

**AGENCY ANNEX U
AMERICAN RED CROSS
VERMONT AND THE NEW HAMPSHIRE UPPER VALLEY**

I. MISSION

The American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors.

II. AUTHORITY

The American Red Cross has both a legal and moral mandate to provide disaster relief. It has the power and the duty to act in disaster and the public expects and supports prompt action. Overarching guidance for its work is embodied in the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.* The legal authority of the Red Cross to respond to disasters is embodied in a number of federal statutes and other documents, as well as its partnering relationships with federal, state and local governments. The organization's authority to carry out these obligations is further articulated in a hierarchical collection of Red Cross policies, regulations, directives, rules and procedures.

- Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
- Congressional Charter May 11, 2007 (36 U.S.C. § 300101-300313)
- Amended and Restated Bylaws of the American National Red Cross
- The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988 (Public Law 93-288)
- Department of Homeland Security National Response Framework
- Disaster Relief Act of 1974 (Public Law 93 – 288)
- Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390)
- In January 2007, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) designation of Red Cross as lead for coordinating emergency care and support of families of passengers involved in aircraft accidents as set forth in the "Aviation Disaster Family Assistance Act of 1996"
- October 2010 Red Cross / Federal Emergency Management Agency Memorandum of Agreement

III. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

State agency and department heads and their staffs develop, plan and train to internal policies and procedures to meet preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery needs as identified in this plan including annexes, appendices, tabs and other supporting documents including the State Hazard Mitigation Plan. Training includes not only what may be accomplished within the agency but multi-level, interagency training and exercises to develop and maintain necessary capabilities.

The situation and assumptions in section ii of the Base plan also apply.

IV. ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The following chart outlines the emergency response organization of the Region:

The Region is a support agency for State Support Function #5 (Emergency Management, Recovery, and Mitigation), #6 (Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing and Humans Services), #7 (Resource Support), #8 (Health and Medical Services), #9 (Search and Rescue), #10 (Hazardous Materials), and #11 (Agriculture and Natural Resources) and assumes the responsibilities as outlined in those annexes. The organization is also a participating agency in the Recovery and Restoration Multi-Agency Coordination Group as designated in the Disaster Recovery and Restoration Annex.

V. IMPLEMENTATION

This Annex will be implemented with the assigned responsibilities by means of direct coordination from the Commissioner, Department of Public Safety or Director, DEMHS with the Commissioner and/or upon the order of the Governor within the framework of the State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP).

VI. ADMINISTRATION

The Executive Director is responsible for the overall emergency response of the Chapter.

VII. CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT

In accordance with the provisions of title 20, “agency heads will in addition to any deputy authorized pursuant to law, designate by title three emergency interim successors and specify their order of succession. These designations shall, each year, be reviewed and revised, as necessary, to ensure their current status.”

Line of succession for the Region is as follows:

Chief Response Officer

Deputy Chief Response Officer – Operations and Logistics

Deputy Chief Response Officer – Administration and Planning