

INDIANA FIRE ASSOCIATION

Established 1878

Indiana Fireman's Relief Association

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Where Does My Fire Protection Come From?

Have you ever seen the movies *Backdraft* or *Ladder49*? Maybe you've caught an episode of *Rescue Me* or *Third Watch*. Certainly some of you remember the 1970's television series *Emergency*. Most images on television, in movies and in books are those of career or paid firefighters. They work, eat and sleep at the fire station. The bell rings, and off they go to the emergency.

Is that the image you have? Unfortunately, that's not the case throughout most of the country. Nearly 72 percent of the 30,000 fire departments in the U.S. are volunteer departments which rely on their community for financial assistance.

In 2008, the Indiana Fire Association began celebrating their 130th year of providing fire protection to the community that we all share. During the past year, the Indiana Fire Association responded to 567 alarms. Proud and dedicated professional volunteers respond to your resident's calls for help, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, giving up precious family time to serve the Indiana area. Please note that each and every member of the department participates as a volunteer - from our newest member to the Fire Chief.

Several firefighters are State Certified Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics to ensure that we can provide the best level of care possible. Our volunteers in the Indiana Fire Association are highly skilled and respected in the fields of fire protection and rescue services. These firefighters attend numerous classes and spend an enormous amount of time training to be prepared for fire and rescue emergencies. Our volunteer professionals provide these services to many homes and businesses in the Indiana area and provide mutual-aid assistance to our neighboring communities and fire companies.

In addition to the time spent training and responding to alarms, these members also attend meetings and participate on several committees. Members also annually teach life-saving fire prevention classes to the students in our local schools.

Despite the rising cost of everything, we have worked very hard to provide the best equipment for firefighters and best care for our residents. We have fully equipped state-of-the-art emergency vehicles standing by to answer your calls for help. Your generous donations in the past allowed us to equip these vehicles with lifesaving equipment such as:

- Thermal imaging cameras, to make our interior search efforts quicker and safer.
- Highly sensitive carbon monoxide detectors, to.....
- Hydraulic rescue tools, to....

As you can see by reading this letter, a lot of time and effort is given by the volunteers who serve you, so at this time we appeal to you for a donation towards this years annual fund drive. Kindly make your check payable to the Indiana Fire Association and remember that all donations are tax deductible. If everyone would consider a donation of \$50.00, we would be able to continue your enhanced protection. The annual fund drive is the department's primary means of support, and it allows us to continue to provide the type of service that you and your family deserve.

The members of the Indiana Fire Association would like to thank the residents of Indiana and the vicinity for their support in the past and ask for your continued support this year.

You know that when you are having one of the worst days of your life, the Indiana Fire Association is just a phone call away to help.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

**The Indiana Fire Association does not solicit contributions by telephone, nor is it affiliated with any group or agency that does. Any donation to any organization who solicits donations for firefighters by telephone does not benefit Indiana Fire Association in any way.

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