

PRESS RELEASE FROM THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

**301 2ND Street South, Marshall, MN 56258
507-532-5565**

www.PrairiewindsRedcross.org

Wednesday, Oct. 28th, 2008 – 12:00 PM CST

AMERICAN RED CROSS NEEDS BABYSITTERS!

Do you have a son or daughter that wants to baby sit for other families in the area?

Are you an adult who has grown children or grandchildren that no longer live in the area and would like to connect with younger families who have a need for a “stand in” parent or grandparent?

Over the past several weeks, your local Chapter of the American Red Cross has received a large number of calls from individuals who have recently relocated to our area but don’t have family or other friends to rely on for babysitting services.

The need is increasing and requires people who are interested in taking care of children and who have the qualifications to do so. As of November 1, 2008, your local American Red Cross Chapter will begin assembling a list of these individuals.

Information on this list will be kept confidential and secured within the Chapter offices. It will NOT be released to the general public. Should a family contact the Chapter looking for a sitter, the Chapter will take their name and number and try to match the family to a sitter in their town or neighborhood. The sitter or sitter’s parents will be responsible for connecting the family and making any additional arrangements.

Qualifications include, but are not limited to:

- **Over the age of 13.**
- **Applicable experience and/or training. This could include having taken the American Red Cross Babysitting training course, infant/child CPR courses, first aid courses, prior employment in a day care setting or other environment such as a school which is related to children, having raised children or grandchildren, etc.**

(NOTE: This is not intended to be a connection to daycare services. A list of all authorized daycare providers is available through the Department of Public Health.)

For an application and full list of qualifications and guidelines, please contact Colleen Grothem – Executive Director at 507-532-5565 OR by email at redcross@starpoint.net