



Homeland  
Security

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# Media Advisory

## **Department of Homeland Security to Announce \$6.5 Million Grant to American Red Cross**

*Mencer to present Competitive Training Grant award for terrorism training*

**Washington, D.C.** - The Honorable C. Suzanne Mencer, Director of Department of Homeland Security Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness (SLGCP), will announce a \$6.5 million competitive training grant to the American Red Cross.

The Competitive Training Grants Program provides funding for training initiatives to further the Department's mission of preparing the nation in the event of a terrorist incident. American Red Cross completed a rigorous application process for this grant—over 217 applications were received and the Department selected 14 programs for funding, totaling \$33,645,997 to be awarded. American Red Cross received the largest amount of funding of the fourteen awardees.

With the funds, the American Red Cross plans to design a national WMD training program for staff and volunteers of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in 30 metropolitan and rural communities throughout the country. The goal of the two-year project is to build sustainable preparedness in a wide range of communities and provide the resources to maintain these preparedness efforts. Overall, the project aims to deliver training to 90,000 individuals, as well as planning and management training to 390 community-based trainers.

**WHAT:** Department of Homeland Security Competitive Training Grants Program award presentation

**WHO:** The Honorable C. Suzanne Mencer and American Red Cross President and CEO Marty Evans

**WHEN:** Tuesday, October 19, 2004  
12:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** American Red Cross  
Disaster Operations Center  
2025 E Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

For more information on the Department of Homeland Security's Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness (SLGCP), please visit <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/>.