



# Proclamation #15-97

## AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH MARCH 2015

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross fulfills a vital role in our community. It prevents and alleviates suffering in the face of disaster and is a true reflection of the humanitarian and volunteer spirit of the American people; and

WHEREAS, during the month of March, the American Red Cross asks all Americans to join its movement and help carry out its lifesaving mission, with a gift of time, money or blood. The Red Cross supplies almost half of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; supports military members and their families; and feeds, shelters and gives emotional support to victims of disasters; and

WHEREAS, for almost 100 years United States Presidents have called on the American people to support the Red Cross, and its humanitarian mission. In World War I, President Woodrow Wilson ordered the Red Cross to raise funds to support emergency aid to the military. At that time, the Red Cross set a goal of \$125 million and in less than six weeks donations totaled nearly \$146 million; a tribute to the overwhelming generosity of the American public; and

WHEREAS, in 1943 during World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt became the first president to proclaim March as Red Cross Month and called on Americans to "rededicate themselves to the splendid aims and activities of the Red Cross." President Roosevelt's call to action nearly 70 years ago started a tradition of designating March as Red Cross Month, a time to recognize and support the valuable work of the American Red Cross; and

WHEREAS, every day through its 73 employees and 4,785 volunteers here in South Carolina, the Red Cross is there to save the day when disaster strikes or when a neighbor's house burns down. It is there when someone needs life-saving blood, or the comfort of a helping hand. It connects military families with their loved ones serving in our military, and provides training in CPR, aquatics safety, and first aid, as it spreads humanitarian aid and goodwill to people around the world.

WHEREAS, our community depends on the Red Cross and because it is not a government agency, the Red Cross depends on support from the public to continue its humanitarian work. This is especially important in these challenging economic times for the Red Cross and all Americans, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Surfside Beach has partnered with the American Red Cross to promote its activities and to encourage donations through events and fund raising efforts, including a **Taste of Surfside Beach, March 23<sup>rd</sup> through 28<sup>th</sup>**,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Douglas F. Samples, Mayor of the Town of Surfside Beach, do hereby proclaim March 2015 as American Red Cross Month, and

**FURTHER**, I encourage all Americans to support this organization and its noble humanitarian mission.

**BE IT SO PROCLAIMED** this 24th day of February 2015.

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*The Hon. Douglas F. Samples, Mayor*

Attest:

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Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk