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2401  
Courier # 56-20-25 Fax 919-334-3018

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor  
Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

Sherry S. Bradsher, Director  
(919) 733-3055

April 9, 2010

Dear County Director of Social Services:

Attention: County Department of Social Services Disaster Shelter Workers

Subject: Red Cross Shelter Management/Shelter Operations Training

With the exceptionally cold winter we have experienced in North Carolina, it is hard to believe that the 2010 Hurricane Season will be here soon. Hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30 of each year. With the coming of hurricane season, it is important that each county be prepared for what could be an active period.

If a hurricane threatens North Carolina, many of you may be called upon to work in shelters that are managed by the American Red Cross or in shelters managed by the county. To properly manage shelters, it is essential that employees have been thoroughly trained in shelter management and operations.

Your local chapter of the American Red Cross stands ready to provide your county with the training necessary to manage and operate shelters during the time of an emergency. To find out more about the Red Cross, log into the website [www.redcross.org/en/where](http://www.redcross.org/en/where). By entering your zip code, you will be able to locate your local Chapter. You will also find information on how you can request training for your employees on shelter management and operations.

I strongly encourage you to contact your local Red Cross to set up a training session. Many of the persons currently working at county departments of social services have never worked in a shelter or if they have, it may have been several years ago. The Red Cross has training for both the new employee as well as for persons who may just need a refresher course. Take the time now to be sure your county is prepared for when the next storm threatens.

If you should have questions, please feel free to contact me at 919-334-1004.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Davis".

Chris Davis  
Social Services Disaster Coordinator

DIR-01-2010