

## Greetings!

The first few months of 2010 have been very busy for the NYC Citizen Corps Council and its members.

Through new and ongoing outreach initiatives, the NYC Citizen Corps Council has been able to play a larger role in preparing New Yorkers for emergencies. To name two, the [Youth Leadership Program](#) and Volunteer Development Program have educated and empowered New Yorkers of all ages. The much anticipated Disaster Volunteer Conference is just over a month away, the response to the Haitian Earthquake continues, and September is just around the corner for National Preparedness Month (stay tuned for more).

To learn more about how New Yorkers should prepare to recover from emergencies, check out the NYC Citizen Corps Council website: [www.nyc.gov/citizencorps](http://www.nyc.gov/citizencorps).

You are a great resource, and we hope that you will see us as the same. The NYC Citizen Corps Council looks forward to continuing our partnership in preparedness.

Uniting Communities,  
NYC Citizen Corps Council

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## Volunteer Development Program

Since its inception in February, the NYC Citizen Corps Council's Volunteer Development Program has been going full steam and has had overwhelming success. Volunteers who have participated have provided positive reviews and feedback and have shown that each training has upheld our mission to:

- Increase the capacity of NYC disaster volunteers.
- Allow volunteers from NYC Citizen Corps Council organizations to network with each other, and
- Showcase trainings conducted by NYC Citizen Corps Council organizations.

The Volunteer Development Program kicked off in February with New York Cares' training: **Leadership and Volunteer Management in Disaster**



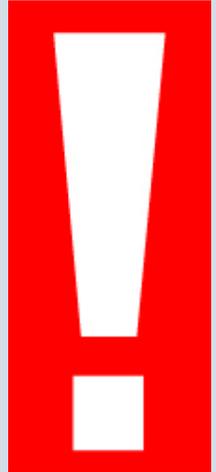
## Notify NYC

Notify NYC is the City of New York's official source for information about emergency events and important City services. What you need to know, when you need to know it.

In addition to emergency notifications and alerts, participants can also receive public health notifications, public school notifications, and unscheduled parking rule suspensions.

Individuals can sign up to receive notifications through e-mail, text message, or phone.

Register for free at [www.NYC.gov/notifynyc](http://www.NYC.gov/notifynyc) or by calling 311.



## National Volunteer Week April 18 - 24, 2010

National Volunteer Week, celebrated from April 18 - 24, is a week to recognize the hard work of extraordinary individuals to make their communities a better place.

Every day there are hundreds of opportunities for all New Yorkers to volunteer and give back to the communities in which they live. The NYC Citizen Corps Council encourages all New Yorkers to volunteer.

[Learn more about volunteer opportunities in NYC](#)

Thank you for volunteering!

**FDNY CPR To Go!**

**Recovery Workshop**, led by Jamie Denniston-Merced. Participants represented six different volunteer organizations and learned the basic principles of volunteer management and more importantly, how to use these principles during the disaster recovery process.



In March, over 40 disaster volunteers from five organizations came together for: **NYC Office of Emergency Management: Behind the Scenes Workshop**. Presenters Herman Schaffer and Justin Land gave an in-depth overview of the NYC Office of Emergency Management (NYC OEM) and provided participants with a better understanding about what the NYC OEM is, and how the agency works in New York City and across the region.

The calendar is already full of additional trainings for the NYC disaster volunteer community including:

- April 15, 22, 29 - Leading and Managing Spontaneous Unaffiliated Community Volunteers (World Cares Center)
- April 21 - Sheltering and Special Needs Shelters ([NYC Medical Reserve Corps](#))
- May 18 - Radiological Emergencies (NYC Medical Reserve Corps)
- June 22 - Bombs and Blasts (NYC Medical Reserve Corps)

The NYC Citizen Corps Council would like to thank New York Cares, NYC Medical Reserve Corps, World Cares Center, the CERT program, and the NYC OEM for contributing their training sessions to be a part of the Volunteer Development Program. We of course would also like to thank all the volunteer participants who have ensured the program's success.

Volunteers and organizations interested in learning more about the Volunteer Development Program should contact Justin Land at [citizencorps@oem.nyc.gov](mailto:citizencorps@oem.nyc.gov).

## NYC Citizen Corps Council Leaves Footprint in Virgin Islands



Sponsored by [NYC Service](#), free bystander CPR training classes by the NYC Fire Department (FDNY) are available to the general public at New York Sports Clubs across the city. Participants will get to keep their FDNY CPR To Go training kit and will pledge to give back by sharing their kit and knowledge with five other people. In addition, participants will also receive a free week-long pass to the New York Sports Club. For registration information, [click here](#).

Learn how to help save a life!

### Welcome New Members

As part of the 2010 UASI Nonprofit Security Grant Program, the NYC Citizen Corps Council would like to welcome the approximately 200 new members to its communication network.

Best of luck through the grant process!

### Important Resources

**Financial Education for Non-Profit Organizations:** On April 23 (9 - 11:30 AM), The Bronx Forum, a partnership of [The Bronx Borough President's Office](#), Hostos Community College, and the [Jewish Community Relations Council of NY/CAUSE-NY](#), in conjunction with the Office of the State Comptroller, invites professionals and community leaders to a workshop on Financial Education for Non-Profit Organizations at Hostos Community College in the Bronx. For additional information, [click here](#).

**Severe Weather and Flooding Loan:** The Small Business Administration (SBA) is making low-interest, long-term loans available to businesses and non-profit organizations in the Bronx, Manhattan, and several neighboring counties in New York and New Jersey that were affected by the severe weather and flooding beginning on March 12, 2010.

For more information about the assistance, call the Federal

On February 21, Herman Schaffer, OEM Director of Community Outreach, joined the FEMA Region II National Preparedness Division on a trip to St. Thomas, Virgin Islands to provide technical assistance to its Citizens Corps Council and CERT programs. Herman was able to share his experiences in building both of these programs in New York City. Since September 2009 FEMA Region II has been working to set up a CERT train-the-trainer class for 13 experienced volunteers. The newly established Citizen Corps Council also held its first meeting during this trip.

The two-day CERT train-the-trainer class covered the basic FEMA CERT curriculum, as well as specific information about how CERT can benefit the local community. Along with the national curriculum Herman taught units from the New York City curriculum including the Introduction to CERT/ICS and the Urban III: Human Services units. Herman also discussed the process that New York City went through to modify the national program to meet its needs and suggested that the Virgin Islands do the same.

During the Virgin Islands Citizen Corps Council meeting Herman was able to show how the Council can be an effective way to support community outreach, volunteer management, and public messaging. Since the Citizen Corps Council is new to the Virgin Islands, this discussion provided an overview of the NYC Citizen Corps Council and provided next steps as the Virgin Islands starts to build its structure. Herman also covered the development of a mission statement, pros and cons of the various types of council structures, potential programs that the council can manage and what the New York City program has been able to accomplish. He discussed the importance of inter-agency coordination and using the council as a way to avoid duplication of existing resources.

## NYC Response to Haiti Earthquake

On February 1, 2010, the New York State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) with support from the NYC OEM opened the Haitian Earthquake Family Resource Center (HERC) at the Bedford Armory in Brooklyn. The HERC offers family and friends of victims of the January 12th earthquake in Haiti access to important services and information.



Throughout its operation, the HERC has relied heavily on support from organizations and volunteers within the NYC Citizen Corps Network, including the [NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene](#), [New York Cares](#), [Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs](#), [NYC CERT](#), [NYC OEM](#), [NY Disaster Interfaith Services](#), [SEMO](#), and the [American Red Cross in Greater New York](#).

The City of New York ended its presence at the HERC on Saturday, March 27th. The hard work of the volunteers involved made the efforts possible and won't be forgotten. As one example, a total of 69 CERT members volunteered their time at the HERC, representing 30 teams and 623 hours of service. Many volunteers worked multiple shifts.

In addition to the work at the HERC, [Disaster Chaplaincy Services](#), [Consortium for Haitian Empowerment](#), [Dwa Fanm](#), [NYC Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters](#), [Salvation Army of Greater New York](#), [Tzu Chi](#), and [World Cares Center](#) are just a handful of other NYC Citizen Corps Council members responding to the Haitian Earthquake in New York City and Haiti.

Emergency Management Agency at 800-621-FEMA (3362) or the SBA Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955, send an e-mail to [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov), or read the [SBA declaration and fact sheet](#). To complete a loan application, [click here](#).

**NYU Wagner Capstone Program:** The Capstone Program is a resource for nonprofits, government agencies, health institutions, urban planning firms, international NGOs, and private organizations with a public service component. Capstone brings together teams of NYU Wagner graduate students with client organizations over an academic year. Project teams research important issues, address complex challenges, and identify opportunities key to organizational growth. For additional information, [click here](#).

**2010 Nonprofit Salary and Benefits Survey:** This is the only survey for nonprofit organizations that will provide you with the comprehensive information needed to make key hiring and employment decisions during these difficult economic times. Plus, you'll have access to information that can be used to save money on salary and benefit costs. To complete the survey, [click here](#).

**Certificate Courses on the Topics Most Requested by Nonprofit Organizations:** The NonProfit HelpDesk (NPHD), itself a nonprofit, helps community-based nonprofit organizations build capacity to serve their clients. The organization is offering several sequences of certificate courses each taught by practicing experts in the field. For additional information, [click here](#).

**Peer Advisory Community Teams:** NonProfit HelpDesk is offering a new program called PACT (Peer Advisory Community Teams) for leaders of nonprofit organizations. Peer advisory boards, sometimes called mastermind groups, have long been used by businesses to create a safe haven where leaders faced with similar challenges gather to connect and consult with each other, share

## Long Island/New York City Emergency Management Conference

The 17th annual Long Island/New York City Emergency Management Conference titled *Emergency Management 2010: Meeting the Challenge* will be held on June 2 - 3 in Long Island. The Conference will examine all types of emergency management situations from man-made to natural disasters and address the response by local and national first responders.



At this year's conference, participants will hear from first responders involved in all types of emergency management situations, including the devastating earthquake in Haiti, the terrorist attacks in Mumbai and, closer to home, the deadly DC Metro train disaster. Presenters will also address cyber security, weather events, and hospital emergency management issues. For additional information, [click here](#).

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experiences, create accountability for each other, and get advice and support. For additional information, [click here](#).

### NYC Citizen Corps Council



The NYC Citizen Corps Council brings together local leaders from community organizations, government agencies, local elected officials' offices, the private sector, and volunteer programs to promote community preparedness and volunteerism.

For more information about the NYC Citizen Corps Council, its members, and activities, visit our [website](#) or [contact us](#).

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