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Red Cross loans equipment to aid recovery from injuries, surgery *'Medical Loan Closet' includes wheelchairs, crutches, walkers*

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MADISON - The Colonial Crossroads Chapter of the American Red Cross, with offices in Madison and Summit, is reminding residents of its "Medical Loan Closet" service, which includes such equipment as crutches, walkers, wheelchairs, commodes and shower benches.

All of the items are provided free of charge for short-term use to residents in the chapter's service area of Madison, Summit, Chatham Borough, Chatham Township, Florham Park, East Hanover, Long Hill Township, Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Springfield Township who are recovering from injuries or surgical procedures.

"Our Medical Loan Closet is a valuable service for many of our residents. Last year, we were able to lend nearly 450 pieces of equipment to people in need," said chapter Volunteer Manager Marisa Hottat.

For information about the Medical Loan Closet or to request equipment, contact Marisa Hottat, volunteer manager in Madison, at (973) 377-0455, ext. 15, or administrative assistant Cathy Conant in Summit at (908) 273-2076, ext. 11.

Emergency Services

The chapter's programs and services include disaster preparedness education and response services; training in such life-saving skills as cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), the used of an automated external defibrillator (AED), first aid and water safety; emergency services for members of the armed forces and their families; transportation, and blood services.

The Colonial Crossroads Chapter's facilities are at 1 Madison Ave. in Madison, (973) 377-0455, and 695 Springfield Ave. in Summit, (908) 273-2076.

Residents can learn about the local Red Cross, and find out how they can donate their time, expertise, money or blood, or help their family, business, or community prepare for emergencies, by

visiting www.cenjredcross.org.

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