# BASIC NYC CERT MEMBER TRAINING

# PARTICIPANT MANUAL

"The language of citizenship suggests that self-interests are always embedded in communities of action and that in serving neighbors one also serves oneself." Benjamin R. Barber

**NYC CERT Mission and Purpose**

The mission of the NYC CERT program is to train community-based volunteer teams that will:

- Inform, educate, and train their neighbors on disaster preparedness.
- Assist public safety agencies and local community organizations with public events.
- Respond to locally-occurring disasters by strictly following NYC CERT protocols and supporting emergency personnel upon their arrival and request.

NYC CERT members undergo an intensive, 10-week training so they can prepare for and respond to local disasters. Active, credentialed members are considered volunteers by the City of New York.

Emergency services personnel are best equipped to respond to emergencies. However, following a catastrophic disaster, NYC CERT members can assist with initial emergency response while professional first responders are on their way.

During non-emergency situations, NYC CERT members educate their communities about disaster preparedness, specifically using Ready NY materials and curriculum.