

Erika Hunt Testimonial: Client

American Red Cross volunteers partner with congress, the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs, **to provide military personnel and their families with a worldwide integrated support network to help them cope with the stress of military life.**

“The Red Cross was very helpful,” Erika Hunt recalled. She is among the thousands of military family members who have been assisted by the American Red Cross during a family emergency. On Aug. 20, 2007, the Monroe resident discovered that her daughter Aleigha had a form of cancer called retinoblastoma, a cancer of the eye in children. Once alerted, the American Red Cross delivered an emergency message to Aleigha’s father, Johnny Hunt, on his base in Iraq. Johnny was on a plane within 24 hours of the relayed message to be by his daughter’s side following surgery to remove her eye. The American Red Cross Service to the Armed Forces (SAF) program ensures that service members, veterans and their families have worldwide, around-the-clock access to timely and reliable comfort and support. “They even offered additional assistance by staying in touch with me after my daughter’s surgery,” Erika explained. The American Red Cross of Monroe County also offers health and mental health services and resources and referrals to assist families in dealing with military life. “They referred certain counselors and made me aware of group support sessions that were available,” Erika said. She hopes she can inspire others to donate and volunteer at the American Red Cross of Monroe County to assist the men and women who serve our country along with their families.



**American
Red Cross**

Monroe County Chapter