



Celebrating 68 Years, AER Kicks Off 2010 Campaign.

By Gwen McCarthy, Army Emergency Relief Officer.



Each year AER's annual Campaign is conducted from 1st March through 15th May. This Campaign provides anyone who would like to donate to AER the opportunity to make a voluntary contribution. In 2009 AER provided *\$79 million* in assistance to over *71,000 Soldiers and their Families*. AER assistance not only helps to solve immediate financial needs but also allows for greater peace of mind. The AER Campaign is an event that allows Soldiers to help each other. *Through the hard work of everyone, especially our Soldiers (Active and Retired), the TACOM Michigan AER section collected \$65,579.05 during the 2009 Campaign.*

The AER section, located at Detroit Arsenal, is the only aid society located in the state of Michigan which serves active duty, retired and reserve members of the Army. Based on reciprocal agreements with the Air Force Aid Society, Navy Marine Corps Relief Society, Coast Guard Mutual Assistance and the American Red Cross any Active Duty member of the military service can seek emergency assistance through our office or any of the Relief Societies mentioned if they are not close to an installation of their respective military branch.

AER has been in existence since 1942, and is a vital tool used by Commanders to take care of Soldiers and their Families during times of financial emergencies. Not only does AER help Active Duty personnel, it is also available to Retired Service members and their dependents. National Guards and Reserve components called to continuous active duty with Title 10 orders, for more than 30 days, are also eligible to apply. Assistance can be provided for essentials such as emergency travel, utilities, food, primary vehicle repair and rent, to name a few.

Your Campaign Key Person will be putting out posters and passing out AER informational brochures. Let us make this year even more successful. Support your AER Fund Campaign. AER's purpose is to help the ARMY Take Care of Its Own!

For more information, contact Gwen McCarthy, Detroit Arsenal AER Officer at (586) 282-0480/82 or feel free to send an email to gwendolyn.a.mccarthy@conus.army.mil. You can also learn more about AER on the web at www.aerhq.org.

Helping Maintain ARMY STRONG