



NYC Citizen Corps Council Communications Network

Newsletter
May 2008

Greetings!

The NYC Citizen Corps Council (CCC) has been quite active over the past few months. At the spring 2008 CCC quarterly meeting on April 1, which was held at the Jewish Community Relations Council, the Mayor's Flood Mitigation Task Force talked about the City's Emergency Flood Response Plan and unveiled the New York City Office of Emergency Management's (OEM) Ready New York flooding guide, which was produced in partnership with the Department of Environmental Protection. The CCC concluded all five borough specific preparedness conferences for faith leaders and successfully engaged more than 260 faith leaders throughout New York City. In celebration of Immigrant Heritage Week (April 14-20), the CCC partnered with the Consortium for Haitian Empowerment to host a preparedness event for the Haitian-American community. The next few months will be just as productive, with the 2008 Disaster Volunteer Conference being held on May 17 and 18.

As always, the Council's efforts to build relationships with faith institutions, community groups, and volunteer groups creates significantly more prepared and resilient neighborhoods, which empowers NYC residents to better recover from emergencies. The NYC Office of Emergency Management has designated May as Hurricane Awareness Month in New York City, so please help your communities prepare for the upcoming hurricane season.

Uniting Communities,

The NYC Citizen Corps Council

Meet our Membership

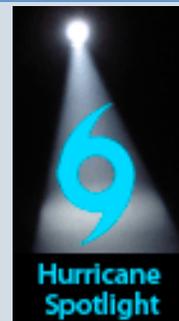


NHS Insurance Services (NHS) is part of Neighborhood Housing Services of New York City, Inc. NHS provides insurance education and counseling to new and existing homeowners.

NHS has partnered with the NYC Citizen Corps Council, OEM, and the Ready NY program to help people prepare to recover from disasters by making sure they understand the importance of adequate insurance coverage, how to improve their existing coverage and what to do about hazards they may face in the event of a disaster.

NHS Insurance Services continues to participate in Citizen Corps Council outreach events such as the Faith Leaders Forums and the Haitian - American April event. Through the Citizens Corps Council, OEM and the Mayor's Flood Mitigation Task Force, NHS will use its network of neighborhood agents to continue to be at the forefront of disaster preparedness in NYC.

May is Hurricane Awareness Month



Most New Yorkers do not think that hurricanes and flooding can affect them.

We are all at risk for hurricanes and hurricane-related flooding. June 1 marks the beginning of hurricane season for the United States. While New York City generally does not experience coastal storms before August, OEM urges New Yorkers to use the calm before the storm to prepare.

OEM has designated May Hurricane Awareness Month, and we are doing our part to make all New Yorkers aware of the danger of hurricanes and the floods they produce.

The Flood Mitigation Task Force appointed by Mayor Bloomberg has created an Emergency Flood Response Plan which contains detailed procedures to minimize a flood's effect on New Yorkers and their property. In addition, the newest OEM Ready New York guide, Ready New York for Flooding, was recently released. This guide teaches New Yorkers about how to stay safe before, during and after a flood.

The Ready NY flooding guide AND the Ready NY hurricane preparedness

Your local NHS office can help you in several areas. NHS offers loans for home repair or renovation at very affordable rates. NHS also helps you do it yourself with home maintenance training courses, available at most offices. And if you run into problems, NHS can help with foreclosure prevention counseling. Check out www.nhsnyc.org or call 718-732-8105 for more information on all these opportunities.

2008 Disaster Volunteer Conference

When: Sat, May 17 OR Sun, May 18 (9 AM-3 PM)

**Where: Washington Irving High School
40 Irving Place (Union Square), Manhattan**

The 2008 Disaster Volunteer Conference will enhance volunteer leaders' professional development and help increase interagency coordination on readiness, response, and recovery activities. Agencies and volunteers from a diverse group of Citizen Corps Council members, including the CCC Volunteer Task Force, will be represented.

Workshops will include:

- Tabletop Exercise Design 101
- Cultural Awareness
- Communicating with People with Special Needs
- Establishing Community Disaster Networks
- Leadership Training
- Psychological First Aid
- Pet Planning

Saturday Registration:

http://www.nycares.org/for_companies/register.php?csp=13516

Sunday Registration:

http://www.nycares.org/for_companies/register.php?csp=13518

Forums for Faith Leaders

The Citizen Corps Council has concluded the *Prepare Your Community* series - five borough specific forums to help faith leaders prepare their communities to respond and recover from emergencies. The forums empowered faith leaders to build community networks by creating partnerships with other houses of worship, senior centers, community groups, and neighborhood resources. Participants were able to assess the vulnerabilities of their congregants and the specific vulnerabilities of their own neighborhoods.

An adapted version of these conferences will be presented at the 2008 Citizen Corps Council Disaster Volunteer Conference. Take the opportunity to learn as much as you can about building community networks of your own by signing up for the Developing Community Disaster Networks session at the 2008 Disaster Volunteer Conference:

http://www.nycares.org/for_companies/register.php?csp=13516

guide can help to keep you, your family and your property safe during this upcoming Hurricane Season. To see if you live in a hurricane evacuation zone, please see www.nyc.gov/hurricanezones or call 311. You can also order copies of the guides by visiting nyc.gov/readyny or calling 311.

Immigrant Heritage Week



During the 2008 NYC Immigrant Heritage Week, hosted by the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA), the NYC Citizen Corps Council brought together its partners to hold a community preparedness event that targeted the Haitian-American community in Brooklyn.

Commissioner Guillermo Linares of MOIA, Councilmember Mathieu Eugene and Assistant Commissioner Christina Farrell from OEM welcomed the crowd. The Consortium for Haitian Empowerment planned and conducted the Ready NY presentation in Haitian Creole.

CCC member agencies were on hand to present their materials to the public.

The Council will continue its efforts to reach out to immigrants and non-English speakers across the city through the Immigrant and Limited English Proficient Task Force.

Please go to www.nyc.gov/readyny

For more information about our membership and available resources visit the Citizen Corps Council [Resource Guide](#).

to access preparedness guides in 14 languages or call 311.

Long Island Conference

Long Island/New York City Emergency Management Conference 2008

"No Man is an Island: Disaster Survival Through Regional Support."

When: Wednesday May 28, 2008 &
Thursday May 29, 2008

Where: Hilton Long Island,
598 Broad Hollow Road, Melville, NY

Hear local, state, and national emergency preparedness professionals discuss current emergency management topics at the Long Island/New York City Emergency Management Conference. Topics include lessons learned from California wildfire and last summer's Minneapolis bridge collapse to the importance of volunteerism and citizen preparedness to business continuity.

Please visit: <http://www.linycemconference.com/>

for more information and to register.

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