

The American Red Cross Serving North Central Pa

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Dear First Responders,

As with you our volunteers safety is our number one priority, and in these uncertain times we are taking additional steps to ensure our safety as well as our clients safety. We are still helping anyone that needs our assistance because of a disaster just the way we always have, we just need to take additional precautions.

Our dispatchers may be calling you or the client (fire victim, if you provide their number) asking some pre-screening questions as they pertain to symptoms of the COVID-19 virus. If the client is exhibiting signs or symptoms of COVID-19 we may elect to do our casework over the phone and provide assistance remotely. You will notice that we are practicing social distancing procedures by staying at least 6 feet from others to limit our exposure. Our volunteers are also carrying some simple PPE with them to help protect them from contact with he COVID-19 virus.

Additionally, we are screening our volunteers before they come out to your scene. This ensures that our volunteer force is healthy, and if they are not feeling well, they will not respond to your scene and we will find another volunteer to come out and assist. This helps to limit potential spread of the virus in the case that our volunteer may have contacted the virus.

Our protocol is ever changing and is aligned with recommendations that the CDC has outlined for potential contact with COVID-19 patients. In these times we just have to be a little more cautious and protect not only our volunteers but our clients and you as well.

Thank you for your continued understanding, and cooperation as we work through this together. As always if you have any questions please feel free to contact me directly.

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