



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What are Citizen Corps Councils?

Citizen Corps was started by FEMA in 2002 as part of President George W. Bush's USA Freedom Corps initiative.

How did Alexandria start its Citizen Corps?

Alexandria Mayor and City Council in 2003 created the Alexandria Citizen Corps Council (CCC) and appointed community representatives to advise and assist their efforts to minimize the impact of disasters through prevention, preparation, and effective response measures.

What are Corps' active programs?

The two current programs sponsored by Alexandria City and Virginia Department of Health and actively promoted by Citizens Corps Council are the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Medical Reserve Corps (MRC).

What is CERT?

Program educates people about disaster preparedness and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, and disaster medical operations.

What is MRC?

Program strengthens communities by helping medical, public health and other volunteers offer their expertise throughout the years well as during local emergencies and other times of community need. MRC volunteers work in coordination with existing local emergency response programs and also supplement existing community public health initiatives, such as outreach and prevention, immunization programs, blood drives, case management, care planning, and other efforts.

What are its goals?

Alexandria Citizen Corps Council advocates for emergency preparedness awareness through public outreach at community events. We promote and recognize community excellence and innovation through an emergency preparedness awards program. We also advocate for continued funding and awareness through the city's annual budget and city commissions and councils.

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