Citizen Corps for CERT

Kevin Bosarge
Tangipahoa Parish

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.uno.edu/dru2011

Recommended Citation
https://scholarworks.uno.edu/dru2011/36

This Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences and Workshops at ScholarWorks@UNO. It has been accepted for inclusion in DRU Workshop 2011 Presentations - Disaster Resistant University Workshop: Building Partnerships in Mitigation by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@UNO. For more information, please contact scholarworks@uno.edu.
History

Following the tragic events that occurred on Sep. 11, 2001, citizens asked, “What can I do?” and “How can I help?”

In 2002, the President of the United States launched Citizen Corps.

Created to help coordinate volunteer activities that will make our communities safer, stronger and better prepared to respond to any emergency situation.
Why Involve Citizens?

In 95% of all emergencies, bystanders or victims themselves are the first to provide emergency assistance or to perform a rescue.

Less than 1 percent of the U.S. population is an emergency responder.
Citizen Corps Partners

Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) works to enhance the capacity of state and local law enforcement to utilize volunteers.

Neighborhood Watch/USAonWatch incorporates terrorism awareness education into its existing crime prevention mission.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program educates and trains citizens in basic disaster response skills.

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Program helps medical, public health, and other volunteers offer their expertise.

Fire Corps promotes the use of citizen advocates to provide support to fire and rescue departments.
1985 Mexico City Earthquake:
- 4 quakes and 10,000 deaths
- Over 100 untrained volunteers died during rescue

1986 Los Angeles Earthquake:
- LA Fire Department developed pilot program
- Trained a group of leaders in a neighborhood watch organization
Contact Information

Chelsea Brown
Louisiana State Citizen Corps Coordinator
Grants Specialist, GOHSEP
225-922-0260
chelsea.brown@la.gov
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Starting a CERT Program
• CERT BACKGROUND
  – CERT Overview

CERTs are formed by members of a neighborhood or workplace who want to be better prepared for the hazards that threaten their communities.
CERT BACKGROUND

– CERT Overview

When deployed appropriately, however, CERTs can complement and enhance first-response capability in neighborhoods and workplaces by ensuring the safety of themselves and their families working outward to the neighborhood or office and beyond until first responders arrive.

“We will ask State and local officials to create a new, modern civil defense service, similar to local volunteer fire departments, to respond to local emergencies when the manpower of government is stretched thin...”  
– President Bush (Nov. 8, 2001)

CERT is one answer to the President’s challenge.
• CERT BACKGROUND
  – CERT Overview
  – CERT Roles
    ➢ Identifying and mitigating potential hazards in the home and workplace.
    ➢ Initiating plans to prepare themselves and their loved ones for the hazards that they face.
    ➢ Participating in continuing education and training.
    ➢ Volunteering for projects to enhance the public safety of their communities.
    ➢ Conducting an initial size-up in their homes or workplaces.
    ➢ Reducing immediate dangers by turning off utilities, suppressing small fires, evacuating the area, and helping others.
    ➢ Working with CERT members and volunteers to establish a command post, staging area, and medical triage and treatment areas.
    ➢ Establishing and maintaining communication with responders.
• STARTING A CERT PROGRAM
  – Assessing Needs

Where should you begin? Just as in emergency planning, you should begin by assessing your community's disaster preparedness.
Where should you begin? Just as in emergency planning, you should begin by assessing your community's disaster preparedness.

How can CERT augment your community's response capability?

How To's

* The CERT Role in Your Community
* Developing Program Goals
* Questions to Get You Started

The answer to these questions will help you determine the role CERT should play.
• STARTING A CERT PROGRAM
  – Assessing Needs
  – Identifying Resources

Starting a CERT program requires resources—personnel, equipment, and materials—and some type of program funding will be required.
Starting a CERT program requires resources—personnel, equipment, and materials—and some type of program funding will be required.

How To's

* Funding a CERT Program
* Ideas for Obtaining CERT Resources
* CERT Program Personnel Resources
• STARTING A CERT PROGRAM
  – Assessing Needs
  – Identifying Resources
  – Gaining Support and Recruiting

Regardless of how well you organize your CERT program, it can't succeed unless you have the support of the key stakeholders in your community.
How To's

* Developing Your Program Strategy
* Developing CERT Partnerships
* Developing Partnerships Checklist
* Marketing CERT
* Gaining Support From Local Leaders
• STARTING A CERT PROGRAM
  – Assessing Needs
  – Identifying Resources
  – Gaining Support and Recruiting
  – Acquiring Training Materials
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Equipment &amp; Supplies</td>
<td>Classroom and Exercise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Materials &amp; Instructor Guides</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Manuals (1 per student)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Supplies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masking Tape</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pencils/Pens</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificates of Completion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wallet Cards</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audio/Visual Equipment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Projector</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VHS Player</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TV Monitor(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easel Stands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Suppression Equipment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry Chemical Fire Extinguisher (1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Pan &amp; Propane Tank</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Suppression Supplies:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pyrex® Jar w/Lid (optional)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton Swabbing (optional)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wooden Matches</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Pan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Flares and Pole</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Propane Fuel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Equipment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blanket</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Supplies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination Gloves</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triangular Bandages</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4” x 4” Bandages</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towels</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Splints</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Search and Rescue Supplies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pry Bar or Long 2 x 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood (for leveraging and cribbing)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Supplies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard Hats</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vests</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flashlights</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Gloves</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goggles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (List): Firefighters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMTs or Paramedics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (List): Advertising Materials</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Forms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flyers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (List): Information Management Tools</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tools to track:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who takes the course</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When they graduate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refresher training and exercises</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How often CERTs are deployed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• STARTING A CERT PROGRAM
  – Assessing Needs
  – Identifying Resources
  – Gaining Support and Recruiting
  – Acquiring Training Materials
  – Tailoring Training
How To's

* Reviewing the CERT Content
* Hiding PowerPoint Visuals
* Changing the Master Slide
* Reviewing CERT Activities
* Updating CERT Materials
* Inserting Photos Into PowerPoint
* Tips for Using Photographs
* Revising the Word Files
* Keeping Your Instructors Current
• STARTING A CERT PROGRAM
  – Assessing Needs
  – Identifying Resources
  – Gaining Support and Recruiting
  – Acquiring Training Materials
  – Tailoring Training
  – Establishing a Training Cadre
The initial success of your program will depend on the quality of the basic classroom instruction.

How To's

* Selecting Instructors
* Establishing Instructor Standards
* Preparing Instructors
• STARTING A CERT PROGRAM
  – Assessing Needs
  – Identifying Resources
  – Gaining Support and Recruiting
  – Acquiring Training Materials
  – Tailoring Training
  – Establishing a Training Cadre
  – Delivering Training
Overall Tips

* Start slowly. Don't take too much on in the beginning. Identify a target audience and deliver the training to that group. Then, evaluate the training and deliver it again before opening the program to the larger community.

* Allow plenty of lead time. You will have a lot of logistical arrangements to make before you're ready to deliver CERT for the first time. Be sure to allow enough lead time for the first delivery to ensure that your training is not affected by issues that could have been resolved had you not been in such a rush to get the program started.
Kevin Bosarge, LEM
Tangipahoa Parish CERT Coordinator
Deputy State CERT Advocate
985-634-6359
revkev37@yahoo.com