



CITIZEN CORPS 2002 ANNUAL REPORT

State and Local Citizen Corps Council Activities

Following the tragic events that occurred on September 11, 2001, state and local government officials have increased opportunities for citizens to become an integral part of protecting the homeland and to directly support their local first responders. Officials agree that the formula for ensuring a more secure and safer homeland consists of citizen involvement through personal preparedness, training, and volunteer service. In January 2002, President George W. Bush launched USA Freedom Corps, to capture the spirit of service that has emerged throughout our communities following the terrorist attacks.

Citizen Corps, a vital component of USA Freedom Corps, was created to help coordinate volunteer activities that will make our communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to any emergency situation. It provides opportunities for people to participate in a range of measures to make their families, their homes, and their communities safer from the threats of crime, terrorism, and disasters of all kinds.

State governments have been working to create State Citizens Corps Councils and to collaborate with local governments, tribes, and community organizations to form local Citizen Corps Councils. These Councils provide a national network through which citizens can find out information to better prepare themselves and others against disasters and crimes; take classes in emergency preparedness, first aid, CPR, fire suppression, and tap into numerous locally based volunteer opportunities that support first responders, disaster relief groups, and community safety organizations.

The 2002 Supplemental Appropriations Act For Further Recovery From and Response To Terrorist Attacks on the United States (Public Law 107-206) included \$25 million to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Citizen Corps. With this appropriation, FEMA provided \$21 million as grants to each state and territory; the remaining \$4 million was retained for program development. The allocation for each state and territory was based on the allocation formula in the USA Patriot Act and is noted below. These grants will be used to develop Citizen Corps Councils and to expand CERT training. It is expected that states will pass 75 percent of this amount down to local communities by April 2003.

Local Citizen Corps Councils will build on community strengths to develop and implement a local strategy to have every American participate through personal preparedness, training, and volunteer service. Local Councils will also promote and strengthen the Citizen Corps programs at the community level, such as Volunteers in Police Service programs, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) programs, Medical Reserve Corps units, and Neighborhood Watch groups, and numerous other activities that focus on preparing the homeland.

Following is a status of State initiatives and some examples of volunteer activities citizens have engaged in locally to support their communities against all types of threats



and disasters, including activities funded through local grants provided by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and those communities who received up to \$50,000 from the Department of Health and Human Services to start Medical Reserve Corps Units. These stories serve to give a flavor of the types of volunteer activities that are occurring throughout the country.

ALABAMA

FEMA State Grant: \$352,122

The Alabama State Citizen Corps Council is in development. Alabama State currently has three Citizen Corps Councils, and several trained Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) to support emergency operations.

Colbert County, AL

The Colbert County Commission received a \$75,744 CNCS Homeland Security grant. The grant will be used for a new RSVP project to engage 200 RSVP volunteers in assisting law enforcement, fire departments, and emergency management services. Volunteers will assist fire and law enforcement with clerical work, neighborhood and business watches, presentations on public safety, meetings on homeland security strategies, and volunteer recruitment. Partners include the County Health Department, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and the Northwest Alabama Regional Airport.

ALASKA

FEMA State Grant: \$185,178

The Alaska State Citizen Corps Council has been formed, with the Alaska State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) assuming responsibilities for coordinating Citizen Corps statewide. Local Emergency Planning Commissions (LEPCs) are being encouraged to assume local Citizen Corps Council roles if other local coordination bodies do not exist. The state grant strategy has been developed and is being implemented. Jurisdictions receiving State sub-grants are required to form a Citizen Corps Council.

Anchorage, AK

When the City of Anchorage surveyed residents after the September 11th incidents, officials learned that their citizens wanted to play a more active role in helping the community prepare for disasters. In response, the City launched the Anchorage Watchful, Alert, and Ready for Emergencies (AWARE) Academy. It includes an Anchorage-specific curriculum that shows residents how to prepare themselves, their families and their neighbors for emergencies and disasters. "Citizens need to know that they have an important role to play in an emergency," said Anchorage Mayor George Wuerch.

The AWARE Academy provides a free, four-hour course that teaches Anchorage residents what to do in an emergency. The lessons are designed for citizens with little or no background in emergency response and are based on FEMA's CERT program, which trains citizens to be better prepared for emergency situations in their communities. Through the use of borrowed equipment, donated classroom time and volunteer instructors, AWARE Academy students are taught the importance of a personal disaster



strategy. The strategy includes development of a family communications plan, including identifying a meeting place away from the disaster area and stocking disaster supply kits for each member of the family.

More than 1,100 Anchorage residents have graduated from the AWARE Academy; the City has conducted more than 30 classes in just 4 months, at a cost of less than \$5,000. The curriculum is available on CD-ROM. The City is using AWARE's success as a foundation upon which to build its Citizen Corps initiative and its AWARE graduates are helping to build a strong Citizen Corps program.

The Anchorage Citizen Corps Council/AWARE covers 41% of the State's population.

The Municipality of Anchorage Department of Health and Human Services also received a \$300,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant to assist homebound seniors and an estimated 4,500 physically or developmentally disabled residents of Anchorage prepare to respond to a disaster. Various municipal agencies, the Office of Emergency Management, police and fire departments, American Red Cross, and the Police Chaplains Association will provide training and technical assistance in emergency preparedness and disaster response. Volunteers will act as instructors and will provide education, screening, and supplies to identified residents in need. Department staff will facilitate and coordinate the project by establishing and maintaining a database of the residents in need of these services.

Anchorage Department of Health and Human Services also received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

AMERICAN SAMOA
FEMA Territory Grant: \$54,998

ARIZONA
FEMA State Grant: \$388,871

The Honorable Janet Napolitano, inaugurated as Arizona's Governor on January 6, 2003, officially announced the formation of the State of Arizona Citizen Corps Council on January 15. The Emergency Services Program Coordinator for the Arizona Division of Emergency Management (ADEM) is working closely with the Governor's Office on Volunteerism to develop the State Council. ADEM recently completed a reorganization plan, which includes the creation of a Homeland Security Planning group. Within this group is the newly created position of State Coordinator for Citizen Corps, a representative from the Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government Planning (COOP/COG), and one tasked with planning for major medical emergencies.

The ADEM website, www.dem.state.az.us, has a Citizen Corps web page, which includes a volunteer registration form for interested parties. The form is linked to a database that is routinely updated. Once those two processes are completed, the information is provided to appropriate local Citizen Corps Council representatives or the county emergency coordinator.



In August of 2002, ADEM hosted a statewide Citizen Corps Conference. The Director of the Office of Citizen Corps served as the keynote speaker. The conference focused on an open forum session, with speakers outlining their program initiatives. Arizona now has eight fully registered Citizen Corps Councils.

The Volunteer Center of Tucson and the Volunteer Center of Maricopa County each received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

Tucson, AZ

The City of Tucson formed the Southern Arizona Citizen Corps Council in August 2002 and launched a dedicated website including a schedule of local meetings open to the public and training opportunities. This group has engaged many sectors of the community and has set an example of how interested volunteers and community leaders can come together and craft a Council and the supporting programs with limited financial resources. This Council was very active in a large-scale bio-terrorism exercise that required testing the City's health care resources.

ARKANSAS

FEMA State Grant: \$274,861

The Arkansas State Citizens Corps Council has been established with a 15-member council composed of local elected officials, local emergency management personnel, key agency players from the Department of Volunteerism, Department of Health, Department of Human Services, Arkansas Sheriff's Association, American Red Cross, Adventist Disaster Service, private industry and the general public. The initial meeting of the council was held at the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management, Emergency Operations Center on December 18, 2002. Arkansas conducted its first state sponsored CERT, Train the Trainer, course in Hot Springs, Arkansas on January 21-24, 2003. The course was coordinated with and instructed by FEMA Region VI personnel. Forty-one students attended from throughout the state. The next CERT Train the Trainer course is being planned for May 2003.

Short term goals of the Arkansas Citizen Corps program is the assessment of existing activity, and building on existing programs to develop a coordinated state wide program; formalization of best practices programs currently active in local communities; and final refinement of a request for proposal packet to distribute FY02 supplemental grant funds to locals to enhance existing programs and enable local programs to coordinate effective local councils and CERT throughout the state.

Arkansas has two identified local councils currently in place: the Mississippi County Emergency Operations Council in Blytheville; and a Jackson County Neighborhood Emergency Response Team, in Newport.



CALIFORNIA

FEMA State Grant: \$1,661,563

The California State Citizen Corps Council formed during October 2002, building upon existing Executive Orders for California's Response to Terrorism. The Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GO SERV) is the point of contact for California's Citizen Corps program. In California, the county level is the primary point of coordination for the emergency community, which includes fire, law, emergency medical, emergency management, key service and volunteer organizations—including AmeriCorps programs, volunteer centers, and American Red Cross chapters. All 58 counties in the State are expected to form a Local Citizen Corps Council to be the coordinating body for emergency volunteer activities throughout the county.

GO SERV recently concluded a 9-city tour to facilitate partnerships between stakeholders for Citizen Corps efforts statewide. Participation was strong and diverse, allowing for a comprehensive beginning to the state's emergency volunteerism efforts.

Tribal Nations and the State are joining together in a new approach towards integrating Tribes and statewide emergency response planning. Through the efforts of a Tribal organizing body—the Inter-Tribal Council of California—the Tribes are designing a statewide Citizen Corps Council under the FEMA program, facilitating CERT training throughout the more than 100 recognized Tribes in the state, and also “mirroring” the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) for the Tribes across California to better coordinate with the existing first responder community based at the city and county levels. A series of Tribal-sponsored workshops will be held throughout the state during the grant period to refine the details and receive wide stakeholder input.

California has many active and nationally recognized CERT programs, including the founding effort in the Los Angeles City Fire Department. Through the Citizen Corps grant program, the state is gathering data to assist local CERT programs by identifying areas needing assistance—and then directing available resources accordingly. Preliminary fact-finding shows a need for multi-language CERT training materials and instructors, as well as regional Train-the-Trainer programs where little or no expertise exists.

GO SERV has also partnered with the state's Emergency Medical Services Authority and Department of Health Services to coordinate efforts with local government and the new Medical Reserve Corps. California's strong medical and health response network is embracing the new program and working to link the new volunteer program demonstration projects (three were awarded in California) to local health agencies, Citizen Corps Councils, and the existing response network through California SEMS approach. These state agencies helped coordinate California's many proposals to the Surgeon General's office in DHHS and will continue efforts to integrate the new Medical Reserve Corps into the enhanced volunteer network emerging in the state.



California's Morgan Hill Police Department received \$41,830, the City of Fresno received \$49,546, and Self-Help for the Elderly in San Francisco received \$50,000 in grants from DHHS for Medical Reserve Corps.

With the inclusion of homeland security as an emphasized area for national AmeriCorps grant efforts, and additional programs under development at both the state and federal level, California has planned ahead and developed a strategic direction to integrate all volunteer-related efforts for maximum benefit in the State. Both the Citizen Corps and AmeriCorps programs are managed through GO SERV, which allows for a high level of coordination, program integration, and strategic management of emergency volunteerism across different programs.

Strong state partnerships add to this effort, such as a comprehensive Memorandum of Understanding between GO SERV and the state Office of Emergency Services; key partnerships with state Health agencies for Medical Reserve Corps issues; regular liaison with the Governor's Office of Criminal Justice Planning and the Attorney General's staff for law enforcement programs; as well as strong relationships with the statewide service and volunteer community active in emergencies—including the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, state Volunteer Center network, and others.

The California State Citizen Corps Council will serve two roles in California: being the stakeholder coordinating body for the state's Citizen Corps program, as well as also serving as the core group to assist in volunteer planning efforts for terrorism through companion efforts ongoing in the State. California has a State Strategic Committee on Terrorism, where many issues-specific subcommittees exist to advise the Governor on key issues pertaining to terrorism. A new subcommittee on "Volunteers In Emergencies" has been formed and will consist of the State Citizen Corps members providing expertise in this key area of Homeland Security.

GO SERV's integrated emergency volunteerism program is also expected to assist California's new Office of Homeland Security on volunteer-related issues—the new office was recently announced by Governor Gray Davis in his State-of-the-State address in early January.

Highlights of several activities in California include:

Los Angeles County, CA

The County of Los Angeles is using the 2002 Citizen Corps/CERT grant funds to increase the County Operational Area's ability to respond effectively through greater collaboration with community-based organizations and the public. The grant funds will help Los Angeles County meet the President's request that local government provide greater access to volunteer opportunities and preparedness programs for our residents at the neighborhood level. Our overall goal is to create disaster resistant neighborhoods and a volunteer corps that is fully integrated into the existing Standardized Emergency Management System in California. The Los Angeles County Operational Area has already created a Citizen Corps Advisory Committee to complete all of the necessary



steps to launch a countywide Citizen Corps Council. A CERT Advisory Committee is also being formed under the leadership of the Los Angeles County Fire Department to facilitate support to existing CERT programs, and to develop countywide CERT materials, standards, and programs that will be available to all 88 cities in the County.

Also in the Los Angeles area, the American Red Cross of Greater Los Angeles will use a \$349,125 CNCS Homeland Security grant to partner with the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism to implement homeland security related projects in Los Angeles—along with San Francisco and Sacramento. Twenty-four AmeriCorps members will provide community disaster/emergency preparedness education and training to individuals, families, and community/faith-based organizations, including Neighborhood Watch and Citizen Corps groups, with an emphasis on seniors living in those metropolitan areas. In addition to reaching 24,000 local residents, the AmeriCorps members will provide continuity and contingency planning assistance to 300 community- and faith-based organizations, schools, and businesses to increase their organizational capacity in the event of an emergency or disaster.

Orange County, CA

The Orange County Citizen Corps Council is aligned with the Orange County Operational Area, a State-designated geographical area, which consists of 113 allied cities, special districts, public service agencies, universities, and school districts. The core of the Orange County Citizen Corps consists of volunteer agencies, medical service volunteers, CERT volunteers, police service volunteers, and representatives of business and industry. The recently-retired chair of the Orange County Board of Supervisors currently leads the Citizen Corps Council. The Executive Council has 13 representatives from the core members, in addition to an alliance with the Orange County American Red Cross and the Volunteer Center of Orange County.

The unique construction of Orange County's Citizen Corps Council lies in its multi-discipline format including law enforcement, fire, public health, private health care providers, volunteer groups, and a multi-ethnic and religious Community Coalition Council. Additionally, a Private Sector Terrorism Response Group who interacts with local, state and federal law enforcement was brought together after September 11th to develop a public-private partnership to protect people and businesses in Orange County.

Placentia, CA

The City of Placentia has a very successful emergency preparedness program that involves over 15,000 residents in Neighborhood Watch, CERT, Volunteers in Police Service, Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services, Police Explorers, and Medical Reserve Corps activities.

Placentia suffered a traumatic tragedy in April 2002, when a Burlington-Northern Santa Fe locomotive collided with a Metrolink commuter train, causing many injuries and the loss of three lives. The monumental rescue operation taxed the community's professional emergency resources. Within minutes of the accident, several CERT graduates arrived at



the scene to assist with the response operation. Though not professional responders, they worked within the program and provided valuable needed assistance.

Even though it already has graduated more than 150 CERT volunteers, Placentia has added a new CERT program, scheduled for this summer. It will target families, particularly those that have young persons. Placentia has also recently coordinated the distribution of smoke alarms to people whose homes were built before smoke detectors were required to be installed. This program, provided through community organizations, has been very successful. More than 1,000 smoke detectors have been distributed and installed in low-income communities, further reducing the probability of deaths and injuries from house fires.

The Sheriff and his department have endorsed Citizen Corps and have committed to centralize Citizen Corps information and program activity within this office. Placentia is working with the Orange County Citizen Corps Council to coordinate activities throughout the Operational Area, consistent with the state's SEMS framework.

Fresno, CA

The City of Fresno has launched a Citizen Corps Council and website by using existing resources in the Mayor's office and by tapping into countless hours of volunteer support. The website features local law enforcement and fire safety officials and provides the residents of Fresno with an "on-line" opportunity to volunteer for jobs in support of the first responders.

Ongoing efforts to integrate potential AmeriCorps Homeland Security grants, the Medical Reserve Corps demonstration project, and other elements of the Citizen Corps program are proceeding with excellent community and state support and should provide an example of successful integrated coordination of neighborhood, municipal and statewide programs for emergency volunteers.

COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

FEMA Territory Grant: \$55,518

The CNMI will develop a Citizen Corps Program comprised of volunteers that are trained to assist in crime prevention and emergency response operations to supplement and increase the number of first responders in the CNMI. Local CERT instructors will be trained in a cost efficient manner in order to support the development and maintenance of locally sponsored CERT programs. Personnel will be identified to attend CERT (train-the-trainer) courses in March 2003 so that CNMI will have local instructors able to deliver CERT training.

The Emergency Management Office (EMO) will help jurisdictions develop sustainable CERT programs to improve the local level of emergency preparedness and response capability, enhance local volunteer resources, and train potential emergent volunteers to assist themselves and their neighbors to be self-sufficient in the event of any type of emergency or disaster. This will increase CNMI residents' awareness to all-hazard



emergency/disaster response through the development, delivery, and promotion of state assisted CERT programs.

EMO will work with the Ayuda Network, which is the head of the Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) for the CNMI. EMO staff together with the VOAD will form the Citizen Corps Council and initiate the Citizen Corps Program. EMO will hire a program coordinator who will be responsible for the establishment and development of the Citizen Corps program by March 2003. The CNMI will develop a Citizen Corps program plan and establish a Citizen Corps Council consisting of VOAD members and other agencies through the Ayuda Network by March 2003 and recruit volunteers by April 2003.

The program coordinator will work with the VOAD, CNMI leaders and the Mayors in establishing the Citizen Corps program and recruiting volunteers and volunteer organizations in Saipan, Tinian and Rota by April 2003.

COLORADO

FEMA State Grant: \$350,088

The Governor's Commission on Community Service is serving as the Colorado State Citizen Corps Councils and is in the process of developing a statewide approach to form Local Citizen Corps Councils and expand CERT training throughout the state.

San Luis Valley, CO

Using a \$217,400 CNCS Homeland Security grant, the Valley Community Fund, in conjunction with the San Luis Valley American Red Cross, will develop the capacity of San Luis Valley citizens to become the first line of defense in case of emergencies and disasters. The project will mobilize 5,885 volunteer citizens throughout the San Luis Valley and will recruit and train 200 volunteers to support and sustain activities. The San Luis Valley American Red Cross is the only local volunteer group that, in response to disasters, supports firefighters, search and rescue crews, and law enforcement as well as the affected population. The project intends to educate 1 in 4 members of the community in order to develop citizens as the first line of defense. The intended outcome will be a community educated in disaster preparedness, schoolchildren educated in disaster preparedness and response, the establishment of trained disaster response teams of at least six people in all six counties, and nurses trained in first aid, CPR, and disaster health service.

Larimer County Department of Health and Environment received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

CONNECTICUT

FEMA State Grant: \$306,815

Governor John Rowland named the Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security as the point of contact for Citizen Corps in the State of Connecticut. The Office of Emergency Management is the State Administrative Agency for FEMA FY 2002 Supplemental Funds. This has resulted in a merging of resources between law



enforcement and emergency management thus creating a statewide example of collaboration.

In the seven months since the program's inception, the Division has made a concerted effort to locate and identify existing volunteer groups and programs within Connecticut with the expressed intent of including them under the Citizen Corps umbrella. The Connecticut Citizen Corps Council seeks to highlight, enhance and supplement existing programs while identifying and addressing areas of need.

To this end, the Division of Homeland Security is partnering with United Way of Connecticut and its network of Volunteer Centers. Citizens will be able to contact the statewide "211" line for Citizen Corp information and volunteer referrals. The Division's dedicated Citizen Corp's website is currently under construction and will provide a link to the United Way's statewide "Volunteer Solutions" website to identify and locate volunteer opportunities within their communities. These sites are expected to be operational by March 1, 2003.

The Division reached out to statewide volunteer groups such as National Coalition for Service, United Way of Connecticut, Red Cross, VOAD, American Radio Relay League and Salvation Army to inform them of the Program and solicit support. This also serves to lay the groundwork for establishing the State Council. The State Council is currently being selected and is expected to be operational in February 2003.

Connecticut has no county government, only geographical subdivisions. The State's 169 municipalities are divided into 15 regional planning organizations. The Executive Officers have endorsed a joint DPS/OEM plan to utilize each region as the recipient of the grant funding along with the establishment of regional Citizen Corps Councils. In addition, two Tribal Nations will be included in this process. Subgrant applications for the FEMA funding will be distributed and awarded to these Regions in February 2003.

Regional Citizen Corps Councils will have the responsibility for encouraging, supporting and implementing local councils based on the Statewide Strategic Plan developed at the State level. Regional Citizen Corps Councils will be comprised of leaders from emergency management and the first responder community; volunteer, community service and faith based organizations; educational institutions; medical facilities; business and industry; and the community's neighborhood networks.

Connecticut will participate in the Regional CERT Training Session in March 2003 and is actively recruiting local and regional trainers.

Yale New Haven Health System received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.



DELAWARE

FEMA State Grant: \$192,208

Delaware is currently planning to call a meeting to establish a statewide Citizens Corps planning council with representatives of volunteer, emergency management and response, and governmental representatives participating.

Discussion issues for the meeting include, but are not limited to, the following: development of a mission statement; scope and purpose of the committee; development of a web-based data collection system, with pertinent information to allow for dissemination of participant information by locale, job function, and skill level; and whether there is a need for local and/or regional Citizens Corps Councils, due to state size.

Working in conjunction with a Citizen Corps planning committee and the Delaware Emergency Management Agency, the State Office of Volunteerism researched and reviewed Volunteer Management software programs. The programs are being evaluated according to cost, ease of use and adaptability in creating an interactive volunteer database, and the potential for customizing and maintaining. Of interest are features that would allow potential volunteers to access skill banks and enlist in affiliated training. Those involved in developing the Citizen Corps/CERT programs believe such a software program will aid in ensuring that appropriate volunteers are recruited and matched with existing needs.

Delaware Health and Social Services received a \$47,240 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FEMA “State” Grant: \$182,428

The DC Commission on National and Community Service took the lead in establishing the DC Citizen Corps Council, with Executive Orders signed on January 17, 2003. The DC Citizen Corps website, www.cncs.dc.gov, includes a news release of the event.

On Saturday, January 25, the DC Director of Citizen Corps joined Mayor Williams, Chief Ramsey and other members of the Metropolitan Police Department, representatives from the US Attorney's Office and community-based organizations at the District's Forum on Crime and Prevention. The discussion focused on how the community and the police can work together to create safe communities and was designed to develop a consensus about ways to improve public safety in our city. Neighborhood Watch working with the Police Service Areas (PSA) residents said was an effective way of address crime and other issues in their community.

The DC Commission has had coverage from several media outlets, including a live segment on *MSNBC* with Dan Abrams, November 15, 2002, to talk about: What citizens can do to get involved and what opportunities are available?; *BBC Television* (from the UK) produced a Public Service Announcement during November 2002, on the Police Reserve Program, which is administered by the Metropolitan Police Department, a



component of DC Citizen Corps; *Fox News* published an article on December 2, 2002, entitled, “Suburbia Looking for Some Homegrown Volunteers;” and, *The Washington Post* published an article on December 19, 2002, entitled, “Volunteers on the Frontline,” which highlighted DC Citizen Corps Volunteer Programs and Partners.

During September 2002, the DC Director of Citizen Corps partnered with the DC Emergency Management Agency during their DC Community Response Meetings to develop draft emergency plans for the 39 cluster neighborhoods. In December 2002, the program director presented at the DC Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters monthly meeting, and provided a workshop at the City-wide Youth Readiness Summit. He presented at the Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner’s (NC4) monthly meeting, and the National Senior Service Corps Director’s meeting in January 2003.

The “State” Council will approach implementing Citizen Corps by working with the District's Neighborhood Corps, which includes volunteers trained in emergency preparedness and response, to help drive local citizen participation in Citizen Corps volunteer programs. Community partners will work with the Council to create a Citywide Strategic Volunteer Response Plan (“CSVRP”) so that in the event of a disaster, volunteers can begin providing immediate assistance in their neighborhoods.

With a \$400,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant, the Executive Office of the Mayor will recruit, train, and place 2,000 new volunteers in a capacity to support the City in homeland security activities. Placements will be in pre-existing organizations such as Emergency Medical Technician Corps and Volunteers in Police Service and will allow for their expansion. Volunteers will assist or develop local Neighborhood Watch Programs. Neighborhood Citizen Corps teams will be established, with Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and volunteer management training. The project will strengthen homeland security through community building efforts, volunteer preparation for disaster response, and building and developing volunteer opportunities within the City.

Through a \$99,174 CNCS Homeland Security grant, eight AmeriCorps members will serve with the American Red Cross to develop Disaster Resistant Neighborhood Programs across eight wards encompassing 39 Advisory Neighborhood Commissions in the District. They will promote disaster safety through an organized effort at the neighborhood level, led by neighborhood volunteers. In addition to working with the wards' City Council members, ANC commissioners, and other community-based organizations, the AmeriCorps members will also participate on Disaster Action Teams and present community disaster education to volunteers. The eight members will form four teams of two; each team will be assigned to cover two wards.

FLORIDA

FEMA State Grant: \$872,299

Florida’s Executive Order to form a State Citizen Corps Council will be signed in February 2003. The Department of Emergency Management will be responsible for the



Council. A website for the Florida State Citizen Corps has been developed and can be viewed at http://www.floridadisaster.org/director_office/citizen_corps.

The objectives of the Council are to foster state and community participation, oversee progress, recognize accomplishments, and provide opportunities for mentoring and sharing ideas and resources. This will be accomplished by developing statewide marketing strategies; matching Citizen Corps training needs with other major State training initiatives, and developing financial incentives and tie-ins with other Federal programs to encourage local government participation in Citizen Corps. The Council will ensure that Citizen Corps communities receive consideration for any relevant grant funding administered by the State.

The Florida Capital Area Citizen Corps brought together nine organizations to plan and launch a new phase of the region's Disaster Resistant Neighborhood initiative. Hallandale Beach's Council is supported by the City, and is working to increase support from the business community, CERT membership, and organize a Medical Reserve Corps. Hardee County has brought together their community and faith-based groups to form their Council, specializing in crises teams, and mental health crises counseling. Collier County's Board of County Commissioners passed an ordinance establishing the Collier County Citizen Survey to identify the numbers of Neighborhood Watch groups, auxiliary sheriff, or police teams that current exist.

Three counties in Florida each received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps Grant: Broward Emergency Management Agency, Lee County Health Department, and Florida Department of Health, Pasco County. Twelve Citizen Police Academies are established, and the state continues to work with the Florida National Guard Youth, training youth on disaster preparedness.

With funds from a \$328,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant, the Florida Commission on Community Service will subgrant funds to Volunteer Florida. Volunteer Florida empowers volunteer centers throughout Florida to mobilize seniors and veterans to serve in local homeland security initiatives. The volunteer centers have seven program options to implement homeland security programs at the centers. Some programs include: Community Emergency Response Teams, which will be established or expanded according to center needs; Florida Division of Emergency Management's program to help small businesses become more disaster resistant; Event Watch, which will provide additional security for community events that are potential terrorist targets; and Front Porch Florida, which will engage underrepresented populations in implementing improvement programs in their communities.

Through a separate \$434,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant to the Florida Department of Community Affairs, the AmeriCorps Community Emergency Support Initiative will organize and assign five-member teams to each of the seven emergency management regions in the state. Along with the regional managers for emergency, they will create Citizen Emergency Response Teams. Members will be part of a "train the trainer" model that will multiply the capacity of the emergency management division in each region by



training 150 trainers. In addition, members will recruit 1,000 volunteers and implement 70 projects, including weatherizing the homes of senior citizens and economically disadvantaged community residents in areas prone to natural disasters. Senior citizens and people with disabilities are a special target of this program, both as beneficiaries and as prospective volunteers.

The Florida Department of Elder Affairs received a \$235,977 CNCS Homeland Security grant and will train 20 AmeriCorps members to educate elderly populations in disaster preparedness through community presentations in eight counties in north Florida. In addition, members will train schoolteachers in the use of American Red Cross curricula such as "Facing Fear" and "Masters of Disasters." Members will help to establish three joint volunteer centers working in education for managing disasters. The department will subgrant the program to the local American Red Cross to recruit and train members. The Red Cross plans to involve its community- and school-based partners. The chapter has memorandums of understanding with 25 community- and faith-based agencies, and the proposal states that the chapter plans to utilize its AmeriCorps members and volunteers to work with these agencies.

Polk County, FL

The United Way of Central Florida will use a \$81,772 CNCS Homeland Security grant to implement a new RSVP project to serve Polk County utilizing 150 RSVP volunteers to focus on disaster preparedness/response and Neighborhood Watch/public safety activities. Volunteers will receive Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) training to improve community readiness, lead Crime Patrol and Neighborhood Watch patrols, provide administrative support to local deputy and fire offices, and inform neighborhoods on Red Cross Family Disaster Planning. Partners include fire departments, emergency management services, Freedom Corps, the American Red Cross, law enforcement, and public schools.

Orlando, FL

In the past year, the City of Orlando shared its Citizen Corps story throughout the country. Orlando's 50 key community stakeholders have committed to serve on the Citizen Corps Council for at least 2 years. Professional first responders (emergency managers, police, fire and EMS) have educated council members on emergency preparedness, response and recovery plans. Since June 2002, 52 "Citizens for Neighborhood Watch" groups have organized, and 150 Orlando residents have taken CERT training.

By the year 2003, the concentration of seniors will reach 75 percent in some sections of Orlando. In downtown, for instance, there are currently 12 high-rises serving over 2,000 seniors. In partnership with RSVP and senior housing developments, the City of Orlando is offering Citizen Corps training opportunities to meet the needs of this population. A Senior CERT program has been developed to teach seniors self-survival during an emergency, first aid techniques and fire suppression activities. Already, dozens of seniors have been trained.



The City of Orlando had the opportunity to train the world famous Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus in CERT. In January 2003, 25 circus employees completed the CERT training conducted by the Orlando Fire Department. This unique training provided circus employees with the knowledge to respond to emergencies anytime and anywhere during their tour. A significant portion of their training focused on hazardous materials.

An January 23, 2003 article in the Orlando Sentinel entitled *Disaster Training Offered To Elders* describes how more than 1,400 senior citizens in Central Florida could become experts in medical triage, first aid, fire prevention and crime detection under a plan to train seniors how to respond in large-scale emergencies and natural disasters.

The ambitious program, sponsored by the City of Orlando with a \$1.2 million federal Homeland Security grant, is kicking off a campaign to recruit seniors in Orange and surrounding counties for five training programs, to include the City's fire and police academies, Citizens for Neighborhood Watch and the Community Emergency Response Team.

Hurricanes, tornadoes, fires and even a terrorist attack are the disasters most likely to hit the Orlando area, organizers said. RSVP, which places seniors in volunteer jobs in the community, is partnering with the City to sign up at least 480 seniors annually during the next 3 years. Most are being recruited for CERT training. The 8-week program, taught by Orlando firefighters since 1994, will target seniors at high-rise apartment buildings, senior recreation centers and public-housing complexes.

Classes cover everything from learning how to assess the severity of injuries to bandaging wounds, preventing shock, operating fire extinguishers and identifying hazardous materials. The Fire Department also conducts the Citizen Fire Academy, which gives volunteers an inside look at how the department operates and offers safety tips during a 10-week training class. The Senior Citizen Police Academy, a 12-week course designed by the Orlando Police Department, will be offered during the day at the Beardall Senior Center. It gives seniors an overview of how the Police Department works and warns of scams involving seniors.

"The point is to teach them how not to become victims," said Sonja White, who coordinates OPD's community programs. "We keep them abreast of trends. Identity theft is big now."

Academy volunteers also are given the option of riding in a patrol car and visiting the Orange County Jail, the Orange-Osceola Medical Examiner's Office and Orlando International Airport. OPD's lesser-known Citizen Observer Program is also open to seniors who, after training, work 12 hours a week in a patrol car observing and reporting criminal activity.

Even the City's popular Neighborhood Watch program is aiming to grow by 152 new groups in the next 3 years, officials said. "We're providing insurance to our community that prepares people for the worst-case scenario," said Lt. Chad Williamson, a Fire



Academy instructor and supervisor in the Fire Department's emergency-management section. "Having the knowledge removes the hysteria" in an emergency.

The City of Orlando also received a \$400,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant to engage, train, and empower citizens in volunteer service to protect people and neighborhoods in the event of a disaster. The project will mobilize approximately 3,500 volunteers and will engage 1,400 new volunteers in three years. The City will establish a centralized Homeland Security Volunteer Office to coordinate homeland security training programs and recruit, screen, and track volunteers. Volunteers will partake in a homeland security certification program that will provide them with proficiency in assisting special populations, recruiting volunteers, and collaborating with community leaders on neighborhood disaster preparedness.

GEORGIA

FEMA State Grant: \$522,993

On September 6, 2002, the Governor's Office announced the formation of Georgia Citizen Corps in a press conference from the Governor's Mansion as part of the state's remembrance of September 11. At that time, the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) was identified as the lead agency for Citizen Corps.

In conjunction with that announcement, GEMA established the Georgia Citizen Corps website (www.gacitizencorps.org) which provided fact sheets, an on-line registration system and links to the FEMA Citizen Corps website.

In October, Mr. Gary W. McConnell, Director of GEMA announced the formation of the State of Georgia Citizen Corps Council which provides leadership to the overall project. In order to provide local governments with the necessary guidance and support to effectively implement Citizen Corps initiatives, Mr. McConnell assigned a variety of GEMA staff to provide technical assistance to local organization and asked that GEMA's Regional All Hazard Councils serve as Regional Citizen Corps Councils. These regional councils make recommendations to GEMA and the State of Georgia Citizen Corps Council as to the most effective means to implement local strategies.

During the past year, over 110 citizens from many different communities have registered on the Georgia Citizen Corps website indicating an interest in forming a local Citizen Corps Council. Thus far, two local Citizen Corps Councils have been officially designated in Georgia with many more communities in the developmental stages. On a regular basis, GEMA has distributed information to local EMA Directors and local governments regarding Citizen Corps and provided presentations to a variety of groups.

In the coming year, GEMA plans to utilize the same strategies as used previously with a focus on forming additional local Citizen Corps Councils, identifying and training CERT Instructors, conducting CERT courses for the general public, organizing Medical Reserve Corps in selected communities and expanding the presence of Neighborhood Watch Programs.



The Dekalb County Board of Health received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

GUAM

FEMA Territory Grant: \$59,249

Recently, the Governor appointed the Administrator, Office of Civil Defense, as the State Coordinator for Citizen Corps to facilitate this locally driven initiative. The State Coordinator will work closely with GovGuam agencies, local organizations, FEMA, Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and other federal agencies to implement a successful Citizen Corps Program for Guam.

The Guam Civil Defense Advisory Council (GCDAC) will assume the duties and responsibilities of the Citizen Corps Council until the Guam Citizen Corps Advisory Committee (GCCAC) is established, upon the approval and appointment of its members by the new administration. The GCDAC will organize public education on disaster mitigation and preparedness, citizen training, and volunteer programs to give people of all ages and backgrounds the opportunity to support their community's emergency services and to safeguard themselves and their property.

The purpose of the GCCAC, which will be one of the committees under the GCDAC, is to have all decision makers at the table to manage existing volunteer resources, to leverage mutually supportive endeavors among the representative groups, and to direct the overall local plans to implement Citizen Corps Program on Guam. Furthermore, its primary objectives are the following:

- Match the needs of first responders with the skills and abilities of volunteers to make their families, their homes, and their communities safer from the threats of terrorism, crime, and disasters;
- Educate the public on safety, help citizens take an active role in protecting themselves from harm, and teach citizens what to do in the event of a crisis;
- Spearhead efforts to offer citizens new and existing volunteer opportunities, educational information, and training courses to address crime, terrorism and natural disasters risks;
- Promote all Citizen Corps programs and activities island-wide;
- Capture innovative practices and report accomplishments that can be replicated in other communities nationally;
- Survey the community to assess increased awareness and Citizen Corps participation.

Guam's Citizen Corps program, which includes the CERT program, has identified the following as areas of long-term programmatic focus: determining needs and developing an island-wide strategy for increasing the first responder and volunteer collaboration; developing island-wide marketing strategies; matching Citizen Corps training needs with other major villages/organizations training initiatives; reporting island-wide accomplishments; and ensuring that the Guam Citizen Corps Advisory Committee



reviews consideration for relevant grant funding administered by the GovGuam Office of Civil Defense.

A number of educational and volunteer activities that focus on making the villages safer, stronger and better prepared currently exist, while many more are being planned. For example, 145 people have participated and successfully completed the requirements of the Guam Hotel & Restaurant Association, Guam Police Department, Guam Fire Department and Office of Civil Defense sponsored CERT Training. Guam's Office of Civil Defense is working with FEMA Region IX and the North American Emergency Management - LLC, to facilitate an EMI CERT Train the Trainer course on Guam for 40 students on February 24-27, 2003.

HAWAII

FEMA State Grant: \$210,877

A State Citizen Corps Council is in development, with private industry membership being reviewed before letters of invitation are sent out.

Citizen Corps subgrants have been awarded and Memoranda of Agreement for the implementation of the Citizen Corps award have been distributed to each of the four county mayors.

Citizen Corps programs have been promoted for well over a year. The Honolulu Police Department has 30,000 Neighborhood Watch volunteers and has revitalized this program for terrorism awareness. CERT-trained volunteers number about 200 on Oahu, with more teams targeted in 2003 and 2004. It is anticipated that the three remaining counties will obtain CERT training in 2003.

Citizen Corps programs have been incorporated in the State Emergency Management/Civil Defense Volunteer Program Guide, the Web page www.scd.state.hi.us, and in a recent brochure on the Hawaii Homeland Security Advisory System.

IDAHO

FEMA State Grant: \$215,089

Plans are in place to have the Idaho State Citizen Corps Council formed and functioning by mid-February 2003.

Three Citizen Corps exploratory meetings were held during 2002 to define the purpose of Citizen Corps in Idaho and to develop an implementation strategy for local Citizen Corps Councils. The meetings were well attended, and considerable progress was made. Attendees demonstrated a common acceptance of the Citizen Corps philosophy. Subgrant applications for the supplemental appropriations funds have been distributed to the six state regions and each region has been encouraged to submit a formal request for funding.

An aggressive advertising strategy is being developed to promote Citizen Corps and related activities statewide. Letters have been sent to the Mayors of all 200+



incorporated cities and the Chairs of the 44 Boards of Country Commissioners personally encouraging each to form a Citizen Corps Council. A teleconference with all State Area Field Officers will discuss the advantages of forming active regional Citizen Corps Councils. A briefing on Citizen Corps will be presented to the LEPC meeting in American Falls, Idaho. An extension of the 2002 State Council exploratory meetings is scheduled for February 2003, and a Citizen Corps workshop will be included in a statewide USA Freedom Corps conference. The Idaho Citizen Corps web page is currently under construction and should be functional by mid-year.

ILLINOIS

FEMA State Grant: \$701,661

The State of Illinois, through the Illinois Terrorism Task Force and the Committee on Volunteers and Donations, has taken the lead on the creation of a state-level Citizen Corps Council. Illinois was one of the first states in the nation to take the step of creating a state-level Council and it continues to expand as the program develops.

At the July 2002 meeting of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force, the Illinois Medical Emergency Response Team (IMERT) was designated as the state-level Medical Reserve Corps to recognize the importance of the existing medical professional volunteer program that the Illinois Department of Public Health administers.

The Illinois Citizen Corps Council is working in conjunction with the Corporation for National and Community Service and the American Red Cross to establish teams of AmeriCorps VISTA members and train them in order to train local communities. The Council and its members work with member associations and at various conferences in order to educate mayors and communities about the program to encourage more the formation of more local Citizen Corps Councils. Workshops are planned in 2003 to recruit new communities to form a Council and to better aid existing Councils.

Kane County Health Department received \$50,000, the Department of Public Health in Oak Park received \$49,500, the American Red Cross of Central Illinois received \$48,421, and Winnebago County Health Department received \$50,000 in grants from DHHS for Medical Reserve Corps.

Arlington Heights, IL

Mayor Arlene Mulder started one of the first Citizen Corps Councils in Illinois. Just ten days after the September 11th attacks, Mayor Mulder was speaking to a senior men's club. The club membership asked the Mayor if she was going to reactivate Civil Defense and the Mayor realized the importance of offering opportunities for involvement in homeland defense to the residents of her community.

Arlington Heights Citizen Corps Council consists of representatives from public health, fire, police, public works, schools, business, transportation, as well as a volunteer coordinator and public information officer. The Council has been meeting monthly and is in the process of conducting an evaluation to define the gaps in communications and plans to see how the Citizen Corps program can fill necessary needs. The Council is also



in the process of creating a database to document interest and membership. In addition, Mayor Mulder has conducted a press conference updating the community on the Council and has made a number of presentations including to the Rotary Club and the Chamber of Commerce to peak citizens' interest and involvement.

Palatine, IL

The Village of Palatine Citizen Corps is comprised of Palatine citizens, with the support of the Palatine Police and Fire Departments and Mayor's Office, volunteering their time and effort to achieve its goals. Since its inception in the fall of 2002, the Palatine Citizen Corps Council, led by Palatine Mayor Rita L. Mullins, brainstormed to conduct a public safety and emergency preparedness needs assessment for the Village of Palatine.

"The goal of a Citizen Corps is to harness the power of individual citizens through education, training and volunteer opportunities in order to make communities stronger, safer and better prepared to respond to all kinds of disasters," said Palatine Mayor Rita Mullins. As a result of the needs assessment, the Palatine Citizen Corps Council has created three committees to focus its efforts to achieve its goal. These committees are:

Medical Resource Corps (PMRC) Committee – The PMRC is the component of the Palatine Citizen Corps that is organizing local health professional volunteers to assist first response medical personnel during a large scale local emergency that requires additional health expertise. Health professionals (current, or retired) and others with relevant skills are being offered the opportunity to volunteer their time and skills within a planned, organized and coordinated local Medical Reserve Corps unit during times of emergency.

Neighborhood Watch Committee (NWC) - The NWC will promote Neighborhood Watch Programs in order to educate the residents on preparedness in the event of a major emergency or disaster. Training of citizens will focus on what they can do for themselves, their families and their neighbors during the first 72 hours following a disaster. This is critical as Village resources or outside assistance may not be immediately available.

Public Information/Outreach (PIO) Committee – The PIO Committee organizes and centralizes the voice of the Palatine Citizen Corps. The PIO develops informational materials for the public through brochures, press releases, website, and other methods.

"You can never have enough resources and planning when dealing with disasters," noted Mullins. "By mobilizing volunteers and leveraging the infrastructure we already have in place—such as our Neighborhood Watch, Homeowner Associations and other community volunteer organizations—we will help residents protect themselves during emergency situations."

Belvidere, IL

Mayor Fred Brereton of the City of Belvidere is a strong supporter of Citizen Corps and has made a special effort to involve youth groups in the community. As an example, one weekend, 25 teen Citizen Corps volunteers held a car wash to raise money for the local



Salvation Army. They were able to present a check for \$340 to the Salvation Army today. At the car wash, they handed out static cling window decals for the "Keep Kids Alive, Drive 25" campaign as a reminder to people to slow down for kids, the Citizen's Preparedness Guide, and packs of information about programs offered by the Red Cross. They had 68 cars @ \$5.00 per car. Additionally, the YMCA has scheduled Baby Sitting, CPR and First Aid training for the Youth Citizen Corps members. A 5-minute video was produced on the various activities completed by the Youth Citizen Corps over the summer of 2002.

INDIANA

FEMA State Grant: \$424,070

The State of Indiana Citizen Corps Council was formed on November 6, 2002, through a collaboration of the Indiana Counter-Terrorism and Security Council (C-TASC) and the Indiana Commission on Community Service and Volunteerism (ICCSV). Council Members of the C-TASC Board, which is chaired by the Lieutenant Governor, Joseph Kernan, will act as the State of Indiana's Citizen Corps Council members. The C-TASC Board further strengthened its commitment to the initiative by adding a "volunteer representative" to its' council; the ICCSV fills this role on the Council. Indiana SEMA is also a member of the Council.

On January 13, 2003, the ICCSV issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for local governments to apply for Citizen Corps funds. Applications from local governments are due on February 21, 2003.

On January 15, 2003, the ICCSV co-hosted an event, Celebrate Volunteerism, where the Indiana General Assembly issued a resolution on volunteerism in Indiana. The Office of the Governor also issued a proclamation acknowledging volunteerism and Hoosiers commitment to the safety and well being of every citizen. The event included remarks on the Indiana Unified State Plan for Service, a 3-year strategic plan for service in the State of Indiana that includes emergency management and Citizen Corps initiative as major partners in the effort.

The website for the State of Indiana's Citizen Corps Council is under development. It will be hosted at the ICCSV website (www.IN.gov/icscv). The ICCSV has created an email bulletin for Hoosiers that is related to homeland security and general safety/volunteer efforts. The target date for the first release is February 1, 2003, to be made available on the website.

The Marion County Health Department received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

Southwest Indiana

Of the many local activities going on in the state, of particular note is the Disaster Resistant Corporation (DRC) Council, serving five counties in Southwest Indiana, which has performed several civic acts, including:

- Partnering with community and faith based organizations to strap hot water heaters. Working with two CERT trained neighborhoods, the DRC held meetings,



distributed flyers, had two articles published in the newspaper, and in all, strapped 65 hot water heaters.

- Another CERT team self-activated when their neighborhood flooded, rerouting traffic, and calling in a broken water line.
- A three-part workshop was held for businesses to help them understand the importance of having a Contingency Plan to implement when their business is interrupted by a disaster and how to get back to work in the shortest time possible.
- Co-sponsoring the first Community Safety Expo in the fall of 2002. Held at the local mall, Fire trucks, rescue equipment and the EMA mobile command center were displayed outside. Inside there were 18 display and information tables from groups including: LEPC, Search and Rescue K-9 teams, EMA, County Health, County Cooperative Extension, Fire Department, Juvenile Fire Setters Task Force, Red Cross, two local hospitals, Life Flight helicopter, Bicycle Club, Civil Air Patrol and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. Also included were a “Fun Science” demonstration by a team from General Electric and a “Live Wire” demonstration by an electric company.

They have also participated in the CERT training program taught by the Evansville City Fire Department and report:

“We are working through the Neighborhood Associations and now have five teams trained. The DRC has financially supported the program by printing the training manuals and providing equipment to each member including: backpack, hardhat, reflective vest, two-way communicator, flashlight, gloves, particle mask, earplugs, eye protection, clipboard, pry bar (modified to turn off gas meters), and basic medical supplies.”

IOWA

FEMA State Grant: \$284,935

The Iowa Citizen Corps Council is formed and will continue to promote the coordination of existing groups to take on and integrate the Citizen Corps components. The organization and identification of volunteers remains the primary focus.

Many communities are in the final stages of organizing and finalizing their procedures. They are conducting organizational meetings to identify partners, and develop bylaws and strategic plans prior to registering. In fact, the Sioux City local Council has recently been formed.

In a project established by the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service and funded with a \$136,985 CNCS Homeland Security grant, 16 AmeriCorps members will teach the Red Cross's "Masters of Disaster/Facing Fear" program and other community disaster education materials to students in 28 school districts statewide to help them understand and cope with acts of terrorism and other disasters. The members will also use these materials to educate 320 community groups and will recruit a cadre of 40 volunteers to



ensure the program's sustainability. Members will also recruit 200 additional volunteers to assist with service activities.

Iowa Public Television (IPTV) recently conducted a volunteer drive on public television, in which viewers were asked to volunteer their time. On Sunday night, January 12, 2003, viewers pledged 419,523 hours of volunteer service around the state during 2003, more than 8,000 hours per week for a year. The one-hour show, "Volunteer Iowa," was a collaborative effort between IPTV and the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service. This was the first such joint venture for the two organizations.

The program showcased a few volunteers and their projects. Viewers were invited to pledge the number of hours they intend to volunteer this year. The project fit the community-focused public service effort that IPTV strives for.

"We have a pretty good representation of callers from all over the state," said Tina Dunphy, the program officer for the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Services. Many of the pledges were from people willing to contribute 10 to 100 hours per year of service, but at least one person pledged 2,000 hours – the equivalent of a full-time job. Several people said they intend to work 500 hours. The volunteer commission will send donors a list of sources - such as local libraries - where they can find nonprofit organizations in need of volunteers.

Donors will also be urged to check www.freedomcorps.gov, which lists volunteer organizations by categories, such as animals and environment, arts and culture, and public safety and disaster preparedness. "We're going to put a little bit of responsibility on the person who made the pledge to make the first contact with the organization," Dunphy said. The commission will keep in touch with the volunteers via e-mail and track their service hours by postcards.

The Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service has invited the Iowa Citizen Corps Council to participate in the Governor's Volunteer Conference to be held during April, 2003. The presentation by the Iowa Citizen Corps Council entitled, "Volunteers - One of Iowa's Greatest Resources" will provide an overview of actions currently underway at the state level to identify, organize and expand volunteer resources within Iowa.

KANSAS

FEMA State Grant: \$274,972

The Kansas State Citizen Corps Council was formally established January 16, 2003. Its current initiatives include:

- Using a regional approach, developing a strategic plan for soliciting, evaluating, and awarding sub-grants to local citizen corps councils.
- Developing a work plan for sub-grantees on how they will recruit, train, market, and maintain their program to supplement emergency management activities in disaster and non-disaster situations.



- Developing a checklist to use in creating a Program Activity Report.
- Developing a sub grantee application package to be distributed to local Citizen Corps councils.
- Developing a timeline for distributing funds to local citizen corps councils.

The Shawnee County Health Agency received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

KENTUCKY

FEMA State Grant: \$334,736

Governor Paul Patton designated the Kentucky Division of Emergency Management (KyEM) as the lead agency for implementation of Citizen Corps and the Community Emergency Response Teams. Recognizing the complexity and scope of implementing Citizen Corps and CERT, KyEM has focused on recruiting critical partners to ensure success.

The Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service (KCCVS) along with the Kentucky League of Cities are two such partners and helped KyEM choose pilot communities to receive 2002 Citizen Corps supplemental appropriations funds. These 10 counties account for 1,452,760 people, or 1/3 of the state's population. First priority for choosing these counties went to those counties that already had a Citizen Corps Council. These 10 counties represent the diverse geography of Kentucky and its diverse population. Three alternates were also named.

The same pilot counties will be used for implementing CERT training. A series of CERT Train-the-Trainer seminars will be conducted across the state in order to build the cadre of instructors that the counties may call upon.

The Louisville/Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

The Kentucky Association of Senior Service Corps received a \$114,330 CNCS Homeland Security grant to implement an RSVP project to mobilize 200 RSVP volunteers in five counties (Logan, Simpson, Warren, Calloway, and Graves) that are currently not served by RSVP. The project will focus on crime reduction, Neighborhood Watch, and school safety, in addition to serving other community needs. Placement of volunteers will be in a variety of community organizations, including police departments, Red Cross chapters, health departments, school systems, and the Salvation Army.

The Green River Development District will use a \$123,800 CNCS Homeland Security grant to operate its program in seven rural counties. AmeriCorps members will be placed in a number of rapid response agencies to educate 1,000 individuals about public safety, public health, and disaster preparedness issues; train 600 volunteers in disaster preparedness and relief; and assist in developing closer collaboration among local agencies in areas of disaster response, health service, and other related areas. Currently,



Green River Development District has 18 AmeriCorps members serving who are trained in disaster preparedness and have previously provided disaster relief to the state.

Independence, KY

The City of Independence Police Department's volunteer program is a result of efforts of their Citizen's Police Academy. Graduates formed an Alumni Association whose purpose is to assist the Department in a volunteer capacity and to raise funds to purchase unbudgeted equipment. Volunteers assist with traffic control functions at parades and special events, have assisted with solving computer problems and upgrades and have used their expertise in a number of technical areas to assist the agency. Volunteers have held a dance, sold cookbooks and worked at festivals to raise funds for donations to the police department. To date they have purchased over \$3,000 worth of special needs equipment for the department that would not have been purchased otherwise.

LOUISIANA

FEMA State Grant: \$352,169

Louisiana has been aggressively working on the strategic formulation and deployment of its Citizen Corps initiatives. The focus of these efforts have been to meet and support President Bush's call for volunteers which has been echoed by Governor M. J. "Mike" Foster. The State of Louisiana Citizen Corps Council was officially formed on December 16, 2002 and includes key representatives from the First Responder community, Emergency Preparedness, Volunteer and Service groups. Two dedicated employees have been charged with supporting the deployment of Citizen Corps across Louisiana, the Citizen Corps Coordinator and Citizen Corps Program Manager will oversee the widespread deployment and public awareness initiatives.

Highlights from the past year include: (1) Formulation of a model for Citizen Corps Council membership at the parish/county and local community level, (2) Integration of Citizen Corps as a key component of the recently published Louisiana Homeland Security Strategy which is in concert with the National Homeland Security Strategy; (3) Public outreach through speaking engagements for Emergency Management, 1st Responder, and Service Groups across the State; (4) Designation of a full-time Citizen Corps Coordinator and a Program Manager within the Louisiana Office of Emergency Preparedness; (5) FY2002 Supplemental Grant announcements and application instructions distributed to local level for return by February 28, 2003.

The Institute for Human Services and Public Policy, Louisiana State University received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

MAINE

FEMA State Grant: \$213,592

In January 2003, the Maine Emergency Management Agency delegated and authorized the Maine Commission for Community Service to administer the Maine Citizen Corps. The State Coordinating Council has been formed and is charged with providing leadership, technical assistance, and training to local Citizen Corps Councils, as well as reporting accomplishments to Federal oversight agencies.



The Maine Citizen Corps envisions safe, healthy, and secure communities achieved through creating the volunteer infrastructure that leverages existing programs and agencies to engage citizens in addressing local community needs. In 2003, Maine Citizen Corps will convene the State Coordinating Council, complete the Maine Citizen Corps web site, craft and initiate a planning funds disbursement process to local Councils, inclusive of Americorps planning grants, and conduct CERT Train-the-Trainer programs.

York County Citizen Corps Council is Maine's first local Council and has trained CERT Teams.

Franklin Memorial Hospital in Farmington received a \$46,364 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

MARYLAND

FEMA State Grant: \$391,828

The Maryland Citizen Corps initiatives are operating under the auspices of the Governor's Emergency Management Advisory Council (GEMAC). This connects volunteer efforts to emergency management. At the State level, the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) is partnering with the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism.

The State of Maryland has a number of ongoing initiatives, which fit within the Citizen Corps structure. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) has been coordinating various groups of volunteer physicians, nurses, and pharmacists who have registered to be a part of the network of volunteers. This network, which has been in place for more than 2 years now, includes in excess of 1000 licensed and trained medical professionals who, if called upon, could serve various roles in emergency response. They are supported by a database and a basic telephonic notification system. Since DHMH is the coordinating body, they are also capable of tracking the licensing requirements and liability issues that arise when dealing with volunteers in emergency preparedness roles. The DHMH: Emergency Preparedness and Response Volunteer Services Advisory Board meets every month at the State Office Complex in the City of Baltimore.

Maryland's counties are in the process of developing their Citizen Corps Councils in alignment with their emergency management agencies. Many of the counties are working directly with their volunteer centers for assistance with administrative details and training needs.

The Western Maryland Area Health Education Center in Cumberland received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

Frederick County, MD

Volunteer Frederick, Inc. received a \$115,725 CNCS Homeland Security grant to start an RSVP project to mobilize 550 volunteers to serve Frederick County, home to Camp David and Fort Detrick. The project's volunteers will work with 52 volunteer stations



serving community needs through Neighborhood Watch/Public Safety, Disaster Preparedness/Response, Youth Education, and Senior Assistance activities. Partners include law enforcement, fire departments, food banks, the YMCA, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Safe Kids Coalition, the Red Cross, emergency management services, and hospitals. Some volunteers will train to become members of Disaster Action Teams—freeing up trained emergency workers, building disaster response infrastructure, and serving as administrative officers at fire departments. Other programs will include serving in the Sheriff's Office Community Assistance Patrol program and assisting the Frederick Memorial Hospital as liaisons in the Emergency Department.

Baltimore, MD

Baltimore Civic Works, Inc., an AmeriCorps program, received a \$123,948 CNCS Homeland Security grant for public information dissemination. This initiative is tagged *Project Liberty*. The grant was used to hire 15 AmeriCorps members who will assist emergency responders in their efforts to train Baltimore City residents and communities on various homeland security and fire protection initiatives. The Maryland Emergency Management Agency is a partner on the Project Liberty Advisory Board, which also contains representation from the Baltimore City Fire Department, the Baltimore City Emergency Management Director, the Baltimore City Health Department, Johns Hopkins University, and the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism.

Members will disseminate public health, bioterrorism, and disaster preparedness information to 5,000 residents in Baltimore at community fairs, community association meetings, church groups, schools, and door-to-door. AmeriCorps members will also recruit and train 50 additional volunteers to help meet the program's goal of reaching 20,000 residents in 20 different communities. In the event of an emergency, members can also provide relief to rescue workers, search and rescue services, first aid, coordination of supplies, and other support to relief efforts.

MASSACHUSETTS

FEMA State Grant: \$435,603

Massachusetts held its first State Citizen Corps Council meeting on January 21, 2003, creating draft versions of a mission statement and objectives. Massachusetts is progressing well with its Council development, and has received its grant award.

Fairview Hospital in Great Barrington and the Church of the Nazarene in South Dennis each received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

MICHIGAN

FEMA State Grant: \$593,046

The Michigan Citizen Corps Council was formed by executive order (EO 2002-09) in April of 2002. The first meeting of the Council will be held on February 11, 2003. Michigan has developed a comprehensive system for Michigan Citizen Corps, including developing the State Council, securing nearly \$500,000 in Federal support, enrolling five local Citizen Corps Councils, developing a Citizen Corps Bulletin, a state CERT Train the Trainer Institute plan, and securing a role in the Michigan Homeland Security Taskforce.



The Michigan State Citizen Corps Council will develop a 3-year plan to implement all the elements of the Citizen Corps programs. First to be implemented will be a statewide academy for CERT training. The state will be divided into seven regions with CERT trainers available to communities in each of the regions. Future programs will be implemented using the regional model.

Detroit, MI

The Detroit Medical Center received a \$200,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant to mobilize 6,000 volunteers through the Southeast Michigan Weapons of Mass Destruction, Bioterrorism and Disaster Preparedness Consortium. These volunteers will provide local preparedness planning, make Detroit a trauma-ready city by developing a readiness response team for bioterrorism, and focus on all aspects of health care and trauma services that may be needed in the event of a disaster. The strategies of the project include expansion of the community wide immunization program, development and dissemination of public health and disaster preparedness information, and the continued staging of citywide disaster preparedness trials. The Consortium is comprised of the fire, police, and EMS teams of Detroit, the Detroit Medical Center, Wayne State University School of Medicine, and the John D. Dingell/Veterans Administration Medical Center.

MINNESOTA

FEMA State Grant: \$374,265

On of the first states in the nation to establish a state council, the Minnesota State Citizen Corps Council was established in July 2002. The first meeting was held on September 26, 2002 with the next meeting scheduled for mid-February 2003.

10 presentations have been made to communities and organizations around the state, including a Citizen Corps overview and grant application process reviews, with additional presentations scheduled.

Subgrant applications from local governments are due January 31, 2003 and the subgrant application review team has been formed with representatives from emergency management, fire, law enforcement, MNVOAD, League of MN Cities.

Eight people are preparing to attend the CERT “Train the Trainer” session being offered in Kokomo, IN, January 27-29, 2003. The group includes the State Citizen Corps POC, the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) Training Officer and six representatives from local fire-fighting, emergency management and EMS organizations.

MN DEM is preparing to take bids on hosting 3 CERT Train-the-Trainer classes in the Spring 2003, with the hope of training 120 new CERT Instructors.

Community Net received a \$100,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant to start a new RSVP project to work with 400 RSVP volunteers to serve Olmsted, Goodhue, Rice, and Wabasha counties. Teams of volunteers will be trained to assist with the Public Health Emergency Response Plan and will participate in disaster response exercises to



strengthen preparedness and conduct training in other counties. A group of volunteers will assist police, fire, and sheriff's offices with clerical work and ticketing, allowing trained professional personnel to respond to emergencies. Other volunteers will be trained as probation monitors, supervising clients and assisting probation staff with paperwork. Partners include the Olmsted County Public Health Department, the Red Cross, and social services.

Burnsville, MN

City of Burnsville was the first MN community to establish a CERT program. They have held 2 classes and have trained several CERT members to date.

Waconia, MN

City of Waconia established a CERT program on 1/8/03. About 40 interested citizens attended the initial meeting.

Hennipin County/Minneapolis, MN

Hennipin County Community Health based in Minneapolis received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant. The City of Minneapolis is current working on establishing a Citizen Corps Council.

MISSISSIPPI

FEMA State Grant: \$282,095

The Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service (MCVS) has been named co-contact with Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) for the Mississippi Citizen Corps activities. The MCVS mission is to engage and support Mississippians of all ages and backgrounds in service to their communities. The MCVS will oversee the Citizen Corps Council formation and volunteer center formation, and MEMA will handle CERT training.

The MCVS is in the process of hiring a Volunteer Resource Specialist, expected to be on board by February 15, 2003, and has preliminary plans to have a state Council formed by mid-March. There are preliminary plans to form 5-6 councils in areas where MEMA already has Regional Response Teams, or where there are already volunteer centers such as Tupelo and Jackson.

MISSOURI

FEMA State Grant: \$402,925

The Missouri Disaster Recovery Partnership will be designated the Missouri State Citizen Corps Council, with final approval expected by mid-February 2003. Eight Citizen Corps Councils were formed in 2002, and many others are in process. The Missouri strategy is to target support for existing Citizen Corps Councils and encourage existing organizations, such as the Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COADs) to assume the Citizen Corps Council role. Large population centers are a priority. Governor Bob Holden issued a press release announcing the supplemental appropriations grants in December 2002.



In the next year, Missouri seeks to register 10 COADs/VOADs that have not yet registered as Citizen Corps Councils. SEMA will continue to build a collaborative partnership between key agencies and organizations that can contribute to successful Citizen Corps effort in Missouri. Key partners are SEMA, Missouri Community Service Commission, Missouri Association of Volunteer Administrators, AmeriCorps St. Louis Safety Corps, MOVOAD, Corporation for National Service Units in Missouri, and the Association of Volunteer Centers. One particularly noteworthy project of this collaborative effort will be the development of a statewide web site that will attempt to facilitate volunteerism in Citizen Corps and USA Freedom Corps.

The Metropolitan Planning Organization Mid-America Regional Council in Kansas City received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

Twice this year, one local Citizen Council and another local COAD that was soon to become a Citizen Council performed exemplary disaster response and recovery duty:

Greater Kansas City, MO

During the Missouri ice storm, declared February 6, 2002 by the President as a major disaster, the Greater Kansas City COAD/VOAD provided a wide variety of critical services to disaster survivors. The most important service was provided to special needs residents who required assistance with recovery and debris clearance. The KC COAD identified special needs, identified resources, agencies and volunteers to help meet those needs, assessed the scope of work, coordinated the clean-up and provided follow-up long term recovery assistance.

Lawrence / Barry County, MO

During a series of tornados in Southwest Missouri on December 15, 2002, the Lawrence / Barry County COAD-Citizen Council immediately sprang into action. Although the disaster was not significant enough to be declared a disaster by the President, three people died and about fifty families were affected. In this urgent situation, the Lawrence / Barry County COAD Citizen Council mobilized to meet the emergency and recovery needs of the disaster survivors. All aspects of human services were addressed; including coordinated mass care, debris clean up, casework management, referrals, donations management, counseling, medical care, and many other services. All of these services were provided or coordinated through the COAD Citizen Council.

Tim Mosiers, Pettis County Emergency Management Director, met with President Bush in November 2002 to receive recognition for starting a ground breaking Citizen Council in Pettis County. Tim has developed pioneer projects; one in particular involves CERT trained volunteers in partnership with the Retired Senior Volunteer Program of Pettis County. One project mission will task RSVP/CERT volunteers to assess the needs and status of in-home health care patients during a power outage or winter storm.

The Eureka EMA has successfully graduated 48 citizen volunteers through the CERT program. Attendance in the CERT program has steadily increased.



MONTANA

FEMA State Grant: \$196,928

The Montana State Citizen Corps Council was formed on October 15, 2002, as a subcommittee of the Montana Homeland Security Task Force. Membership includes representatives from the Governor's Office of Community Service, the State EMS Association, the Critical Illness and Trauma Foundation, Montana Disaster and Emergency Services, the Corporation for National and Community Service, the American Red Cross, the Office of Rural Health, local emergency planning committees, Montana Law Enforcement Chaplains Association, and the American Association of Retired Persons. The State Citizen Corps Council approved the grant proposal for the use of FEMA 2002 Supplemental Funds for the development of Citizen Corps and CERT programs throughout the State.

The FEMA 2002 Supplemental Funds will use AmeriCorps VISTAs throughout the state to assist in the development of local citizen corps councils as subcommittees of the local emergency planning committees. The councils will develop plans for disaster and emergency preparedness education and training to individuals, families, and community- and faith-based organizations. In addition, AmeriCorps VISTAs will assist in the creation of CERT and develop emergent volunteer plans to better utilize these resources.

Montana AmeriCorps VISTAs involved with Citizen Corps have produced a Montana Citizen's Guide to Homeland Security Preparedness in both print and online format, coordinated and developed specific aspects of the State Citizen Corps Council, pursued grant-writing activities in relation to Citizen Corps and provided guidance to the newest members AmeriCorps VISTAs involved in disaster and emergency services.

Lake, Mineral, Ravalli Counties, MT

The Western Montana Area VI Agency on Aging received a \$104,266 CNCS Homeland Security grant to implement an RSVP project to serve Lake, Mineral, and Ravalli counties, including the Flathead Indian Reservation that lies within Lake County. Some 254 RSVP volunteers will serve with volunteer stations working in Public Safety, Youth Crime, Disaster Response/Preparedness, Public Health, and Health Education activities. Volunteers will assist law enforcement in patrols, expand neighborhood watch groups, provide administrative assistance, develop strategy development plans, and manage emergency management office dispatch services, freeing up staff time. The volunteers also will educate the public about the Rocky Mountain Laboratories, a biomedical research lab, to alleviate fear of the facility. Partners include the American Red Cross, Head Start, Kids First, YMCA, and Lake County Youth Court.

Richland and McCone Counties, MT

The Richland Country Health Department will use a \$88,718 CNCS Homeland Security grant to implement an RSVP project to serve the sparsely populated northeastern area of Richland and McCone counties. RSVP will utilize 250 volunteers in homeland security activities through the Richmond Health Network. Volunteer teams will assist the Local Emergency Preparedness Committee in implementation of its emergency plan, work with law enforcement to develop Neighborhood Watch and community policing programs,



and staff a Seniors Outreaching to Seniors program that will locate, assess the needs of, educate, and empower seniors and others with special needs related to emergency response. The Richland Health Network is a collaborative effort of the Richland County Health Department, the Sidney Health Center, and the County Commission on Aging.

The Citizen Corps Council of Yellowstone County received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

NEBRASKA

FEMA State Grant: \$232,188

On November 27, 2002, Governor Johanns formed the Nebraska Citizen Corps Advisory Council. Membership includes the Emergency Management Assistant Director, the Director of the State Volunteer Service Commission, the Director of the Nebraska Crime commission, a representative of the Nebraska State Patrol, two representatives of the Nebraska Association of County Officials and the League of Nebraska Municipalities. The State Volunteer Service Commission will become the state point of contact, fielding inquiries, monitoring sub-grantees, and providing technical assistance with local/county and tribal nations wanting to establish a local citizen corps council.

On behalf of the Governor and Lt. Governor, the State Coordinator for Homeland Security sent a letter, on December 20, 2002, to all elected officials in Nebraska's 93 counties explaining the availability of Emergency Operation Plans, Citizen Corps and CERT grants, and encouraging the development of local Citizen Corps Councils. Citizen Corps stories are prepared and disseminated to the public in the Agency publication, THE BEACON, published monthly on-line.

NEMA has entered into an agreement with the Lincoln/Lancaster County Emergency Management Director, who will coordinate CERT training for the State of Nebraska. The training will be at no cost to local governments. The local emergency management directors are the facilitating point for bringing the CERT training into their communities. All local jurisdictions have been notified of the availability of the training.

NEVADA

FEMA State Grant: \$249,313

The State of Nevada is working through its Committee on Homeland Security as the State Citizen Corps Council. The Committee plans to work with the Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) to establish the Citizens Corps Council's statewide. The LEPCs have been a volunteer organization in Nevada since 1987, with each County participating. The plan is to have each LEPC establish one or more Council's within their jurisdictions.

Clark County (Las Vegas) has a "model" Council, which is very active in the community and is a highly important Council for the State. The Clark Country Health Department received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.



NEW HAMPSHIRE

FEMA State Grant: \$212,393

The New Hampshire (NH) State Citizen Corps Council was formed on November 25, 2002 by Volunteer NH!, the State's Resource on Volunteerism. A Task Force comprised of members of the VNH! Board of Directors and NH's Homeland Security Americorps VISTA Volunteer, and supported by NH's Office of Emergency Management, developed the framework for a State Council that will assume the State's role in the development of Citizen Corps programs. New Hampshire has scheduled its first State Citizens Corps Council meeting for mid-February 2003.

The creation of the Council was anticipated and developed under plans outlined in NH's Unified State Plan (USP). Under this Plan, creation of a State Council and corresponding local/regional Councils and Citizen Corps program will fulfill NH's volunteer goals in response to the President's call to improve the nation's volunteer involvement in Homeland Security.

With the establishment of the State Council as point-of-contact for local and regional assistance in developing Citizen Corps programs, activity in 2003 will be brisk. Work is in progress to create:

- in Derry, a regional Citizen Corps Council and Medical Reserve Corps spearheaded by Greater Derry Community Health Services, Inc.;
- in Hampton, a regional Citizen Corps Council;
- in Littleton, a regional Citizens Corps Council and Medical Reserve Corps under the leadership of the North Country Health Consortium, Inc.;
- in the Bristol area, under the direction of an association of Fire Chiefs led by Chief Norman Skantze, a CERT to serve the Bristol/Newfound area; and
- Statewide, a collaboration of distance learning assets, spearheaded by Keene State College and the Granite State Distance Learning Network, to provide "one-stop shopping" training access for local Councils and Citizen Corps programs.

Planned information forums include:

- Facilitating an informational panel dedicated to Citizen Corps Programs in New England at the New England Homeland Security Conference, April 29, 2003, in Manchester, NH.
- Presentation of a workshop on Citizen Corps Councils and CERTs at the New Hampshire Governor's Conference on Volunteerism, in May 2003.
- Local workshops statewide on establishing Citizen Corps Councils and implementing Citizen Corps initiatives.

Additional initiatives planned this year under the USP include:

- Development of a Corps of Volunteer Professionals committed to disaster preparedness drawn from 11 primary professions: Funeral Directors, CPAs, Heavy Equipment Operators, Public Relations Professionals, Volunteer Managers, Psychologists, Veterinarians, Medical Personnel, Structural Engineers and IT Professionals.



- Creation of a training and exercise program designed to increase retention and recruitment of New Hampshire's volunteers.
- Adapt an existing American Red Cross disaster preparedness curriculum for statewide delivery to urban and rural seniors and young children.
- Production of a model plan for managing untrained and unsolicited volunteers during a disaster, to be distributed to local Councils and other emergency response professionals.

NEW JERSEY

FEMA State Grant: \$527,375

The New Jersey State Citizen Corps Council has been formed. New Jersey is exploring a partnership with AmeriCorps to provide volunteer personnel to assist with the development and training aspects of forming Councils at the County and local level throughout the State. Currently, 14 Local Citizen Corps Councils have been formed. The New Jersey Office of Emergency Management is maintaining lines of communication with these groups.

Plans for the rollout of the Citizen Corps initiative include providing State Police personnel that have attended the Emergency Management Institute's "train-the-trainer" program to support statewide Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. Also being researched and developed is an equipment pack to be issued to CERT-trained personnel statewide to both identify and assist personnel with their duties and responsibilities as assigned in a response situation.

The New Jersey Department of Education received a \$248,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant. New Jersey's location close to New York City, along with the density and diversity of its population, make it a possible target for terrorist attacks. The grant will be used by the New Jersey Department of Education to establish the New Jersey Secure Corps, a statewide initiative with the main objective of creating and activating a Volunteer Organization Active in Disasters (VOAD) in each of the state's 21 counties. Each VOAD will function as the central coordination unit for disasters and emergencies. Members will make at least 20 community presentations to teach residents about bioterrorism and the ways in which they can prepare as a community for a bioterrorist attack. In addition, members will create a statewide database that will link all volunteers who have expressed an interest in becoming involved in disaster preparedness with organizations in the area, according to the volunteer's skills, availability, and geographic location.

The Bayonne Medical Center received \$49,019, the County of Middlesex received \$50,000, and the Bergen Country Department of Health received \$50,000 in DHHS grants for Medical Reserve Corps.

Cherry Hill, NJ

The community of Cherry Hill is beginning a CERT training session, with participants including members of the NJ State Police. It is a 16-week course, and starts in late January. Also, a Citizen Corps Council will be started within the next couple of weeks.



NEW MEXICO

FEMA State Grant: \$237,241

The New Mexico Citizen Corps Council was formed under the guidance of the previous Secretary of Public Safety. Due to the change in leadership, new Administrators and new members for the State's Citizen Corps Council will be selected in the near future. As more information became available from the federal level throughout the year, New Mexico started to develop its strategy and approach to this program. New Mexico is starting essentially a new program, as none of its communities had established CERT programs and a very few have had Neighborhood Watch Programs.

Its first priority in 2003 is to name the new State Point of Contact, and select new members for the State Citizen Corps Council, in order to have the high level of commitment necessary to support this program. We have already started to do outreach work with local jurisdictions, and are currently developing suggested funding criteria to assure an equitable means of distributing grant funds that support the program. This will be provided to the State Council when it is re-established.

Santa Fe, NM

A CERT Train-the-Trainer Course was conducted in Santa Fe, in September 2002, training 25 students, including 13 Native Americans and 12 students from local jurisdictions or State staff.

NEW YORK

FEMA State Grant: 986,293

New York is exploring a partnership with VISTA to provide volunteers at the county level to assist with the development of local and county councils and CERT training throughout New York State. Four Regional Citizen Corps Representatives, who are promoting and organizing Citizen Corps/CERT, have been hired under a Corporation for National Service Grant and are assigned to the State Emergency Management Agency's sub-offices located around the State

By the third week of January 2003 a proposed Executive Order was submitted to the Executive Chamber of the Governor for approval and issuance designating the NYS Disaster Preparedness Commission as New York's "State Citizen Corps Council." The Commission consists of 22 agencies and the American Red Cross. Prior to submission, approval of the "Order" was obtained from the Commission's Chairman and the executive agencies. Furthermore, the Governor enhanced the visibility and stature of State level preparedness activities by creating a State Director of Disaster Preparedness and Response and appointing his Director of State Operations to the position.

Council members are engaged in the following activities: the creation of a four panel Citizen Corps brochure for distribution to the public; final development of the State's Citizen Corp website; and preparation of the grant application package for the local share of the supplemental funds to implement local Citizen Corps Councils.



Using a \$293,760 CNCS Homeland Security grant, the New York State Corps Collaboration will engage 36 AmeriCorps members to develop an infrastructure to address disaster preparation, mitigation, and response in the smaller towns in New York State. Some 36 members will serve in teams of 12 members each in three areas. In Component 1, 12 members assigned to host sites at Red Cross chapters across the state will assist Red Cross personnel and volunteers in emergency preparedness and receive training in Shelter Operations and Mass Care. In Component 2, 12 members will work to develop and strengthen Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster in 12 areas to be determined by the Red Cross; members will survey existing resources and help build a database for local emergency management. In Component 3, 12 members will serve in one of the group's existing youth corps to identify, recruit, screen, and facilitate the training of 500 local volunteers.

Using a \$248,087 CNCS Homeland Security grant, the Valley will work with the AmeriCorps Public Safety Program, to place members within the central administrative office and at firehouses of the New York Fire Department, allowing firefighters to attend to other urgent needs. The members will also promote public and fire safety awareness through community and school presentations, and forge relationships between the fire department and local communities by assisting with the department's minority recruitment efforts and outreach to people of color.

The Broome County Health Department, Nassau Country Department of Health, and the Northern Metropolitan Health Care Foundation in Newburgh each received \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grants. The Livingston Country Department of Health also received a \$36,900 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

New York City, NY and the Greater New York Area

New York City established a Citizen Corps Council under the coordination of New York's City's Office of Emergency Management on January 10, 2003.

The American Red Cross in Greater New York received a \$500,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant to recruit and train 310 leaders who will mobilize 5,000 coordinated volunteers with the ability to respond quickly, appropriately, and in effective ways should a disaster or another act of terrorism occur. For the training of leaders and mobilization of volunteers, the collaborative project will utilize the New York State Emergency Management Office, New York State Offices for Aging, the New York State Commission on National and Community Service, Retired and Senior Volunteer Programs of New York, Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster, and the New York State Department of Education. The goal is to strengthen homeland security, log 3,600,000 hours of volunteer service in one year, and create Citizen Corps Councils.

Using a \$484,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant, the Center for Court Innovation will enhance homeland security by assisting criminal justice officials (police, probation officers, judges) as they perform their duties by working directly with victims and by engaging local residents in solving neighborhood public safety problems. The project



expands the New York Red Hook Public Safety Corps into other areas of New York City to create the New York City Public Safety Corps.

Forty full-time AmeriCorps members will address five principal objectives: to free up police, prosecutors and court staff to focus on pressing duties; to provide critical manpower support in case of an emergency; to address conditions of disorder that, if left unchecked, create a climate where crime would flourish; to build partnerships between criminal justice agencies and neighborhood residents, generating substantial neighborhood volunteers; and to be a visible presence in neighborhoods to communicate that someone who cares and helps is always nearby. Members will help identify community security concerns, develop new solutions to these concerns, and recruit volunteers to participate in projects addressing these concerns.

The Pace University Community and Volunteer Mobilization AmeriCorps program received a \$247,973 CNCS Homeland Security grant to recruit and train members and volunteers dedicated to the recovery and rehabilitation of the downtown and Chinatown areas of New York City that were devastated on September 11. Members will help build sustainable infrastructure in three areas:

- Public Health and Public Safety Training Program Infrastructure, in which members will help fire and police departments and local hospitals create a disaster/emergency plan for the downtown area, conduct community asset mapping to determine existing services, and create a public health and public safety manual;
- Web Volunteer Bulletin Board/Technical and Community Training Network/Infrastructure, in which members will create a web network that will serve as a clearinghouse to help the downtown community identify volunteers to help with post-September 11 activities and serve as a quick response communication network for future needs; and
- English as a Second Language activities, in which members will help improve the English language skills of area immigrants so that they can understand when there is an emergency, how to respond, and how to help others who do not speak English. Additionally, this activity will help community residents with job application skills, a particular need as 25 percent of community residents lost jobs due to September 11.

NORTH CAROLINA

FEMA State Grant: \$514,377

An Executive Order creating North Carolina's State Citizen Corps Council has been signed. Charter members of the State Council have been selected and have received a letter of invitation from the Governor. The Council will include state leadership from law enforcement, fire, emergency medical and public health services, emergency management, the private sector, special populations, and volunteer organizations/agencies. A draft mission statement and charge for the State Council have



been created, as well as a draft mission statement for Citizen Corps in North Carolina. These will be addressed in the first meeting of the State Council.

In addition to the State Council and local councils, preliminary meetings have taken place to create a statewide Hispanic Citizen Corps Council and a Junior Citizen Corps Council.

Since the Governor issued a press release officially announcing and endorsing Citizen Corps in North Carolina, the state POC has granted eight radio interviews including a 30-minute live-taped program, a live one-hour call-in program, and a one-hour interview (off-air) with NPR. A total of 14 formal presentations have been made to potential Citizen Corps Councils and other organizations/agencies, including the state conference of the NC Crime Prevention Association. Eight presentations to potential Citizen Corps Councils have already been scheduled for 2003, with others to be scheduled. A tabletop display, banners and brochures have been developed for use at statewide conferences.

The Citizen Corps Council in Charlotte is planning a Media Day on February 10, 2003 to officially kick-off Citizen Corps in that area. Among those invited to attend the event are U.S. Representative Sue Myrick and the state POC for Citizen Corps.

The North Carolina Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service received a \$119,900 CNCS Homeland Security grant to engage 2,000 volunteers to support homeland security and disaster relief activities statewide. The Commission will recruit 100 volunteer coordinators who will, in turn, recruit volunteers to serve locally and/or be deployed to a disaster site within the state. In addition, 15 volunteer coordinators will be trained for deployment to a disaster site. A statewide volunteer management database will be created to support the mobilization of volunteers. The Commission plans to launch a public awareness campaign on volunteerism that will be utilized to generate public interest in volunteer opportunities throughout North Carolina.

NORTH DAKOTA

FEMA State Grant: \$185,159

Governor Hoeven and the Director of the Division of Emergency Management announced the formation of the North Dakota Citizen Corps Council on January 15, 2003. First Lady Mikey L. Hoeven will chair the Council and oversee 14 charter members in the creation of local volunteer Community Citizen Corps Councils. Council members include the State's Indian Affairs Commission, the Rural Development Commission, the Police Chiefs Association, the Fire Chiefs Association, the State Fire Marshal, the Firefighters Association, the Medical Association, the Emergency Management Association, the Association of Counties, the Peace Officers Association, the National Guard Family Readiness Program, the Voluntary Organizations Active In Disaster, the EMS Association, and the 911 Association.

Funding for this initiative was provided by a Federal grant from FEMA and administered by the North Dakota Division of Emergency Management. The North Dakota League of Cities will coordinate the North Dakota Citizen Corps training program.



The initial concentration of the program will be establishing local Citizen Corps Councils. Once these Councils are launched and needs identified, training will begin. CERT training will focus on train-the-trainer courses. After CERT instructors are identified and trained, CERT courses will be conducted at the community level.

The ND Citizen Corps Council sent five people to the CERT Training session in Denver last week. They represented the Cities of Minot and Wahpeton and the ND League of Cities.

The United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck is assisting North Dakota Indian Tribes in establishing Citizen Corps Councils and providing the means to carry out CERT training. A website, www.ndlc.org, has been initiated to provide more information on the program.

OHIO

FEMA State Grant: \$653,325

The State of Ohio Security Task Force established the Ohio Citizen Corps Council (OCCC) in October 2002. The OCCC has met twice and plans to meet on a monthly basis for the near future. The OCCC is composed of representatives from the Emergency Management Association of Ohio, the Ohio Community Service Council, Department of Health, Ohio EMA, Emergency Medical Services, National Guard, State Highway Patrol, State Fire Marshall, VOAD, Ohio Volunteer Center Association, Ohio Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, and the Director's Association. OCCC is also seeking representatives from education, business, agriculture and the media.

OCCC is promoting the formation of statewide county Citizen Corps Councils, researching credentialing and liability and has approved an "Ohioanized" version of a start-up guide for local Citizen Corps Councils.

The Ohio Community Service Council received a \$450,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant. With these funds and the FEMA grant, OCCC plans to fund one Lead Volunteer Center in each of the nine EMA regions to promote and assist in the formation of local Citizen Corps Councils; provide training/technical assistance to first responder organizations in volunteer program management; and, recruit and connect volunteers for identified volunteer positions.

OKLAHOMA

FEMA State Grant: \$308,342

Currently, Oklahoma has 32 Citizen Corps Councils. On December 12, 2002, the Homeland Security Chief gave a presentation of the Oklahoma Citizens Corp/CERT Program at a 4-corners meeting (Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas, and Kansas), with approximately 50 people attending.

On January 11, 2003, the Human Services Chief, ODCEM, gave a Citizen Corps presentation at a N.W. Oklahoma Regional meeting. The meeting was held in Woodard, with 90 people in attendance, including 10 County Commissioners, 4 Mayors, and



representatives from emergency management, law enforcement and the fire fighting communities.

It is anticipated that the State Department directors will undergo significant revision, due to a change in political leadership with the January 13, 2003, inauguration of Governor Brad Henry. Oklahoma's State Council will be formed after all of the appointments have been made.

Bartlesville, OK

In early January 2003, a train-the-trainer meeting was held in Bartlesville; 20 people were trained. This will be the first class to have background checks and receive the new statewide ID badges.

Tulsa, OK

The City of Tulsa expanded Tulsa Project Impact to include the Mayor's Citizen Corps and the Tulsa Partners, Inc. These are a triad of programs that work together to create a disaster-resistant community. One of their key projects under this umbrella is the creation of "Safe and Secure" teams of volunteers in neighborhoods, businesses, and agencies.

The City of Tulsa received a \$275,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant to develop and implement a citywide volunteer mobilization strategy to meet the city's needs in the event of a disaster. Community units will be created in order to connect people within a community and assist neighborhoods in becoming safe and secure in public safety, public health, and disaster preparedness and relief. The community units will, among other activities, assess vulnerabilities, educate the public about the multi-ethnic fabric of the community, and fill the volunteer needs of emergency and police response agencies. A Language and Culture Bank will be established, providing language translation required by official first responders. The city will also create a process to mobilize volunteers for disaster response.

The Tulsa Project Impact Foundation also received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

OREGON

FEMA State Grant: \$308,898

The Oregon State Council Committee will hold its first meeting on January 30, 2003. A state grant strategy has been developed and is under implementation. A concerted outreach effort with Tribes has been initiated, with tribal representation at the State Kickoff Meeting encouraged. The single, statewide LEPC is also being encouraged to participate on the Oregon State Citizen Corps Council.

Oregon Emergency Management is conducting Citizen Corps outreach meetings across the State and through local emergency managers, continually encouraging local council development.



Serving with the Oregon Trail Chapter of the American Red Cross, which received a \$136,392 CNCS Homeland Security grant, 11 AmeriCorps members will respond to disasters, recruit and train disaster responders, teach community disaster preparation and health and safety classes, and mobilize 400 new volunteers who will provide 1,500 hours of service. During the first year of implementation, sites for the AmeriCorps members will be at Oregon Red Cross Chapters, and the plan is to expand outside of the Red Cross in the future. AmeriCorps members will be serving directly with local community- and faith-based organizations.

The Lane County Medical Society and the Multnomah County Health Department each received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps Grant.

Warm Springs Indian Reservation

The Warm Springs Indian Reservation is hosting a Tribal CERT Train-the-Trainer course in the near future.

PENNSYLVANIA

FEMA State Grant: \$693,153

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is continuing to develop its formal structure for Pennsylvania Citizen Corps under the new leadership of Gov. Ed Rendell, which will include the establishment of a Pennsylvania Citizen Corps Council and the coordination of state and federal programs.

While developing our statewide Citizen Corps plan, the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) has trained Community Emergency Response Teams in 63 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties. The state agency is working with the counties to provide municipal training before June 30, 2003.

In order to support the creation of local Citizen Corps Councils, PEMA is providing supplemental 2002 federal funding to each county to develop a countywide strategic plan for implementing Citizen Corps activities within the county. The elements of the strategic plan will include a process to establish Citizen Corps Councils within the county's municipalities; a process to identify and provide technical assistance and support to those municipalities and to promote and expand citizen corps activities; a method to track Citizen Corps activities; a process to increase cooperation and collaboration between first responder organizations, emergency management offices, volunteer service groups and organizations, and other interested parties; an outline of an outreach and public education program to promote Citizen Corps activities and community preparedness and family safety measures; and a proposed list of county and/or municipal training events or exercises that support Citizen Corps Council activities.

A number of local Citizens Corp initiatives continue to be developed, to include the Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology in Lancaster, which received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant, and the American Red Cross--Southeast Pennsylvania Chapter, which received a \$323,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant to create an alliance



of over 100 nonprofits in the Greater Philadelphia area to form the Southeastern Pennsylvania Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster.

Bedford County, PA

The Bedford County Citizen Corps Council has earned success by partnering with the Jr. ROTC Program, in a combined effort of two high schools. A rural community watch has also been started, helping people in the community become more aware of their surroundings.

PUERTO RICO

FEMA Territory Grant: \$324,895

In January, a request was submitted to the Governor of Puerto Rico for approval and official announcement of the Puerto Rico Citizen Corps Council. It is anticipated the Puerto Rico State Citizen Corps Council will be formally established in February, 2003. Approximately 40 Local Citizen Corps Councils have already been established. To implement Citizen Corps, PRSEMA intends to segment Puerto Rico into 11 regions. CERT trainers and, working with the Puerto Rico / Virgin Islands State Director for CNCS, 2 Vista Volunteers will be assigned to each of the 11 sub regions. PRSEMA has also hired a full-time coordinator for Puerto Rico Citizen Corps.

PRSEMA is working closely with Puerto Rico VOAD and VISTA volunteers will also be assigned to PRSEMA to help reach out to the local communities, help establish local Citizen Corps Councils and promote/assist CERT training.

As of January 27, 2003, Puerto Rico has trained 2,761 citizens in CERT and PRSEMA has developed an aggressive CERT training schedule for the coming year. Trainings are expected to be held in Jayuya, Cidra, Lares, Guayama, Dorado, Juncos and Aguas Buenas by the end of February 2003. And additional trainings are expected to be held in Carolina, Hatillo, and Camuy by the end of May 2003. PRSEMA is also exploring the possibility of training all current CNCS AmeriCorps and Senior Volunteers (approximately 350) as well as future volunteers in the CERT Trainer-to-Trainer program.

PRSEMA offered to host the Region II Citizen Corps meeting tentatively scheduled for March/April 2003.

RHODE ISLAND

FEMA State Grant: \$203,663

The State of Rhode Island has implemented a statewide Citizen Corps effort as an arm of the State Domestic Preparedness Committee, with the Red Cross of Rhode Island designated as the lead volunteer agency. The work of Citizen Corps in Rhode Island is conducted through the Emergency Management Agency structure, with volunteer agencies partnering with emergency managers and first responders in the local community.



The Rhode Island program is based on community-wide education, training and exercises. The training program is a continuum, from CPR for very large numbers to comprehensive CERT classes for smaller numbers of strategically placed volunteers. The Department of Health has aggressively undertaken the Medical Reserve Corps for the State and is in the planning stage of implementation. Efforts are underway to educate local communities on successful community policing models that already exist, such as the Citizen Police Academy in West Warwick. Successful, no-notice exercise programs for the full range of emergencies and disasters are ongoing throughout the State.

A volunteer recently conducted a very successful hurricane exercise on Aquidneck Island. In South County, "Seniors Helping Others," has taken the lead in collaboration with the local emergency manager and has a full schedule of classes underway in disaster preparedness and life saving. In the Providence City Schools, an age-appropriate, standards-based curriculum entitled "Masters of Disaster" has been implemented in the Providence City Schools.

Citizen Corps is being launched "one community at a time" in collaboration with the State Adjutant General, the affected community emergency manager and the Chair of the State Citizen Corps Council. Each community kick-off has included significant amounts of publicity and resulted in large numbers of people volunteering. The local emergency manager has been in the loop since the outset, which has helped sustain interest in the Citizen Corps activity.

Along the southern coast of Rhode Island, in South County, "Seniors Helping Others" has taken the lead in collaboration with the local emergency management agency and has a full schedule of classes underway in disaster preparedness and life saving. The Providence City Schools has implemented "Masters of Disaster," an age-appropriate, standards-based curriculum for middle school children.

SOUTH CAROLINA

FEMA State Grant: \$334,625

Using a \$297,476 CNCS Homeland Security grant, the 25-member South Carolina AmeriCorps Defense Brigade will work with the South Carolina Military Department. The AmeriCorps members will identify and prepare 600 volunteers to deliver homeland defense services to individuals and communities in an effort to increase public awareness about potential threats to homeland security, as well as develop and manage a database of volunteers.

SOUTH DAKOTA

FEMA State Grant: \$190,484

South Dakota is in the process of forming the State Citizens Corps Council, possibly as soon as February 2003. Once formed, the Council will be responsible for drafting the statewide Citizen Corps implementation strategy, developing a marketing campaign, and possibly assist in approving local Citizen Corps funding applications.



While no local Citizen Corps Councils currently exist, the City of Sioux Falls has a well-established and well-organized CERT team. More than 160 citizens are CERT-trained, and the City is working to establish 40 caches of emergency supplies throughout the City. Its goal is to have 1,000 citizens trained in CERT. The Cities of Watertown, Lead/Deadwood, and Mitchell have expressed an interest in establishing CERT teams.

TENNESSEE

FEMA State Grant: \$407,734

To date, Tennessee has 12 Citizen Corps Councils formed, including The Governor's Citizen Corps Advisory Committee, and three trained Community Emergency Response Teams to support emergency operations. The Governor's Citizen Corps Advisory Committee was created by an Executive Order signed by Governor Don Sundquist on Sept. 11, 2002. This Committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Governor, the Deputy of Homeland Security and to Citizen Corps Councils at the local level. The Governor's Citizen Corps Committee had its first quarterly meeting in December and its two Honorary Chairs, former Governors Bryant Winfield Culberson Dunn (1971-1975) and Ned Rae McWherter (1987-1995), were present.

The Tennessee Office of Homeland Security is responsible for the Citizen Corps program and the programs under its umbrella. The Office is working to maximize the number of Citizen Corps Councils throughout the State, and the mobilization of 1,000 volunteers a year is also a primary focus for the program. Partners include the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA), which administers the CERT program for the State has two train-the-trainer courses scheduled this week -- training approximately 80 CERT instructors from across Tennessee's three regions. Local homeland security councils, LEPCs, and disaster response organizations are assisting in identifying opportunities for various kinds of volunteers to support homeland security.

The Tennessee Commission on National and Community Service will use its \$150,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant to fortify the statewide homeland security infrastructure by developing and strengthening relationships with local councils and statewide disaster agencies. Specifically, this funding is being used to secure additional staff at Tennessee's Office of Homeland Security, Volunteer Memphis, and the Tennessee Commission on National and Community Service. Because of these additional staff members, Citizen Corps efforts are being endorsed throughout Tennessee, a VOAD is being formed in the Memphis area, and national service programs are developing emergency preparedness/emergency response plans.

Roane County, TN

Roane County understands the importance of disaster preparedness and disaster response and the importance of volunteers' participation. Not only does Roane County have two of the three Oakridge Department of Energy (DOE) facilities inside its borders, the Oak Ridge National Laboratory X-10 and the East Tennessee Technology Park K-25, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) also has a fossil fuel plant located in the County that uses three 36,000 gallon anhydrous ammonia tanks.



Roane County is using its Medical Reserve Corps to augment the shortfall in health department employees for the area's smallpox mass vaccination clinic plan. Roane County first geared up its Medical Reserve Corps efforts in early December 2002. Already, approximately 150 volunteers have joined.

The Roane County Emergency Management Agency is in the process of beginning the CERT program. Not only will the County's Director of Emergency Management attend the CERT train-the-trainer course this week, the agency has begun working with the County's LEPC to develop a partnership between the Roane County Citizens Corps and the various industries in the area. After having approached different industries in the area and receiving such an overwhelming response, local industries will be given the opportunity to offer CERT training to employees. The VIPS program and Neighborhood Watch are also being established, with the Kingston City Police Department recruiting more than 10 business sponsors for the program.

TEXAS

FEMA State Grant: \$1,087,156

State council formation should be complete by the mid-February 2003. The Office of the Governor has met with interested statewide partners and consulted with representatives of regional and local governments in regard to its membership. The State Council will have members drawn from various regions of the State representing public safety organizations, local government elected officials, and volunteer groups. State-level organizations represented include the Governor's Office, regional councils of governments, the Governor's Division of Emergency Management (DEM), and the Texas Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service.

Texas is taking a regional approach in order to encourage participation from local officials in determining the highest priorities for their regions, as well as to encourage multi-jurisdictional cooperation in Citizen Corps programs. The Texas Association of Regional Councils and its 24 councils of governments encourage, verify, and track the formation of local Citizen Corps Councils. Supplemental subgrants will be based on criteria established by the State council.

There are currently seven recognized local Citizen Corps Councils in Texas and expressions of interest in becoming a registered local Corps Council have come from the City of Austin /Travis County where two formation meetings have been held, from San Antonio/Bexar County, from the Beaumont/Port Arthur Orange region, and from individual suburban cities in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

By March 1, 2003, DEM is prepared to begin 2-week courses for CERT trainers. These train-the-trainer courses will be scheduled in each of the 24 Governor's State Planning Regions. In cooperation with the councils of governments, Texas DEM will promote and provide these training opportunities in order to build capacity in each region of the state for training local CERT teams.



Harris County, TX

Harris County Citizen Corps formed in 2002 and has demonstrated progress in bringing varied interests together, establishing a partnership for accepting volunteers and directing them to Citizen Corps component activities as well as to other volunteer opportunities. The Harris County Citizen Corps (www.harriscountycitizencorps.com) organized in a unique way. The Corps recruits and registers volunteers throughout the community, keeps volunteers up-to-date with Citizen Corps news, tracks volunteer hours and rewards volunteers for their service, including volunteer service with existing organizations, such as the local chapters of the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, Volunteer Houston, and the United Way.

We did not recreate the wheel or create an expensive bureaucracy. This has allowed us to start the Harris County Citizen Corps with local funding. The Corps gives credit for all types of volunteer work, however, the choices for volunteer work on our website were narrowed to disaster preparedness to focus on the threat of terrorism. To improve their volunteer response, Harris County is writing a disaster plan for non-profit volunteer organizations that will better organize their activities and coordinate their plans with those already in place for first responders.

The Harris County Hospital District also received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

Austin, TX

The City of Austin received a \$400,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant and the Office of Emergency Management will use these funds to coordinate 300 volunteers to form the volunteer teams of Disaster Ready Austin, and to expand the Austin Police Department's Civil Defense volunteer program by 200 volunteers. The emergency management office will develop a long-term corps of volunteers who will provide direct emergency management services to the community. The Austin Police Department currently has a force of 100 Civil Defense volunteers. The Civil Defense expansion will support airport police by providing supplemental security, assisting in duties that do not require a peace officer's license, and preparing for mobilization in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. Some partners in the project are the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, Senior and Law Enforcement Together, Neighborhood Advocates for Emergency Preparedness, and Austin Area Inter-religious Ministries.

Rowlett, TX

In support of Citizen Corps, Larry Wright, Fire Chief at Rowlett Fire Rescue, reports:

“The year before 9-11 our fire rescue department saw a need for involvement by the citizens of Rowlett to assist us in major emergency incidents that would otherwise overwhelm public safety. Initially we involved the local RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) group to coordinate and provide alternative communications. On two separate incidents, we activated them to assist public safety with communications. From this grew the idea to involve them



and other citizens to be on call and respond to major fire or police incidents to provide rehabilitation at the scene.

The idea behind this was to get the citizens involved to the point that we could develop teams in specific geographic areas of the city that would have the training to handle initial requirements during an emergency. We had not thought of terrorism, but in terms of natural disasters, like tornadoes. The response was great. We identified 24 geographic areas in the city where teams could be assigned. I sent two RACES personnel to the CERT "Train the Trainer" program at Emmitsburg.

Currently we are in the middle of our first class to train the trainers that are going to train the teams in those geographic areas. We are really excited about the prospect of having trained personnel in each area. These people will be recruited from their own neighborhoods, and the goal is to have them intimately involved with their particular neighborhood. We will train them to do damage assessment, recognize landing zones for medivac, know evacuation routes, have basic first aid, understand triage, and a variety of other areas of training. A RACES person will be assigned to each area as a communications liaison to our central public safety communications.

Two years ago we had an idea, and now it is starting to come together. 9-11 may have been a trigger for some communities, but we had already started the ball rolling before that incident. It is important that all citizens invest in the safety of their community, and I think that Rowlett is showing that our citizens have that buy-in. Whether it be a terrorism incident or a severe weather event, it is obvious that in the initial hours one's local authority will be overwhelmed, and it will be up to the citizens to fill the gap.”

UTAH

FEMA State Grant: \$256,451

Utah formed its statewide Citizen Corps Council on the basis of an existing organization, Utah Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (UVOAD). The Utah Citizen Corps Council is working with the Utah Commission on Volunteers to coordinate efforts and implement a State strategy for Citizen Corps programs, in line with Utah's Unified State Plan for National and Community Service.

Utah has been exceptionally involved in the CERT program since 1994. More than 660 CERT courses have been presented in Utah since March 1994, and more than 12,600 citizens have participated in CERT training. In 2002, approximately 1,500 citizens received CERT training, and in 2003, Utah expects to train 5,000 additional citizens in CERT. The Utah Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security will conduct four CERT Trainer qualification courses on a regional and local basis, and eight CERT refresher courses for existing teams.



VERMONT

FEMA State Grant: \$184,227

The Vermont Emergency Response Commission serves as the State Citizen Corps Council and is in the process of developing a strategy to disseminate Citizen Corps/CERT funding throughout the state.

Southwestern Vermont Health Care in Bennington received a \$50,000 DHHS Medical Reserve Corps grant.

VIRGIN ISLANDS

FEMA Territory Grant: \$57,235

The Virgin Islands Territorial Citizen Corps Council was established in December 2002. The Council consists of 14 members with the purpose of having all decision makers at the table to manage volunteer resources, leverage mutually supportive endeavors, and direct the overall local plans to implement Citizen Corps Council in the community. A vigorous campaign for recruiting members has been launched, and will continue until volunteer needs are met. Membership is planned to triple by June 2003.

Plans are in place to establish two other councils, the St. Thomas/ St. John district council and the St. Croix district council before the end of 2003. Each district will be independent of each other, and will run its own recruitment and operation.

The Virgin Islands has developed a CERT brochure, Citizen Corps Council application, CERT volunteer handbook and the CERT volunteer hold-harmless agreement document for the CERT program launch. About 25 FEMA certified trainers are planned to assist in training CERT volunteers, scheduled for February 2003.

VIRGINIA

FEMA State Grant: \$470,846

The Virginia Corps State Council was formed on December 2, 2002. The Governor has chosen not to issue Executive Orders, but rather invite members of the Council with letters of invitation. Highlights from last year include the launch of Virginia Corps on Sept. 9, 2002. The web site, at www.virginiacorps.org, links Virginians directly with all the components of the Citizen Corps programs. Citizens key in their county or city and get a point of contact for their locality for each program chosen. Under Public Safety Volunteers in Virginia, is a database of all fire departments, police/sheriff departments, rescue squads/EMS providers and search and rescue organizations that use volunteers.

Governor Warner attended a CERT class simulation in Hampton, and learned how to use a fire extinguisher, rescue people trapped under debris, and conduct disaster triage. His visit generated significant media coverage. He plans on attending CERT training courses around the State. Virginia held four CERT train-the-trainer courses last summer and trained over 150 people on how to conduct the course. In a period of 4 months, Virginia increased its membership from zero to a current total of 16 Councils. Many others are in process. Governor Warner sent an email to the 1,900 Virginians who signed up on the



Citizen Corps Web site, telling them about Virginia Corps and our links to local Citizen Corps opportunities.

Virginia is in the process of developing a comprehensive strategic 3-year plan for Virginia Corps/Citizen Corps, with measurable results. We are strongly marketing to local governments to promote the program and their involvement, and are now developing plans for the public. They are also administering the Citizen Corps grant program. There is a strong emphasis on collaboration among fire, law enforcement, EMS, emergency management, private non-profits, faith-based and business sectors.

Localities throughout Virginia are continually urged to establish Citizen Corps Councils. Citizen Corps grants will be awarded competitively, and any locality interested in being considered for the grant funding (CCC or CERT) must have a Citizen Corps Council in place. The Council's role is paramount in making Citizen Corps a comprehensive and coordinated program that will be effective and sustainable.

In reaction to the October 2002, D.C. area sniper attacks, a woman emailed the Virginia Corps-Citizen Corps Director, stating that:

"I am very interested in setting up a local Citizen Corp group in Fredericksburg/Stafford. I am incredibly disturbed by recent events, and I believe that evil exists because of the apathy of the good. I am through with being complacent. I am going to try and rally the troops around here so our children aren't afraid of waiting for their school bus alone. Any help is appreciated. It's the apathy of the good that lets evil flourish. I'm tired of being afraid – I want to get involved."

She stated that she was afraid to let her children get on the bus in the morning and wanted to do something to make her community safer. She asked how she could get involved with Citizen Corps efforts in her area. Officials from the Commonwealth of Virginia linked her with the emergency management representatives in Stafford County and the City of Fredericksburg. The Commonwealth has been working with the County to encourage the establishment of a Citizen Corps Council and to provide CERT training, to better prepare citizens in these communities against threats.

WASHINGTON

FEMA State Grant: \$418,543

On June 19, 2002, the Executive Director of the Washington State Citizen Corps Council was appointed. The Governor designated the Washington State Commission on National and Community Service (WCNCS) to serve as the State Citizen Corps Council on January 30, 2003. Additional members will be named to the WCNCS/Citizen Corps Board of Directors soon. Two new Citizen Corps Councils have recently formed in Walla Walla and Kittitas Counties.



The State subgrant strategy was developed and is being implemented, and specific outreach to Tribes is being conducted. All jurisdictions receiving State funds are required to form a Council before expending any of the funds.

LEPCs are being encouraged to assume the local CC Council role if other local coordination bodies do not exist. A joint LEPCs-Citizen Corps conference with FEMA Region 10 is planned for late March 2003. By April 2003, one VISTA volunteer will be assigned to each of the State's Regional Homeland Security Coordination Districts (total of 9). An additional 16 VISTA volunteers will be assigned by year-end. Americorp positions will also be assigned to assist local councils.

Local elected officials in Kittitas County are enthusiastic about forming a Citizen Corps Council and are interested in hosting CERT training due to their central location in the State.

Pierce County, WA

Using a \$250,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant, the Pierce County Department of Emergency Management and Pierce County Sheriff's Department plan to expand the Pierce County Neighborhood Emergency Teams (PC-NET) to over 100 neighborhoods from the existing eight. PC-NET, a local adaptation of the national CERT teams, will expand in scope to include crime prevention and homeland security. The volunteers will be recruited and trained to serve as trainers of neighborhood residents in crime prevention, assessment and reporting of terrorist threats, and emergency response to disaster. The resident training will prepare neighborhoods be self-sufficient for up to 72 hours without professional emergency response.

Brier, Edmonds, Kenmore, Lynnwood, Mill Creek, Mountlake Terrace, and Woodway

The Emergency Services Coordinating Agency (ESCA), emergency management providers for the cities Brier, Edmonds, Kenmore, Lynnwood, Mill Creek, Mountlake Terrace, and Woodway, united several city-based community service programs into the Citizens Corps within a month of the President's State of the Union Address.

Taking advantage of the momentum created by President Bush's Freedom Corps announcement, ESCA quickly organized a news conference on February the second, 2002 to announce ESCA's participation in the Citizen Corps and to formally unite all local community service volunteer programs under the Citizen Corps umbrella.

Hosted by the Lynnwood Fire Department, news reporters from the local TV stations were met by more than 100 volunteers representing the CERT, Neighborhood Block Watch, Volunteers in Police Service, Citizens Patrol, and RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services) programs.

It was a grand event. The volunteers and Program Managers alike beamed with pride, fire truck bright work gleamed in the sun, and the excitement could be felt in the air. Many members of the previously independent city volunteer organizations portrayed themselves to reporters that day as the first members of the new Citizen Corps.



As the ESCA Citizen Corps program continued into 2002, the Citizen Corps Council membership solidified into a team consisting of a Mountlake Terrace City Council member, the Lynnwood Fire Department Assistant Chief, Crime Prevention Officers from Lynnwood, Edmonds, Mill Creek and Mountlake Terrace, and the ESCA emergency management staff.

These cities collectively offer several volunteer programs that include Citizens Patrol, Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS), Neighborhood Block Watch, CERT, and RACES. In response to President Bush's call to duty, Lyn Gross, ESCA Director and Citizen Corps Council member, accelerated the existing ESCA CERT training schedule to meet the President's goal to double the number of CERT graduates nationwide over the next 2 years.

Having met the White House and FEMA requirements, ESCA was the first organization with a registered Citizen Corps Council in Washington State on June 10, 2002.

To date, ESCA has graduated over 500 citizens from the CERT program. Many of these graduates, eager to stay active in CERT, continue to serve the public as our "ready" CERT Team. This cadre of 30 members continues to attend refresher and advanced training opportunities in emergency operations center operations, the Incident Command System, sandbagging operations, mass casualty incident management, light urban search and rescue, disaster medical operations, and disaster psychology. These team members are available around the clock to assist professional responders in disaster situations. Known as CERT Leaders, or among themselves, CERT "Ninjas", they will also serve as leaders of emergent CERT graduates working independently in neighborhoods. The CERT Leader program continues to expand as new training opportunities are developed and presented on a regular monthly schedule.

One mission area of the Citizen Corps Council is to plan public service events to further promote Citizen Corps volunteer opportunities. ESCA and the Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse in Lynnwood, Washington co-hosted a daylong Family Safety Fair on Saturday, September 7, 2002.

In addition to an ESCA Citizen Corps booth, other participants were:

- Local fire departments providing fire prevention and home safety displays and fire extinguishment demonstrations
- Local police departments, hosted by McGruff the Crime Dog, provided crime prevention literature and child fingerprinting services
- Washington State CrimeStoppers organization promoted their reward program for crime-solving information
- American Red Cross made available their first-aid and disaster preparedness supplies for sale to the public
- National Weather Service promoted their weather radio warning system and "Sky Spotter" program



- Snohomish County 911 displayed a bank of telephones that kids can use to practice calling 911. Off-duty dispatchers answer their questions.
- A FEMA representative was in attendance as the Citizen Corps federal representative.

The ESCA Citizens Corps program continues to gain a foothold in promoting public safety volunteer opportunities to give Americans more opportunities to answer President Bush's call for public service.

Seattle, WA

From the Seattle Times Local News, Friday, October 25, 2002, by staff columnist Jean Godden:

“Who needs medics when the Metropolitan King County [Citizen Corps] Council is on the job? For the second time in a month, council members leaped into action during an emergency. The first incident occurred when Councilman David Irons Jr. resuscitated a man who suffered an apparent heart attack during a meeting. Then last Friday, four council members, attending a Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce leadership conference in Vancouver, B.C., came to the rescue. They were heading to a dinner at the Law Court Inn on West Georgia Street when Councilwoman Kathy Lambert looked up and saw a man flying through the air. The man's motorcycle had been rear-ended. He became airborne before landing on the pavement.”

Ms. Lambert had taken CERT training the night before. She and Mr. Irons immediately provided assistance. Enlisting other spectators, Irons used first-aid training to lift the man onto the sidewalk. Meanwhile, council members Julia Patterson and Rob McKenna pulled the man's motorcycle from the street. When a passer-by told the injured cyclist to straighten his leg, Lambert, having just completed CERT training, remembered the importance of keeping the victim immobile, to keep him warm, and to talk to him. Finally, assured the ambulance was on its way, the council members left the man in the care of the hotel staff.

‘We just did what had to be done,’ Lambert says. But then she jokes, ‘Maybe we should just form a group to roam around rescuing people.’”

WEST VIRGINIA

FEMA State Grant: \$236,054

The State Citizen Corps Council was established in January 2003. Points of contact were established for 13 counties and the City of Charleston, making a total of 14 localities in place to form local Citizen Corps Councils. Definitive plans for implementing Citizen Corps have not yet been made. This will be a very high priority for the Council during their initial meetings. The remaining 42 counties in West Virginia will be provided guidance and assistance in establishing their own councils.



CERT training will be a major emphasis, initially, building a cadre of certified instructors and course managers who can provide the training to those citizens volunteering to participate in the program. We anticipate a very heavy training schedule during the summer and early fall. Trained citizens will be incorporated in the local emergency operations plans as the training is completed. Neighborhood Watch and the remaining Citizen Corps programs will be implemented in accordance with the abilities of each local council to manage them given the available local resources. As few of the local councils have yet meet, so it is too soon to forecast their implementation capabilities and strategies.

McDowell, Wyoming, and Raleigh Counties, WV

The Council on the Southern Mountains RSVP received a \$100,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant to implement a new RSVP project to serve the West Virginia counties of McDowell, Wyoming, and Raleigh. The project's 200 RSVP volunteers will be assigned roles in Neighborhood Watch/Public Safety activities, Health Education, Child Literacy, and Disaster Preparedness. Teams of volunteers will work with the Red Cross, National Guard, and FEMA to assist families in a faster recovery from disaster in a flood plain area of McDowell. The volunteers will establish Neighborhood Watches and seeks to reduce crime by 40 percent through education and training. Partners include law enforcement agencies, hospitals, rural healthcare clinics, physicians, pharmaceutical companies, education systems, AmeriCorps, West Virginia Extension Services, and emergency management services.

WISCONSIN

FEMA State Grant: \$392,994

Wisconsin elected a new Governor last fall, and is still exploring the formation of a State Citizen Corps Council. Two local councils, the Kenosha County Citizens Corps Council, and the LaCrosse County Citizen Corps, have recently been formed.

The Wisconsin Emergency Management staff, under its current funding commitment to FEMA, will be promoting the establishment of the Citizen Corps Program in the State, including program outreach and the administration of the Citizen Corps Council and CERT program. When a State Citizen Corps Council is established, the staff will be coordinating Citizen Corps Program activities with that Council to further program initiatives. In January 2003, as part of a statewide outreach process, county emergency management directors were sent a Citizens Corps information and application packet. Counties were also requested to forward this program and application information on to local jurisdictions officials within the county.

Racine County, WI

Using a \$100,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant, the Volunteer Center of Racine County will engage 237 community members as RSVP volunteers in order to provide support in areas of public safety, public health, and disaster preparedness and relief. A partial list of partners for the community wide effort include Volunteer Center of Racine, Racine County Emergency Management, Wisconsin Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, Neighborhood Watch, American Red Cross, schools, law enforcement, and the



fire department. The volunteers will provide homeland security awareness, assist with food distribution, and focus on transportation in the event of a disaster.

Winnebago and Green Lake Counties, WI

ADVOCAP, Inc. will use its \$125,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant to establish an RSVP in Winnebago and Green Lake Counties to utilize 250 volunteers in homeland security roles. Various teams of trained volunteers will provide recommendations to improve home security through home safety checks for elderly and disabled citizens, serve with TRIAD to provide outreach and safety information to citizens, and become trainers in disaster preparedness. Programs that will utilize the volunteers include TRIAD, Green Lake Sheriff's Office, the American Red Cross chapter, schools, Habitat for Humanity, meal sites, senior centers, and social service departments.

Milwaukee, WI

The Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee received a \$225,000 CNCS Homeland Security grant and will recruit and utilize 2,000 multigenerational volunteers for disaster preparedness and response. The Authority's Public Safety Staff, Milwaukee Area Technical College, the Sheriff's Department, American Red Cross, and FEMA will provide training in emergency preparedness, crime prevention, basic responder skills, team organization, risk reduction, and two-way radio communication. Volunteers will establish a Block Watch program, be trained in the rescue and relocation of children, create a school Emergency Response Handbook, organize an intergenerational volunteer network with seniors and youth, and provide CERT training to be utilized in disaster response. The goal of the project is to engage a variety of ages to work together to build a secure community.

WYOMING

FEMA State Grant: \$179,054

Wyoming formed its State Citizen Corps Council under the sponsorship of the Wyoming Homeland Security Council. The Council's staff is arranging meetings with local representatives in the State's six regional response areas. The Wyoming Emergency Management Agency (WEMA) staff are working with representatives of interested counties to implement sub-grants in Wyoming for Citizen Corps and CERT.

Wyoming has long had an active CERT program. In 2003, WEMA staff will present five basic courses of CERT training in the communities of Jackson, Cody, Sheridan, Hanna, and the Wind River Indian Reservation, to be followed by two CERT Trainer qualification courses. Natrona County and Campbell County WY already have active CERT programs in their jurisdictions.

OTHER CNCS HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS ENGAGING VOLUNTEERS

The American Radio Relay League, Inc., \$181,900

Having received a \$181,900 grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service, the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) plans to expand its program to 5,200 certified emergency volunteers. ARRL is the national association for Amateur Radio and



is the national leader in emergency communications by volunteers who operate their own equipment, on their time, at no cost to any government, organization, or corporation. The Certified Emergency Radio volunteers serve their local communities and work side by side with emergency medical teams, police and fire departments, and Offices of Emergency Management to stabilize communities with reliable emergency communications service. The grant will allow the ARRL to train more volunteers by funding the Amateur Radio Emergency Communication Course, which will be revised to ensure that new elements of emergency preparedness and Homeland Security are included.

Mercy Medical Airlift, \$253,400

Mercy Medical Airlift's Volunteer Pilot Homeland Security Transportation Network will build on the established volunteer "Angel Flight" pilots program, which serves ten states (Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia) and the District of Columbia. The program plans to increase volunteer pilot participation to 400 pilots regionally, with a minimum of 5,000 pilots nationwide. The Angel Flight program currently provides only preplanned charitable long-distance medical transportation for needy patients and their families. The increase in the number of volunteer pilots will decrease the current response time by establishing two pilot groups that can respond on either one- or six-hours' notice. In the third year of the grant, the program will be replicated in five additional regional volunteer pilot organizations. Examples of the volunteer pilot air transportation system include flying emergency blood shipments to hospitals, key relief agency officials to disaster sites, and "booties" to rescue dogs working at "Ground Zero."

American National Red Cross Rapid Response Corps, \$371,978

Thirty AmeriCorps members serving with the American National Red Cross Rapid Response Corps will be placed at American Red Cross chapters across the country. Each members activities will be designed to increase the chapter's capacity to provide integrated community education and outreach efforts focused on homeland security. Specific activities will be determined by each operating site's needs.

National Association of Community Health Centers, \$434,000

The National Association of Community Health Centers will use its grant to establish the Community Emergency and Disaster Response Initiative at five sites across the country, with a total of 35 AmeriCorps members. The initiative's primary goal is to establish training and resources, disaster and emergency preparedness, and response and recovery strategies for community health center users and other residents in five communities. AmeriCorps members will be trained as trainers and equipped to use FEMA's disaster preparedness curriculum in health centers. The grant will address the concerns revealed by a post-September 11 survey conducted by the Association, which reported that 91 percent of the health centers are not adequately prepared for a public health emergency involving bioterrorism. The five sites are: San Francisco Community Clinic Consortium; Grace Hill Neighborhood Health Center, St. Louis, MO; Syracuse Community Health Center, Syracuse, NY; Unity Health Services, Washington, DC; and the Michigan Primary Care Association, Okemos, MI.



CONCLUSION

A year ago, at his 2002 State of the Union address, President Bush called upon every American to commit to serving others. The response to his call has been overwhelming and heartwarming. Americans are volunteering their time and their talents in immeasurable ways. The stories highlighted above are just a few examples of the initiatives being taken daily by volunteers who are interested in serving others.

The work of state and local officials in conjunction with volunteer leaders will build the infrastructure to institutionalize and sustain Citizen Corps for generations to come. Citizen Corps will continue to help Americans take a more active role in their community through volunteer activities and programs, and to help make our communities safer, stronger, and better prepared, and to answer the President's call to service.