



San Bernardino Disaster Corps Celebrates Home Depot Contribution

Saturday, July 20, 2013, proved to be a celebration to remember for the San Bernardino County Disaster Corps and its volunteers. Sharing messages of appreciation at Saturday's celebration were Fontana Mayor Acquanetta Warren, San Bernardino County Fire Office of Emergency Services Emergency Services Manager Mike Antonucci, North Fontana Home Depot Store Manager Tia Jake, CaliforniaVolunteers Assistant Director of Disaster Volunteering and Preparedness Mike Staley, and SBC Fire OES Emergency Services Officer, Cheryl Nagy.

Creating a community partnership with the North Fontana Home Depot store and SBC Fire OES/Disaster Corps was just one purpose for Saturday's event. SBC Fire OES/Disaster Corps was one of five Disaster Corps Programs in California to receive \$10,000 from the Home Depot Foundation. On Saturday, San Bernardino County Disaster Corps volunteers watched and assisted as \$10,000 worth of Disaster Corps supplies and equipment were purchased and loaded onto several vehicles. The supplies and equipment will be sorted and distributed throughout eight designated areas of San Bernardino County to assist in community response and recovery when the next disaster occurs.

In addition to the \$10,000 donation celebration, the public came out to attend a Community Safety Fair held in the Home Depot parking lot. Participating from San Bernardino County Fire were Hazmat Emergency Response Team, Emergency Communication Services Command (ECS) Post 1 & ECS volunteers and several of the 200 San Bernardino County Disaster Corps volunteers. Additional partners attending included Fontana CERT (Community Emergency Response Team), Fontana Police Department volunteers conducting child fingerprinting, Southern California Edison, 2-1-1, American Red Cross, San Bernardino County Public Health, SoCal Gas, No Worries Preppers, and Home Depot.

Disaster Corps Update

Although the CaliforniaVolunteers Phase II Disaster Corps Grant program ended on May 30, 2013, the Disaster Corps programs in Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, and San Francisco have reported that their programs are continuing, with several adding new volunteers. There are currently more than 1,000 Disaster Corps volunteers who are either already trained, typed, credentialed, and background checked or are now being processed.

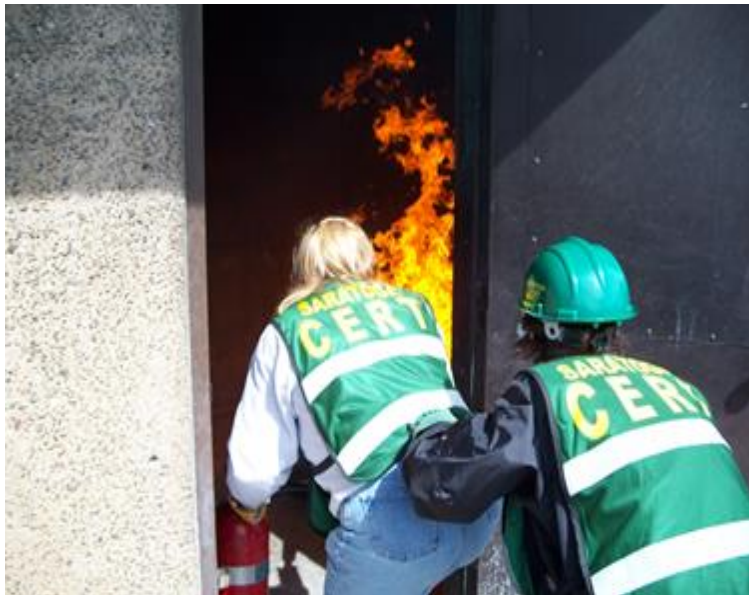
Disaster Volunteer Network

The Disaster Volunteer Network (DVN), a free online volunteer management tool, will be made available in phases to local government, nonprofit organizations, tribal nations, and private sector volunteer programs. CaliforniaVolunteers is working with a contractor to provide additional functionality to the DVN, including a robust report writer, multi-program login, and more filtering options. These items should be completed by November, 2013.

CaliforniaVolunteers will hold several training workshops throughout the state towards the end of 2013 and beginning of 2014 to training users and promote the tool. For more information about the DVN, contact Suu-Va Tai at Suu-Va.Tai@cv.ca.gov

Volunteer and Donations Management Emergency Function #17

As part of EF 17 outreach, CaliforniaVolunteers held two Nongovernmental Organization (NGO) Coordination Workshops in July. The first workshop was with Cal OES; the second workshop was with the EF 17 Working Group to better understand NGO coordination between and among state agencies, nonprofits, NGOs, and CaliforniaVolunteers during disasters. The EF 17 Working Group continues to meet to review and provide comments on portions of the Draft Annex as they are developed. Future EF 17 workshops include a Crisis Communications Training in October and a Concept of Operations Workshop on the Draft EF17 Annex in December.



CERT Updates

- CaliforniaVolunteers will be sponsoring CERT Train-the-Trainer courses in San Mateo County on November 5-8 and in Santa Barbara County on December 4-6. For more information, go to <http://www.californiavolunteers.org/index.php/CERT/TTT-Calendar/>
- Following the success of the Statewide CERT Conference earlier in 2013, CaliforniaVolunteers is planning four Regional CERT workshops in 2014. These workshops will focus on increasing communication and coordination among local CERT programs.

Volunteer Services Specialist Committee in Process

On June 19, 2013, the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) Advisory Board approved the Charter for the Volunteer Services Specialist Committee. The purpose of the Volunteer Services Specialist Committee is to provide guidance and input to both state and local government regarding development of policies and procedures for the coordination of volunteer resources in emergencies. The committee will produce planning documents that fully integrate volunteers into SEMS, including a Volunteer Coordinator Position Proposal and Volunteer Deployment Guidance. CaliforniaVolunteers is finalizing the Committee membership and is in the planning stages for the first and subsequent meetings of the Specialist Committee.

Sign up for the 2013 Great California ShakeOut – Sign Up Today!

Join the more than 11.3 million registrants from all over the globe who will DROP, COVER & HOLD ON for the 2013 Great California ShakeOut scheduled for 10:17 a.m. on October 17. Information about how to participate and additional resources are available at: <http://shakeout.org/california/>
Don't forget to DROP, COVER & HOLD ON!



FEMA Announces Two California Teens Returning to National Youth Preparedness Council

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced that Californians Divya Saini and Tiffany Espensen will be returning members to the FEMA National Youth Preparedness Council (YPC). The Council supports FEMA's emphasis on and dedication to involving the "Whole Community" in preparedness planning and activities.

- Tiffany Espensen is a 14-year old Teen CERT graduate from one of the first classes held by Julian/Cuyamaca CERT organization where she participated in numerous drills and classes and helps teach skills to other youth and promoting CERT in interviews. Tiffany developed "Tiffany's Tip Tuesday" in which she relays disaster preparedness tips via her Twitter account (@TiffyEspensen) and has more than 17,000 Twitter followers and almost 1,000 Facebook likes on her fan page, helping her spread the word through social media (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Tiffany-Espensen/227409351045>).
- Divya Saini participates in the block Preparedness Coordinator Program and volunteers at local emergency preparedness events to encourage preparedness. She is the founder of Movers and Shakers, a teen club designed to keep Palo Alto resilient. Recently, Divya was awarded the "Disney Friends for Change" grant for her Block Preparedness Coordinator work, and has authored and published three articles about preparedness in the Palo Alto Weekly Newspaper.
http://www.paloaltoonline.com/weekly/story.php?story_id=17812
http://www.paloaltoonline.com/weekly/story.php?story_id=18677
http://www.paloaltoonline.com/weekly/story.php?story_id=17968

To learn more about FEMA's youth preparedness efforts please visit: www.ready.gov/youth-preparedness.

Social Media

To help bolster the disaster response capability in California, CaliforniaVolunteers is scheduling a series of “Social Media for Natural Disaster Response and Recovery” courses. This course is offered by the National Disaster Preparedness Training Center at the University of Hawaii. Eight of these courses will be held during the first quarter of 2014.

Host sites for this training will be selected based on their ability to maximize the opportunity for participants to attend throughout California. This course will be open to government affiliated, non-profit, and private sector participants with a role in disaster response. For more information, contact Suu-Va Tai at Suu-Va.Tai@cv.ca.gov.

Californians Honored by FEMA’s Citizen Preparedness Awards

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has announced the winners of the 2013 FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Awards. The awards recognize programs and individuals who have taken action to prepare their communities for disasters and helped to make their communities more resilient.

This year, the third annual John D. Solomon Whole Community Preparedness Award is presented to the Los Angeles Fire Department South Los Angeles Teen CERT Collaborative. Solomon, founder of the blog In Case of Emergency, Read Blog, was an advocate of whole community engagement and collaboration, and noted that youth are the segment of any community most likely to bring about change in attitudes and behaviors toward emergency preparedness and resiliency. The LAFD South Los Angeles Teen CERT Collaborative, which partners with a wide variety of community organizations and empowers local youth, exemplifies many of the core themes of Solomon’s work.

The South Los Angeles Teen CERT Collaborative was developed by the City of Los Angeles Fire Department in partnership with a wide representation of local organizations and businesses. A total of 27 teens were trained in the CERT program of which 14 were trained in CPR and first aid. FEMA Youth Preparedness Council member, Tiffany Espensen, also participated in the graduation ceremony.

The following California groups received honorable mentions in the awards:

- Outstanding Achievement in Youth Preparedness: American Red Cross Bay Area Chapter
- Preparing the Whole Community: Aware and Prepare Initiative and Sage Services.

And congratulations to Chuck Guaraglia, Fremont Fire Department, for receiving an honorable mention as a community preparedness hero.

Contact DVP

Want to contact the Disaster Volunteering and Preparedness Program? A good place to start is to email your questions, comments, and feedback to citizencorps@californiavolunteers.ca.gov. There is also special email box for Disaster Corps: DisasterCorps@CaliforniaVolunteers.ca.gov.