



CITIZEN CORPS MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Citizen Corps is to harness the power of every individual through education, training, and volunteer service to make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to the threats of terrorism, crime, public health issues, and disasters of all kinds.

Citizen Corps in Action!

The Citizen Corps mission is accomplished through a national network of state, local, and tribal Citizen Corps Councils, which bring together the expertise of leaders from the first responder disciplines with the energy and spirit of volunteers, the private sector, elected leadership, and other community stakeholders. These Councils build on community strengths to develop a local strategy to increase awareness and participation in hometown security by promoting:

- **Personal responsibility:** There are important steps we all have a responsibility to take right now, such as: developing a household disaster plan and disaster supplies kits for the home, workplace, and vehicle; learning about emergency plans for schools, workplaces, neighborhoods, and communities; observing home health and safety practices; implementing property damage prevention measures; and participating in crime prevention and reporting. Citizen Corps Councils conduct public education and outreach efforts to provide critical local guidance on these actions.
- **Training:** We must all improve our preparedness, prevention, and response skills, knowledge, and abilities, to include: first aid, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR), fire safety, search and rescue procedures, crime prevention and terrorism awareness training, and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training.
- **Volunteer service:** We can give back to our community through volunteer activities that support local emergency responders, disaster relief groups, and community safety organizations. Everyone can do something to support local law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services, community public health efforts, and to contribute to the four stages of emergency management: preparedness, prevention, response, and recovery.

The local strategy developed by the Citizen Corps Council includes conducting public education campaigns, implementing the Citizen Corps programs (CERT, Fire Corps, Medical Reserve Corps, Neighborhood Watch, Volunteers in Police Service, and the affiliate programs), and providing opportunities for volunteers with special skills and interests. The Citizen Corps Councils also develop targeted outreach for special needs groups, ensure residents are connected to emergency alert systems, organize special projects and community events, encourage cooperation and collaboration among community leaders, and evaluate and report accomplishments.

**To learn more about Citizen Corps and to find the Council nearest you,
please visit www.citizencorps.gov.**