

MICHIGAN Citizen Corps Preparedness Quarterly



First Edition August 2006

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Citizen Corps Initiatives



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New Publication Debuts

Welcome - to the First Edition of **Preparedness Quarterly** - the Michigan Citizen Corps newsletter.

We are publishing this newsletter with two things in mind - to provide you with timely information from your state and federal partners to assist you in program expansion and growth, and to provide an opportunity for you to showcase and share what you are doing on the local level to enhance citizen preparedness.

Citizen Corps and it's partner programs are a

proven force in community preparedness, but there is still much to do. Cooperation and collaboration between local, state and federal agencies is imperative, so we urge you to share your experiences and programs through this newsletter - and we will do the same.

Our goals are the same - to ensure that each and every citizen in the State of Michigan is provided with the information and tools to help secure themselves, their families, and their communities in the event of an emer-

gency. There are many excellent programs and ideas out there, and we would like to hear about them!

Feel free to submit articles, photos, training announcements, etc. to promote your programs and initiatives.

We want to hear from you!

Submit your articles to citizencorps@michigan.gov with photos, when available.

Michigan Citizen Corps Program Transfer Announced

Effective May 1, 2006, programmatic and fiscal oversight of the Michigan Citizen Corps Program was transferred from the Department of Labor and Economic Growth (DLEG) to the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management & Homeland Security Division (EMHSD). The decision to transfer the program included consideration of the following:

- * Funding to support Citizen Corps Councils with planning, outreach and management of programs and activities originates with the Michigan State Police as the State

Administrative Agency (SAA) for homeland security grants.

- * Emergency response planning and preparation issues are central to the duties and responsibilities of EMHSD.

- * Consolidation of grants through SAA to help ensure that all homeland security funding is leveraged for maximum impact.

- * Personnel resources from within the division will more appropriately assist in the growth and expansion of programs and activities on the local level to ensure continuity and expansion.

All five initiatives of the Citizen Corps Program; Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS), Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), Neighborhood Watch and Fire Corps will be given equal focus as EMHSD enhances the ongoing coordination with programs conducted by local communities and state agencies.

*Mr. Jay Roorbach has been named the **Michigan Citizen Corps Program Coordinator**.*

*Sgt. Kevin Sweeney has been appointed as the contact for the **CERT, VIPS and Neighborhood Watch** programs.*

*Colleen Mohr has been appointed as the contact for the **Fire Corps and Medical Reserve Corps, and RSVP** programs.*

Have you registered as a National Preparedness Month (NPM) coalition member?

Program Coordinator/Contacts Named

Mr. Jay Roorbach has been named the **Michigan Citizen Corps Program Coordinator**.



Jay Roorbach

Mr. Roorbach joined the Emergency Management & Homeland Security Division in 2004 from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). At DHS, he served as Branch Chief in the Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP), directly responsible for managing federal grants and programs for state and local first responders to enhance the capacity of state and local agencies to respond to acts of terrorism. He has over 17 years experience in emergency management, public safety, program development, program management,

program planning, and policy development in both the public and private sectors. In addition to his new assignment, he is currently the State UASI Program Manager.

Sgt. Kevin

Sweeney has been appointed as the contact for the **CERT, VIPS and Neighborhood Watch** programs. Sgt.



Kevin Sweeney

Sweeney has been with the Michigan State Police for 11 years and was previously assigned to the Newaygo and Rockford Posts before joining the Homeland Security Section in March, 2006. He earned a Bachelors of Science Degree from Michigan State University in Mechanical Engineering.

Colleen Mohr has been appointed as the contact for the **Fire Corps, Medical Reserve Corps, and RSVP** programs.



Colleen Mohr

She has been a member of the Michigan State Police for 23 years, working in the Motor Carrier and Fire Marshal Divisions before joining the Emergency Management & Homeland Security Division in August, 2003. Her previous assignment in the Homeland Security Section was co-manager of the 2003 State Homeland Security School Grant Initiative.

National Preparedness Month Update

September is National Preparedness Month. Have you registered as a National Preparedness Month (NPM) coalition member? To be in the "count" and receive updates, we are reminding all councils to register as NPM Coalition Members. You can register at www.ready.gov, click on NPM banner, then click on "Participate in National Preparedness Month Organizations." As a coalition member, you will receive a comprehensive toolkit, complete with information on how to plan for National Preparedness month in your area.

We are also requesting that you report any local

preparedness activities to citizencorps@michigan.gov. We will capture the information and ensure that it is properly reported as per the guidance from the Department of Homeland Security. We will also assess if there are any state-level resources available to assist jurisdictions or organizations that need help.

NPM Spotlight - Responsible Dog Ownership Day. The American Kennel Club (AKC) invites all organizations to hold a community event that publicly promotes responsible dog ownership during the month of September. For more information, visit the AKC web site at

www.akc.org and click on Responsible Dog Ownership Day. This web site will provide information on hosting an event, details about flagship events, press releases, downloadable materials, planned events in your area and past events. This is a great way to involve ALL areas of the community, including our four-legged friends!

Ready 



CERT, VIPS, Neighborhood Watch Update

By Sgt. Kevin Sweeney, Program Coordinator

A CERT Train-the-Trainer will be held in West Michigan on September 26 and 27. The training is being sponsored by the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management & Homeland Security Division (EMHSD) and hosted by the American Red Cross of West Central Michigan. The Kent County Sheriff Department and Grand Rapids Fire Department will be assisting in the training.

An additional CERT Train-the-Trainer, sponsored by EMHSD and hosted by Oakland University, will be held at the Crest Center on January 23-24, 2007.

For more information on either training session, please contact me at 517-336-6429 or via email at sweeneyk@michigan.gov.

Volunteers in Police Services (VIPS) and

Neighborhood Watch groups are alive and well in the State of Michigan. Thank you for all of the hard work everyone has been doing.

By now most of you should have received a phone call from me introducing myself and making sure all of your information on the Citizen Corp web site is current. All points of contact have been added to our listserve email, so you should be receiving all newsletters and other information from this office. If you do not believe you are on this list, please contact me.

We know there are many great efforts going on out there, so please do not hesitate to call me with your stories and events. We would like to share them statewide through this publication.

Nominations for this years Michigan Citizen Corps awards are being sought for CERT Volunteer of the Year, CERT Team of the Year, VIP's Volunteer of the Year, VIP's Group of the Year, Neighborhood Watch Volunteer of the Year, and Neighborhood Watch Group of the Year. If you know of an individual or group who has done outstanding work in any of these areas for the past year (October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006), and would like to nominate them for this award, please contact me. The deadline for nominations is September 10, 2006 and awardees will be announced at this years Summit Conference in Traverse City.

Again, thanks for all of the hard work and continue your great efforts!

Fire Corps, Medical Reserve Corps Update

By Colleen Mohr, Program Coordinator

With the transition of the Citizen Corps Program, I have been assigned as the contact person for the Fire Corps and Medical Reserve Corps Programs. We are in the process of learning more about these important programs and how we can best assist local coordinators to enhance and broaden their programs, or to start a program in a community where none exists.

Fire Corps was launched in December 2004 and is one of the newest Citizen Corps initiatives. It is a community outreach program that recruits volunteers to perform administrative functions,

public education programs, grant writing activities, records management, and bookkeeping duties, among many others, thus freeing the front line personnel to do what they do best - save lives and protect property. With current budget situations, this program can become an integral part of a community's efforts to prepare for and respond to any emergency.

The Medical Reserve Corps is a specialized component of Citizen Corps. It was founded in 2002 and seeks to secure community based, trained volunteers to supplement existing emergency and public health

resources. Volunteers include physicians, nurses, dentists, pharmacists and veterinarians, among others. There are several very well organized MRC organizations already up and running in our state and we look forward to learning about them and meeting with all of the coordinators who have worked so diligently to provide this support to their communities.

As we develop our strategy for Michigan, I will be contacting coordinators to discuss how we can best support your Fire Corps and Medical Reserve Corps programs.

Keep up the great work!

We know there are many great efforts going on out there, so please do not hesitate to call me with your stories and events.

As we develop our strategy for Michigan, I will be contacting coordinators to discuss how we can best support your Fire Corps and Medical Reserve Corps programs.

Coordinators Corner

Jay Roorbach, Citizen Corps Program Coordinator

“Our commitment is to provide any agency, jurisdiction, region, or individual with any resources we can commit. We will, however, not presuppose your needs”.

We fully recognize the importance of soliciting and incorporating your collective input before decisions are made as to best allocate very scarce resources.

We are all facing some very exciting times in Michigan. Due to all of your efforts, the levels of preparedness among citizens in Michigan are unprecedented. However, there is still much work to do! As part of the transition of the Michigan Citizen Corps to the Michigan State Police Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division, we are committed to ensuring that Michigan Citizen Corps and the affiliated programs will continue to grow and flourish.

What is Community Preparedness? Many preparedness teams and citizen groups started at the “grass roots” level. When community members are interested in making themselves better prepared, their common reaction is to reach out to the public safety community. It’s no secret that all of our schedules are over busy, and there just isn’t enough funding to support everything. However, we can encourage neighborhoods, families, community groups, businesses, or any other entities that want to enhance

their preparedness to organize themselves and make an emergency responder’s job easier if there is an incident involving them. A more formal process can be implemented if resources are available.

We also hope to introduce many of our State and local partners to some of the new information that the Federal government is developing to support efforts towards making citizens and communities better prepared. One example is the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Target Capabilities List, or TCL. One of the capabilities we are required to achieve as a State is Community Preparedness and Participation. The TCL outlines specific activities and outcomes that should be the strategic basis for designing our programs, although at a high level. The TCL also gives some suggested performance measures against which DHS will be measuring the State in the future. These metrics will allow us to collectively measure the effectiveness of our programs and demon-

strate more than anecdotally that we are succeeding in making our communities better prepared.

Another unprecedented initiative in Michigan is the regionalization of preparedness and homeland security. As part of the regionalization process, Citizen Corps programs will become an integral part of project planning and implementation.

We appreciate your patience during the continued transition of the programs, and are always available to answer any questions you have of us. Our commitment is to provide any agency, jurisdiction, region, or individual with any resources we can commit. We will, however, not presuppose your needs. We fully recognize the importance of soliciting and incorporating your collective input before decisions are made as to best allocate very scarce resources. So stay tuned! We will be giving you the best, most timely information you need to do your jobs.

Citizen Corps Funding

Each year, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) allocates a small amount of funding to the State of Michigan for allowable Citizen Corps activities. For Fiscal Year 2006, the State was awarded \$531,886 on June 30, 2006. Most DHS grant programs have a requirement that the state administrative agency pass at least 80% of grant funding through to local units

of government. The Citizen Corps funding has no such requirement.

In light of that, the statewide focus group that is being formed will help to determine how this funding will best support local and statewide activities. In addition, there is still some funding from the FY 2005 allocation that has not been used. That funding will be combined with the 2006

grant. We will soon be announcing the focus group members, so if you have ideas on how to best use the funding allocation, please contact the member representing your region.

We value everyone’s input and we will strive to make the most informed decisions we can to allocate a very limited amount of grant funding, and get the most return on all investments.

Teen CERT Conference at EMU Start of National Roll-Out

By Gary Zulinski, Teen Cert Coordinator, Eastern Michigan University

Eastern Michigan University was on the leading edge of emergency response training for high school students in Michigan and is now playing a critical role nationwide, hosting the DHS pilot Teen Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Train-the-Trainer conference June 21-23 at Marshall Auditorium. The course prepares participants to present the National Model Teen CERT Training Program at their respective high schools. Participants from all over Michigan are attending, as well as participants from Indiana, Mississippi and Florida.

Teen CERT is a National Training Initiative that prepares youth to mitigate, prepare, respond and recover from a disaster that may happen at their school or home. The program is designed to teach them to help themselves, their families and their school in the event of a disaster. In an emergency, 95 percent of the time a bystander or victim is the first to provide emergency assistance or rescue. Having students and teachers trained will help save lives in the event of an emergency.

“Teen CERT is designed to change the culture of disaster preparedness and response by empowering youth in disaster mitigation”, said Gerald “Skip” Lawver, associate professor for EMU’s School of Technology. The training also prepares students to articulate into the Schools Disaster Response Plan as additional trained

resources should a disaster strike.

Teen CERT was first piloted in Michigan at Milan High School in 2005 when 16 students and three parents trained in disaster skills such as fire suppression, first aid, CPR and search and rescue techniques. This first Teen CERT team has become part of the school’s disaster response team and has become a valuable asset for the school. An additional 16 students were Teen CERT trained this recent school year and the first team is assisting in a pilot program in the middle school.

Lawver said the program will cover the areas of fire safety and basic fire combating techniques, recognizing injuries and basic first aid, CPR, basic team

building and emergency communications systems and its use. Instructors will receive an instructor first-aid pack, instructor manual, CD Rom with all the forms, and pre and post examinations. When instructors start to teach the Teen CERT Model, the high school will receive \$200 for expenses, back packs for each student (up to 25) enrolled in the program and student manuals. There is no cost to the school. “This program is intermediate level training designed for young adults between the ages of 13 and 18,” Lawver said.

Anyone interested in the program should contact Skip Lawver at 734-487-3071, or Gary Zulinski at 734-487-3071.

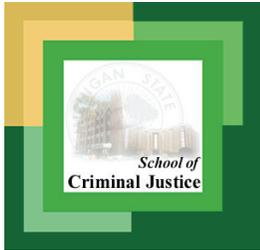


Jim Allore, Mostafa Aswad, Annette Begley, Mathew Blythe, Andrew Box, Jerome Bryant, Carla Bushart, Tim Cochran, Paul DeRidder, Andrew Eckman, Paul Edwards, Barbara Firman, Todd Frier, Joseph Furdeck, Timothy Genovese, Cathy Harris, Roger Hill, Rachel Jacky, Greg Jones, Diane Keller, Patti Kolden, Kyle Kozubal, Roosevelt Lawrence, Phillip Lawton, Michael Martin, Nicole Miller, Robert Miller, Thomas Mynsberge, Dave Nichols, Donna Northern, Jennifer Prewitt, Dick Reeves, Susan Sanderson, Jodi Sell, Thomas Socha, Kevin Sweeney, Marge Taylor, Megan Turf, Bryan Tytite, Michael Umpleby, Larry Utterback, Robert Weimer, Mike Wilson, Ray Wlosinski

Teen CERT is a National Training Initiative that prepares youth to mitigate, prepare, respond and recover from a disaster that may happen at their school or home.

“Teen CERT is designed to change the culture of disaster preparedness and response by empowering youth in disaster mitigation”...

Campus - Community Emergency Response Training (C-CERT) Train-the-Trainer



The Michigan State University, School of Criminal Justice, in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, will be conducting a Campus Community Emergency Response Team Training August 15-17, 2006.

This training will focus on

implementing CERT in the unique context of the campus community. Attendees will include campus police, public safety, fire, EMS, emergency management, security officers, faculty or other personnel from any public or private college or university who may be called upon to

recruit, train and lead campus CERT teams, or who may teach CERT as a college course.

For additional information, contact Phil Schertzing, PhD., Program Director, School of Criminal Justice at 517-432-3156 or via email at schertzi@msu.edu.

Citizen Corps Program Email Listserve

In an effort disseminate information from federal and state partners in a timely manner, EMHSD maintains an email listserve. All Citizen Corps Council and initiative

coordinators should be on this list. If you are receiving this correspondence, you are currently on the list. If you obtained this through our web site or any other source,

please contact us at citizencorps@michigan.gov with your email information and we will add you to the list.

Calendar of Events

August 3, 2006

August 15-17, 2006

August 21, 2007

September 2007

September 26-27, 2006

October 9-11, 2007

January 23-24, 2007

May 8-11, 2007

UASI Citizen Corps Regional Meeting, Dearborn

College Cert Train-the-Trainer, Lansing

Muskegon County MRC Quarterly Meeting, Muskegon

National Preparedness Month

CERT Train-The-Trainer, American Red Cross, Grand Rapids

Summit Conference, Traverse City

CERT Train-the-Trainer, Crest Center, Oakland University

Homeland Security Training Conference & Expo, DeVos Place, Grand Rapids

Visit our web site at
www.michigan.gov/emd



If you have an article or event that you want included in this publication, please email information to Colleen Mohr at citizencorps@michigan.gov.

The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and/or policies of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security