



Possible roles for Citizen Corps Volunteers

The following are examples of how citizens can engage in volunteer opportunities that support the efforts of Citizen Corps. This is by no means an exhaustive list, but is intended to give you some ideas for getting our citizens involved.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

Arrange for home security inspections by crime prevention officers to identify security vulnerabilities

Upgrade locks, security hardware, and lighting

Train family members to keep valuables secure and to lock windows when leaving home

Train family members on identifying suspicious behaviors that could indicate terrorist activity

Ask neighbors to watch for suspicious activity when the house is vacant

Organize block WATCH groups to assist children, the elderly, and other especially vulnerable persons if they appear to be in distress, in danger, or lost

Organize meetings with neighborhood groups and trained crime prevention officers to discuss security needs and crime prevention strategies

Obtain and study informative materials from the National Sheriffs' Association, the National Crime Prevention Council, and local law enforcement agencies

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS (CERT)

Staff a community education booth at community events

Identify safety needs and vulnerable individuals in your neighborhood

Distribute disaster education material in your neighborhood, in multiple languages if appropriate

Assist with writing and distributing a CERT newsletter

Help organize drills, activities, and supplemental training for your team

Participate in a speaker's bureau to schools and clubs

Assist emergency management officials and fire departments with installing smoke alarms and other special projects

Help with CERT administrative duties by maintaining databases, helping with class registration, and assisting with class logistics

Organize recognition activities for volunteers

After CERT training, assist in evacuation, shelter management, donations management, care of responders at fires or emergencies, mass care of victims from a large event, damage assessment, and perimeter control



VOLUNTEERS IN POLICE SERVICE (VIPS)

Take police reports

Make follow-up telephone calls to victims

Conduct fingerprinting

Engage in crowd/parking control at special events

Participate in search and rescue missions

Participate in mounted patrols in parking lots at high school football games

Operate metal detectors at a courthouse

Serve subpoenas

MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS

During emergencies, members of the Medical Reserve Corps could:

Assess and monitor the condition of patients

Counsel patients

Perform support and management activities (e.g., facilitate patient transfers, inventory and distribute pharmaceuticals, supplies, and food)

Administer and distribute medication

In non-emergency situations, local agencies could request volunteers to assist them in performing their routine duties. Volunteers could:

Distribute educational materials about the need for immunizations

Give immunizations

Assist with health education

Provide additional support for community screening efforts (e.g., breast cancer, hypertension, diabetes, etc.)

FIRE Corps

Offer to help the fire department in its fundraising efforts. Help with bingo, bake sales, or other department fundraising programs

Help the department with its financial matters if you have a business background or special skills in this area

Help with correspondence, public outreach, and records management

Assist the fire department and fire prevention experts with fire prevention education in your neighborhood, place of business, schools, and community organizations

Assist the department with its canteen service so they will have water and food for major fires