



# Citizen Corps Mission

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**We all have a role in hometown security**

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**The Citizen Corps mission is to bring community and government leaders together to involve community members in all-hazards emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation, response, and recovery.**



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# **We all have a role in hometown security**

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- **Personal preparedness is every American's civic responsibility.**
- **We must be trained and ready to help others in an emergency.**
- **We must get involved by actively engaging in our community's resiliency and supporting local emergency responders, disaster relief, and community safety.**



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# Why Involve Citizens?



"They are the key element. The real first responders are our citizens. We can't do our job without them."

- Chief Ed Plaughner  
Arlington Co. Fire Dept. 2001



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# Less than 1 percent of the U.S. population is an emergency responder

That means:

- **1 firefighter for every 265 people**
  - 1.1 million firefighters, of which 750,000 are volunteers
- **1 sworn officer for every 334 people**
  - 436,000 sworn law enforcement personnel
  - 291,000 sworn sheriff's office personnel
- **1 EMT/paramedic for every 325 people**
  - 890,000 people to provide all levels of pre-hospital services: Basic EMT, intermediate EMT, paramedic



*Journal of Emergency Medical Services (2004); National Fire Protection Association (2003); National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (2003)*



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# National Strategy

- Citizen Corps functions as the Department of Homeland Security's only comprehensive effort to get federal, state and local governments connected with non-governmental groups to support all aspects of citizen and community preparedness.
- The program focuses on cultural change: People need to take more responsibility for individual and community preparedness, and emergency responders need to include the citizens in emergency planning, education, training, and exercises.
- The Citizen Corps Mission is implemented through over 2100 local, state, tribal and territorial Citizen Corps Councils and partnerships at all levels to provide program support



# National Policy & Guidance

- Homeland Security Presidential Directive – 8
  - National Preparedness Strategy & Goal (8<sup>th</sup> Priority!)
  - Target Capabilities List / Capabilities Assessment
- Integration required in State Strategies
- Homeland Security Grant Program
- National Response Plan and Planning Guidance – SLG 101 and EOPs
- Nationwide Plan Review / Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program
- Coordination with national standards like NFPA 1600



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# Snapshot of Current Projects

- FY07 Grants – HSGP,
- TCL: Preparedness Capabilities, NIMS Resource Typing
- NRP/NIMS, State and Local Guidance
- Analysis of FY06 activities and expenditures
- Re-design Citizen Corps Website – Newsletter!
- NEMA/IAEM 2007 National Conference on Community Preparedness: June 10 – 13 [www.iaem.com](http://www.iaem.com)
- Watch Summit with DOJ and NCPC: May 30 – 31
- PERI review of liability legislation and solutions
- Citizen Preparedness Research: [www.citizencorps.gov](http://www.citizencorps.gov)
- CERT program development
- Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance



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# 2007 HSGP Guidance

- All funding streams
- Greater emphasis on collaboration between government and non-governmental leaders: Senior Advisory Committees, Urban Area Working Groups
- All citizen preparedness and participation activities must be coordinated by state Citizen Corps Program manager; SAA must be included on the State Citizen Corps Council
- Eligible Use of Funds:
  - Support of Citizen Corps Councils: Public Education and Awareness; Training and Exercises: Volunteer Programs
  - Surge Capacity Roles
- Caps: 15% on “promotional items”; 30% on “kits”
- Lifted 15% personnel hiring cap (CCP and MMRS)



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# Citizen Preparedness Research

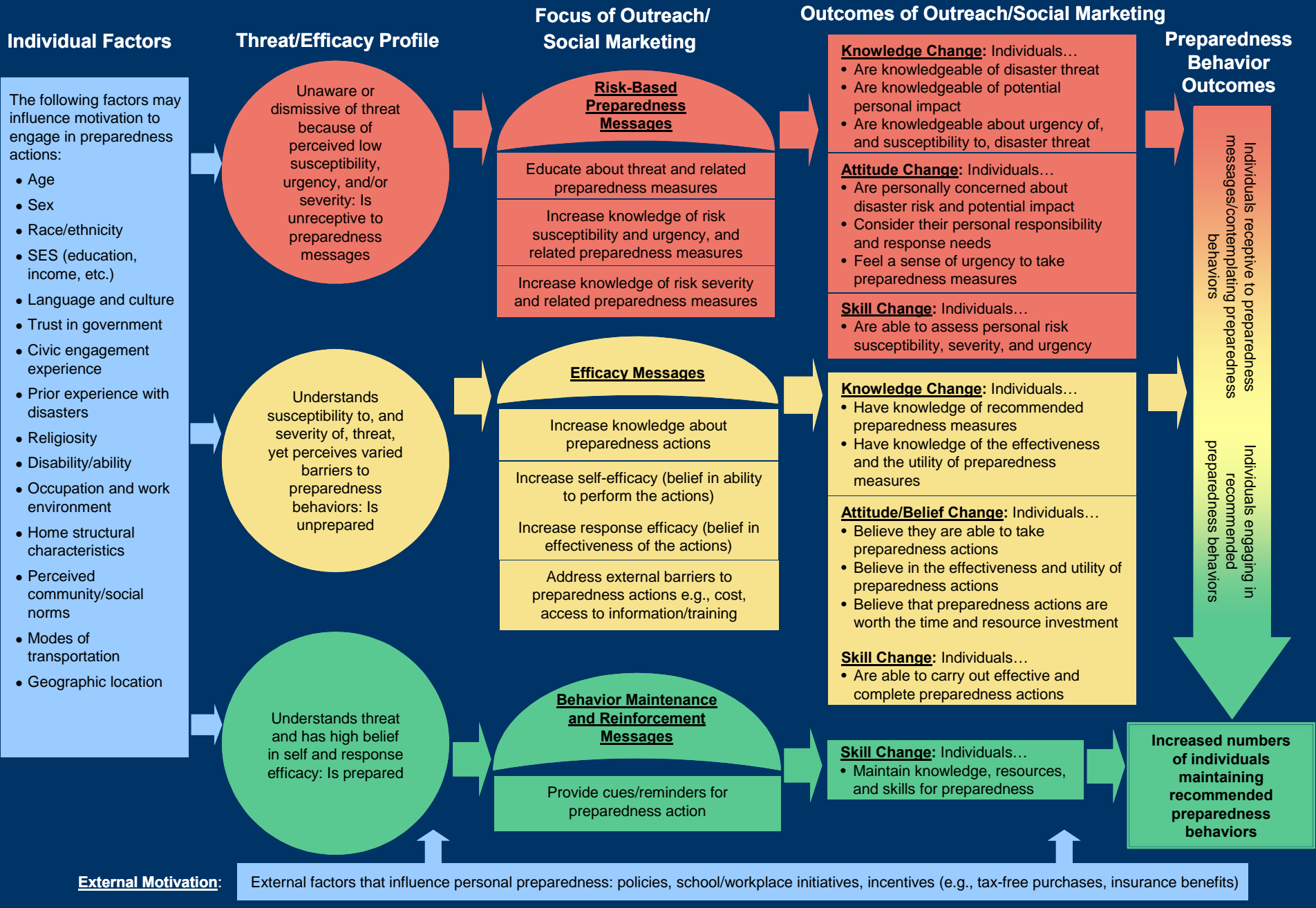
Citizen Preparedness Research on website [www.citizencorps.gov](http://www.citizencorps.gov)  
(Council Page)

- **On-going tracking and analysis** of surveys and research
- **Media Analysis** – literature review and analysis of what the public reads about preparedness and disasters
- **Behavior Change Model** – individual change model to be tested through a household survey; Community Change Model research review in initial phase
- **Prioritizing top-level preparedness measures** - by hazard based on protective actions that save lives, and minimize injuries; national and field level experts
- **National Household Survey**
- **Research Roundtable** – Feb '07 small group exchange of researchers and practitioners



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**FEMA**  
**National Preparedness Directorate**



National  
 Citizen Corps Council



**Citizen Preparedness ~ Training & Exercises ~ Volunteer Service**

**Federal Partner Programs**



DHS



DOJ/NSA



DOJ/IACP



DHS/G&T



DHHS/OSG



DHS/USFA  
 NVFC/IAFF/IAFC



**State/Territorial Citizen Corps Councils**

**Tribal / Local Citizen Corps Councils**

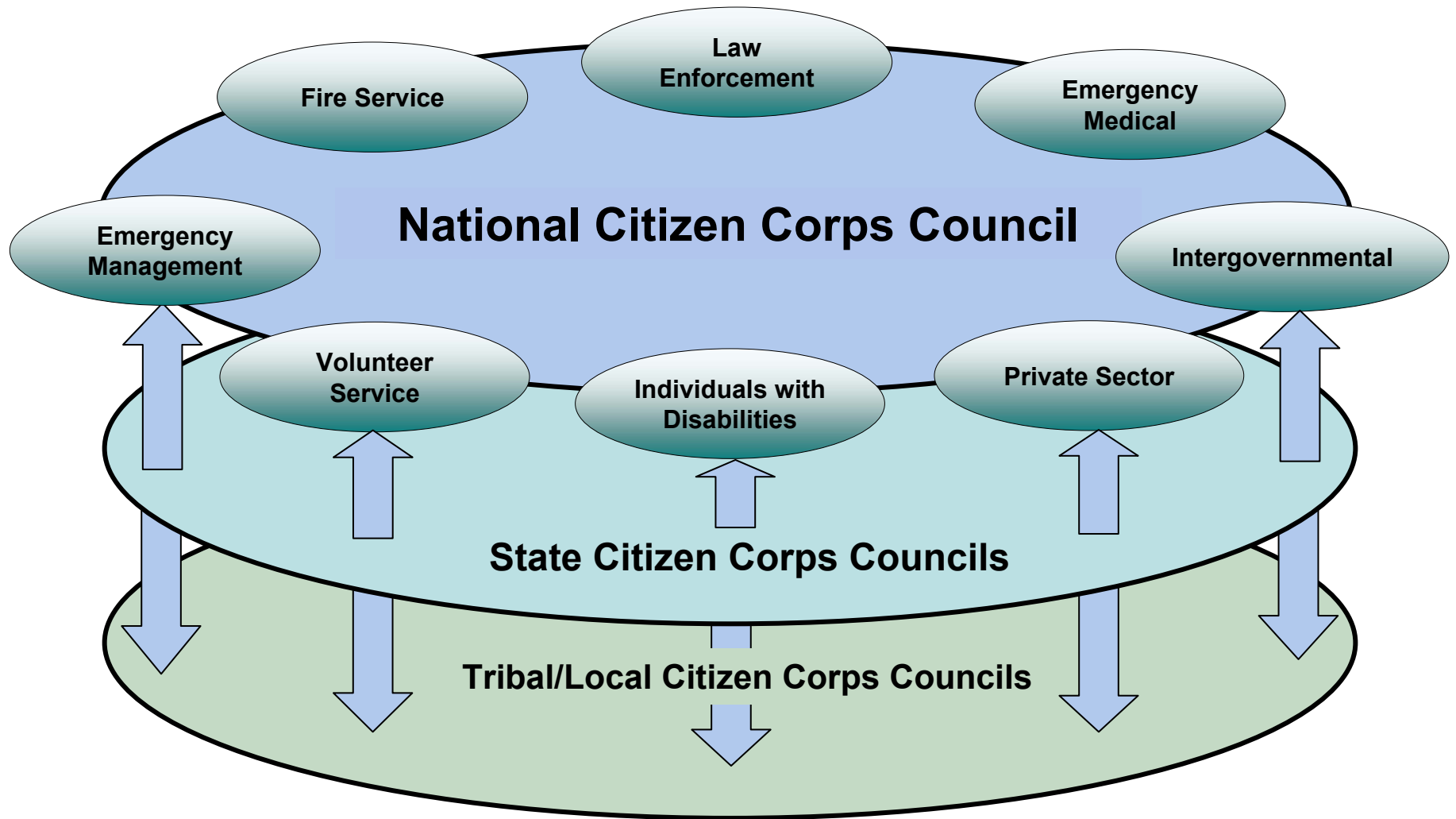
*American Public*



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# Citizen Corps Councils



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# Successful Community Engagement

- Demonstrates commitment by elected officials and government leadership in “authentic” two-way interaction
- Engages community leaders and builds on existing networks
- Builds a common sense of purpose for collaboration – community access, inclusion, development, education, preparedness, resiliency
- Provides resources to build and sustain engagement
- Outreaches through trusted organizations and networks to unrepresented, isolated, disaffected
- Builds on and demonstrates understanding, respect, recognition of social, political, and emotional context

*(\*Community Engagement – multiple sources)*



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# Citizen Corps Councils

## *Membership*

- **First responder/emergency management**  
*(law enforcement, fire service, EMS/EMT, public works)*
- **Elected officials**
- **Service organizations - voluntary and other non-profits**
- **Business leaders and for-profit sector**
- **School system representatives and youth organizations**
- **Critical infrastructure – transportation, utilities...**
- **Media representatives**
- **Faith-based leaders**
- **Military**
- **Special needs representation**
- **Representatives of language and culture communities**
- **Leadership from community civic groups**



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# Local Citizen Corps Councils

## *Responsibilities*

- Bring leaders all sectors (government/ nongovernmental) together to collaborate and integrate all resources into planning & EOP
- Identify priorities and build on community strengths to develop action plans to involve the whole community
- Focus on priorities and plans that include the public:
  - emergency communication
  - Shelter and evacuation
  - public education, training, exercises
  - vulnerable populations
  - Citizen Corps volunteer programs and training to support plans
- Organize a campaign to promote preparedness and programs
- Capture smart practices and report accomplishments



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# State Citizen Corps Councils

## *Responsibilities*

- Bring all sectors together for mission of integrating all resources for community preparedness
- Provide leadership for State mission, goals, priorities, work plans
- Integrate goals and priorities into State planning, policy and procedures: Homeland Security Plan, Emergency Operations Plans, Grant Guidance, Preparedness Campaigns ...
- Fulfill Community Preparedness guidance/requirements in grant guidance and national documents
- Develop state-wide projects/events that promote collaboration
- Support multi-agency, multi-sector collaboration to develop new local Councils and sustain and expand current Councils & programs
- Promote preparedness and collaboration to through each sector and serve as "consultants"/experts to field



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# Citizen Corps Programs



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

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

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

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

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**Fire Corps** promotes the use of citizen advocates to provide support to fire and rescue departments

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# Citizen Corps Affiliates





# History of Appropriations

- **FY 2002 ~** **\$25 M (\$6 CC / \$19 CERT)**  
**Wartime Supplemental**
- **FY 2003** **\$20 M CERT only**
- **FY 2004 - HSGP** **\$40 M Citizen Corps**
- **FY 2005 - HSGP** **\$15 M Citizen Corps**
- **FY 2006 - HSGP** **\$20 M Citizen Corps**
- **FY 2007 - HSGP** **\$15 M Citizen Corps**
- **FY 2008 – HSGP (requested)** **\$15 M Citizen Corps**



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# Accomplishments

- **The Citizen Corps programs have experienced steady growth since FY 2002 and Citizen Corps Councils now serve 74% of the U.S. population.**
- **Integration of non-governmental groups into all phases of government preparedness at local, state, tribal, territorial, national level**
- **Integration of Citizen Preparedness and participation into:**
  - Policy
  - Planning
  - Training
  - Exercises
  - Disaster Response
- **\$107M in grants to state/local from FY 02 – FY 07**



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# Why Citizen Corps?

**“The first responder on the street may not even be the police or fire; it's the guy who's there when the accident occurs.**

**The Citizen Corps, followed by the local first responders, followed then by the national officials can make a real difference in our community.”**

Robert Eckels, Harris County Judge

U.S. Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

September 28, 2005



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[www.citizencorps.gov](http://www.citizencorps.gov)

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