

# Lifesaving Awards



**American Red Cross**  
Training Services

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## Inspiring Stories by Region

### Lifesaver in the Tennessee Region Uses CPR Training to Save a Life

An average workday for one local woman turned into a lifesaving event when she used skills she learned at a recent American Red Cross training in First Aid and CPR to save the life of one of her employees. Lisa Williams was walking through her business's warehouse when she heard employees shouting that a man had passed out in a restroom and needed CPR. Without thinking twice, she immediately started CPR, and eventually, the man regained a faint pulse. EMS took over care, and the man recovered at the hospital. For her selfless action, Lisa earned the Certificate of Merit. Read about her inspiring story on the region's [News page](#) or view her powerful interview on this [video](#) from the chapter.



L to R: Lisa Williams and Joel Sullivan, regional executive director for the Red Cross Tennessee Region

### Choking Bingo Player Rescued by Lifeguard on Duty in the Georgia Region

Askia Bashir, trained in Red Cross Lifeguarding, CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers and First Aid, was on duty as an aquatics facility supervisor at the C.T. Martin Natatorium and Recreation Center in Atlanta when someone burst into the pool area yelling for help. While a lifeguard remained on duty, Askia quickly ran upstairs to find a woman slumped over in her wheelchair. The 93-year-old woman had been enjoying a bingo game until she choked on an unknown substance and passed out. With close to 30 years of experience and training, Askia kept his cool, cleared her airway and administered first aid until the woman stabilized and regained consciousness. What a fantastic, lifesaving moment – and one that garnered Asika the Lifesaving Award for Professional Responders. The full story and photos, including those of his Instructor, can be found on the region's [Facebook page](#).



L to R: Terri Badour, Executive Director of Georgia's Greater Atlanta Chapter, Instructor Kamau Hogan and Askia Bashir

### Restaurant Staffers Save a Life in the Southern California Region

Shaye Blackburn and Tyler Wooley were working at a local restaurant when a guest became unconscious. Shaye and Tyler jumped into action and began chest compressions, continuing until EMS arrived and took over the response. A slight pulse was later found, and the guest was transported to the hospital. Thanks to Shaye and Tyler's incredible actions, they were awarded the Certificate of Extraordinary Personal Action. See it on the region's [Instagram feed](#).



L to R: Tyler Wooley and Shaye Blackburn

## Instructor Spotlight

### Henry Cortacans

Each month we highlight an Instructor whose student(s) have used their lifesaving training to save or sustain a life. This month we recognize Henry Cortacans. He taught Kiernan Smith Lifeguarding, CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers and First Aid. Kiernan performed abdominal thrusts and back blows to save a friend choking in a restaurant. For his actions in this emergency, Kiernan received a Certificate of Merit from the New Jersey region. We extend our thanks to Henry for providing the quality training that allowed his student to save a life.



## Lifesaving Awards Vault

### From the vault of the Southtown Star (Tinley Park, Illinois), December 16, 1982

**State trooper honored for lifesaving actions**

On this date in history, Scott Deubel, an Illinois state police trooper, received a Lifesaving Award for his actions earlier in the year while on patrol. He observed that a motorist involved in a car accident was unconscious and without a pulse. Trooper Deubel immediately began performing CPR and continued until EMS arrived on the scene.

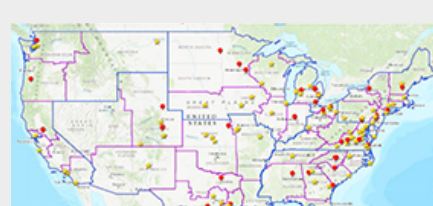


*Nominate. Recognize. Inspire.*

### Saving Lives Starts Here

If you or someone you know has used **skills** and **knowledge** learned in a Red Cross Training Services course to help save or sustain the life of another individual, visit [LifesavingAwards.org](https://www.AmericanRedCross.org/LifesavingAwards) to nominate them.

Want to know if you have a local hero in your area? Take a look at our [map](#).



### Get Inspired!

More than 4.8 million people are trained in Red Cross programs every year. That's millions of potential lifesavers who have confidence to take immediate action when moments matter, such as in choking emergencies. All Red Cross **Lifeguarding**, **First Aid** and **CPR/AED** certification courses teach the skills needed to help someone who is in need. Help make communities safer with Red Cross training!