



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

WHEREAS: The American Red Cross fulfills a vital role in our community, preventing and alleviating suffering in the face of disaster and is a true reflection of the humanitarian and volunteer spirit of the American people; and

WHEREAS: 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, presidents have called on the American people to support the Red Cross and its humanitarian mission, and during World War I the Red Cross raised \$146 million in donations in three weeks – a tribute to the overwhelming generosity of the American public; and

WHEREAS: During World War II in 1943 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, the American Red Cross spreads humanitarian aid and goodwill to people around the world and is there when someone needs life-saving blood, or the comfort of a helping hand. It connects military families with their loved ones in service, and provides training in CPR, aquatics safety, and first aid; and

WHEREAS: Our community depends on the American Red Cross and the Red Cross depends on support from the public to continue its humanitarian work in these challenging times.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of March, 2011 as:

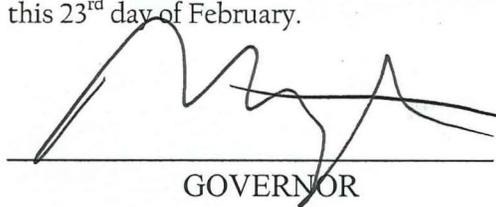
## AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH

In the state of Minnesota and encourage all Minnesotans to support this organization and its noble humanitarian mission.



*Mark Ritchie*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February.

  
GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE