

## **OREGON**

### **Highlights of State Council Activities**

The Oregon State Citizen Corps Council, which is managed by Oregon Emergency Management, formed eight new Councils during 2005, bringing the total population served by Citizen Corps to 69 percent of the population. The Oregon State Council carried out active efforts made to identify and include Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS), and Fire Corps into current Councils. The new State Advisory Council members named included representation from each of the Citizen Corps program components, Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), the American Red Cross, and national and state Volunteer Commissions.

The Oregon Citizen Corps Council continued to focus on engaging affiliates and program partners to participate with local Councils. The State also awarded approximately \$199,000 in grants to 18 Councils.

### **Highlights of State Activities**

#### **Public Education and Outreach:**

Two Councils, Suislaw-Florence and Umpqua-Douglas County, brought the *Are You Ready* course curriculum to local citizens, with Council representatives serving as instructors. Several more Councils have contemplated conducting similar offerings on a trial basis.

The Clackamas County Citizen Corps refitted a donated ambulance utility vehicle to serve as a mobile public education tool for all the Citizen Corps component programs, complete with logos of each program partner.

Several central Oregon coastal Councils and communities successfully partnered with tsunami preparedness efforts. Citizen Corps component program members, volunteer programs and other local stakeholders co-sponsored tsunami preparedness fairs and workshops.

#### **Training and Exercises**

The City of Gresham conducted a citywide full-scale exercise that tested the Citizen Corps capabilities through the implementation of Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and other teams of volunteers to assist large populations of persons with disabilities.

#### **Volunteer Programs and Support**

The Oregon Commission for Voluntary Action and Service, and Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) have been active in the Council and in the State Advisory Committee. National Amateur Radio held training in Clackamas County. Oregon Volunteer

Agencies Active in Disaster (ORVOAD) and American Red Cross also sit on the State Advisory Committee.

### **Support for Hurricane Katrina Response**

After participating in the response to the 2004 hurricane season, many Citizen Corps representatives from several Councils throughout Oregon were reactivated for deployment to areas impacted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Several members have become regular FEMA Disaster Assistance Employees (DAEs) and have been activated on long-term deployments other than hurricane events. DAEs are a critical staff resource for FEMA during the response and recovery phases of major events.

### **National Preparedness Month**

Most Oregon Citizen Corps programs held National Preparedness Month activities during September 2005, including local proclamations, community events, and National Night Out participation. The Portland Citizen Corps Council sponsored the Family Safety Safari at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI). The two-day event featured a range of hands-on and interactive exhibits on safety, preparedness and volunteerism. Admission to Safety Safari and the rest of OMSI was free to all kids during this event. Oregon City's 24th Annual Fire Prevention Safety Fair provided a showcase to educate hundreds of citizens on safety awareness with information provided by fire, law enforcement, Citizen Corps and other health and safety organizations. The State sponsored a CERT Train-the-Trainer course in Roseburg on the second weekend in September to support attendance of the volunteer community.