

About the Program

Citizens Corps is the large component of USA Freedom Corps that encompasses public education, training, and volunteer opportunities to engage all citizens in making their communities safer, stronger, and better prepared for preventing and handling threats of terrorism, crime, and disasters of all kinds. Because of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) central mission of disaster mitigation, preparedness, and response and its existing relationship with state and local governments, the President asked FEMA to take the lead role in coordinating Citizen Corps.

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) has identified Citizen Corps as a benefit to the State of Indiana, its communities, and the well being of all Hoosiers. As the State of Indiana's central-coordinating office for the service and volunteer sectors across the State, IDHS has been chosen as the State of Indiana's Point of Contact for the Citizen Corps efforts.

Citizen Corps brings together leaders from law enforcement, fire services, emergency medical, emergency management, volunteer organizations, the private sector, and local elected officials to form Citizen Corps Councils. These Councils provide local oversight for engaging citizens in homeland security and for promoting community preparedness and family safety in three

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For More Information

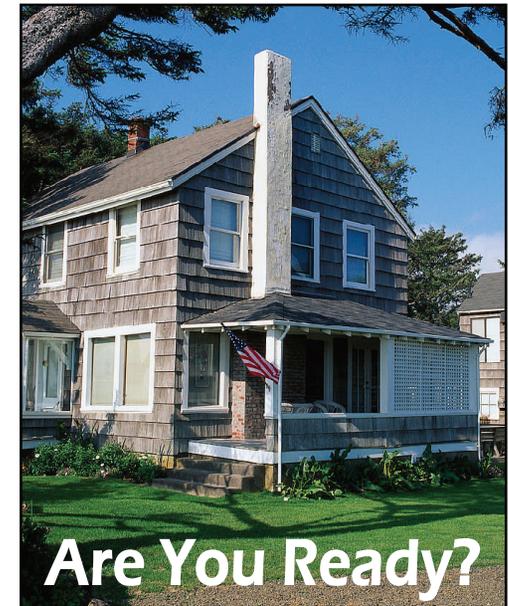
If you would like more information on these programs contact your local emergency management agency (EMA). For a list of statewide EMA offices, visit our website at: <http://www.in.gov/dhs/3621.htm#>



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INDIANA
citizen★corps



Mitchell E. Daniels Jr.
Governor

Joseph E. Wainscott Jr.
Executive Director

INDIANA CITIZEN CORPS PROGRAM

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principal ways: through public education and outreach, through training opportunities, and through volunteer programs that draw on special skills and interests.

Mission

Citizen Corps was developed to harness and power of every individual through education, training, and volunteer services to make communities safer stronger and better prepared to respond to the threats of terrorism, crime, public health issues, and disasters of all kinds.

Programs



The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** Program educated people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team

organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members also are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.



The **Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)** program coordinates volunteer health professionals, and others interested in public health issues, to provide ongoing support for community public health needs and resources during large-scale emergencies and is administered by the Department Health and Human Services (DHHS). MRC units are community-based and function as a way to locally organize and utilize volunteers who want to donate their time and expertise to prepare for and respond to emergencies and promote healthy living throughout the year.



An expanded **Neighborhood Watch (NW)** program incorporates terrorism awareness and education into its existing crime prevention mission and serves as a way to bring residents

together to focus on disaster preparedness and training. NW is funded by the Department of Justice (DOJ) and administered by the National Sheriff's Association (NSA).



The **Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)** provides support and resources for agencies interested in developing or enhancing a volunteer program and for citizens who wish to volunteer their time and skills with a community law enforcement agency. The program's ultimate goal is to enhance the capacity of state and local law enforcement to utilize volunteers. Funded by DOJ, VIPS is administered by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP).



The **National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC)** and the Volunteer & Combination Officers Section of the IAFC proposed the establishment of Fire Corps, a national program to provide citizens with opportunities to support their local fire departments that are non-suppression related. **Fire Corps** is an opportunity for fire departments to reunite with the citizens and for the citizens to reunite with the fire department and to strengthen the relationship between the firehouse and community.