



**American
Red Cross**

Greater New York Region
520 West 49th Street
New York, NY 10019
www.nyredcross.org

News Release
NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Alicia Maxey Greene
(212) 875-2116 | (646) 265-7754
alicia.maxeygreene@redcross.org

American Red Cross Awards \$150,000 Grant to Cooper Square Committee for Lower East Side Sandy Recovery Program

MANHATTAN, NY, October 3, 2013 — The American Red Cross has awarded a \$150,000 grant to Cooper Square Committee to support long-term recovery services for people of the Lower East Side affected by Superstorm Sandy.

Cooper Square Committee will use the grant to provide housing assistance to storm-affected residents of high-rise cooperative communities by enrolling their buildings in public benefit programs and/or linking them with private contractors to perform structural repairs.

"The Cooper Square Committee is excited to receive a Red Cross grant, which will allow the organization to add new staff to assist residents of low income cooperatives on the Lower East Side impacted by Superstorm Sandy, and to help them weatherize their buildings so that they are more resilient in the event of future storms," said Steve Herrick, executive director. "We will also be outreaching to vulnerable populations, such as seniors and people with disabilities, to ensure they are well prepared for natural disasters, and informed about disaster relief and recovery services in our community."

Josh Lockwood, CEO, Red Cross Greater New York Region, said, "Generous donations to the Red Cross from people across the country will support the Cooper Square Committee's work and help people recover from Superstorm Sandy."

Superstorm Sandy is the largest U.S. operation by the Red Cross in more than five years, and thanks to the public's generous support, the Red Cross has received \$308 million in donations for Sandy emergency relief and recovery efforts. As of August 31, the Red Cross has spent or committed \$272 million – nearly 90 percent of the donated funds.

Donations to the Red Cross after Superstorm Sandy have led to clear signs of progress and hope through New York and New Jersey 11 months after the storm. As of October 1, the Red Cross has partnered with and funded numerous community-based organizations to support the recovery of individuals and families affected by Sandy. These partners include Brooklyn Community Foundation, City Harvest, Feeding America, Food Bank For New York City, Friends of Rockaway, Health and

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Welfare Council of Long Island, Island Harvest, Jewish Community Council of Rockaway Peninsula, Local Initiatives Support Corporation, National Baptist Convention USA, National Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters, New York Disaster Interfaith Services, Operation Hope, Points of Light Foundation, Salvation Army, Save the Children, The Staten Island Foundation, United Way of Long Island and Visiting Nurse Service of New York on Sandy recovery efforts in the areas of housing assistance, case management, mental health services, volunteer coordination, and food security. Additional community grants will be announced in the weeks ahead.

About the American Red Cross:

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or visit us on Twitter at [@RedCrossNY](https://twitter.com/RedCrossNY).

About Cooper Square Committee:

The Cooper Square Committee is a community organization that works with area residents to contribute to the preservation and development of affordable, environmentally healthy housing and community/cultural spaces so that the Lower East Side remains racially, economically and culturally diverse.

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