



*State of Missouri*

*Governor's Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, the American Red Cross has been at the forefront of helping Missourians prevent, prepare for, and respond to both large and small disasters alike for more than 140 years; and

**WHEREAS**, countless people across our state turn to the American Red Cross to support our communities through emergency response and recovery planning, individual disaster assistance, blood donations, services for our Armed Forces, and vital life saving training courses and certifications; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2022 the Red Cross responded to 1,738 home fires impacting nearly 2,297 families; and 44 disaster incidents including floods, severe storms, and tornadoes helping 106 families; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2022 the Red Cross installed 5,182 free smoke alarms, making 2,059 homes safer; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout the state, in the last year, the Red Cross provided more than 7,347 emergency services to military members, veterans, and their families; and collected 149,315 units of blood products from generous donors; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Red Cross fulfills a crucial role as a reliable partner to state, county, and local officials across Missouri; effectively and efficiently fulfilling its mission and activities throughout the state due to the unfailing support of the people of the State of Missouri; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals who volunteer for the Red Cross make up ninety percent of the organization's workforce and are critical to ensuring services are provided to those in need; and

**WHEREAS**, the dedicated workforce of the American Red Cross has stepped up to assist their neighbors when they need a helping hand and truly represent the care and compassion expected in our great state.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim March 2023, to be

**AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH**

in Missouri, in recognition of and in tribute to the thousands of citizens who partner in preparedness activities, emergency response and recovery, service to our Armed Forces, and the countless hours they volunteer to advance the lifesaving mission of the American Red Cross, we formally recognize and honor their essential humanitarian role in our Missouri communities.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2023.



*Michael L. Parson*  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE