



**American
Red Cross**

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NEWS RELEASE

Sunbeam Child Care Center Students Share Gift of Comfort Kits

December 16, 2009, Fairmont, WV – Back in early August, the Summer students of the Sunbeam Child Care Center wanted to train kids with American Red Cross disaster response training. Rhoda McIntyre and Crystal Reynolds, took the 17 students to the local Chapter office for a disaster-response themed training session. As a result, the students wanted to follow up with a project to fund raise, purchase and provide Comfort Kits to the American Red Cross for families that are affected by disaster.



The students created a plan, and sold baked goods and lemonade. Then with the proceeds from the sale, purchased essential items to assemble the comfort kits. They were able to purchase and donate enough supplies to create 8 backpacks filled with essential supplies (such as: toothbrush,

toothpaste, mouthwash, wash cloths, shave cream, razor, deodorant, shampoo, comb, face lotion, soap) plus essential supplies for approximately 20 more.

By the next week, the kids put together the comfort kits and



presented them to the North Central West Virginia Chapter staff in Fairmont, WV.



Unfortunately, the point of this story is that when disaster strikes, it comes unexpectedly, and always at the wrong time. These comfort kits were stored at the Fairmont Office and were waiting for an opportunity to give care and encouragement to families who have been hit with an unexpected disaster.

These past two weeks have been especially difficult for a couple of families in Marion County, for sure. One family, the Weavers experienced an apartment fire on December 6, 2009. Don, Deb and their boys lost everything. "We'll pull it together – we have a lot of strength that way," says Deb