Kim O'Brien, Disaster Response Coordinator at Red Cross, said the ERV has taken four years to get to our area, but it is a necessity to our community.

"We needed to have the ERV here because we provided support to some of the most emergency prone areas," she said. adding that the vehicle will be housed in Lawton but will provide support to Altus and Elk City. "With this new unit, we can provide mobile feeding and bulk distribution, while also working specific client cases."

O'Brien said the Great Plains Service Center was the beneficiary of the vehicle after the Central and Western Oklahoma Red Cross repositioned the vehicle out of its fleet.

"After looking at the recent history of emergencies in the area, as well as the likelihood for more, they felt it would be best served in our area," she said. "We completely agree and are happy to have it here. It's really our baby."
While O'Brien is happy to have the new addition to the fleet, she said they are still in need of volunteers to be trained to assist in disaster and emergency situations.

"Serving the community as a volunteer is one of the most fulfilling things a person can do," she said. "We can always use the help."

For more information on the Great Plains Service Center, or for information on volunteering, click HERE.