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## February 11, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

In May, 2008, a massive earthquake rocked China killing thousands of people. The Red Cross rushed to help those affected, and Emily Dedear with The Love of China did too.

In just a few short days, Emily pulled together a powerful event held at Barton Creek Mall where children from 4 to 18 years old showcased traditional Chinese dances and raised money for Red Cross relief efforts.

In the end, Emily, her students, and her community raised \$9356.41 – funds that sent relief workers to the area, helped restore water and sanitation, and provided essential medical services. More than five million people were left homeless after this disaster, and the Red Cross response was possible because of people like Emily and The Love of China.

Now, the American Red Cross of Central Texas has turned to The Love of China for help. While catastrophes such as earthquakes make headlines in the media, smaller (yet just as devastating for those affected) events such as house fires sometimes go unnoticed. Here in Central Texas, we respond to a house fire every 48 hours to help someone who has just lost everything they own. We also help save lives by teaching more than 20,000 people every year in classes such as babysitter's training, CPR and first aid, and we offer International Services that help reunite families torn apart by disasters or by war.

None of the services provided by the American Red Cross of Central Texas would be possible without local donations. In fact, 98% of the services we provide in our nine county region are made possible by local individuals and businesses who give to the Red Cross.

This March, as we celebrate March is Red Cross Month, fundraising events such as the one hosted by The Love of China will make it possible for the American Red Cross of Central Texas to continue to help its neighbors when they need it most.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at 512-929-1277.

Sincerely,

Elaine Acker

Director of Development & Communications



