

UTAH CITIZEN CORPS VISTA PROJECT

The Utah Citizen Corps VISTA Project is hosted by the Utah Commission on Volunteers. **The project focus is to establish and promote Citizen Corps Councils** and their pillar programs; CERT, Fire Corps, Medical Reserve Corps, Neighborhood Watch, Volunteers in Police Service as well as other community preparedness programs. The Utah Citizen Corps VISTA Project goal is prepared communities.

The mission of Citizen Corps is to prepare, train and volunteer through public outreach and education. The Utah Citizen Corps Project encourages the establishment of additional Citizen Corps Councils in areas which desire and are willing to support the Utah Citizen Corps Council Programs. It may include participating with the County Local Emergency Planning Committee, the Community Emergency Response Team program, Disaster Preparedness in the Schools, the Medical Reserve Corps, Community Disaster Awareness Public Information, and Volunteer Center programs, Also, identification of and emergency planning for Special Needs Individuals and Groups, and local crime prevention programs.

The Utah Citizen Corps VISTA Project will seek to serve the entire population of Utah's twenty-nine (29) counties. This project will include as many tribal, ethnic-minority and special needs populations as are interested.

It is the goal of Citizen Corps Councils and the Utah Citizen Corps VISTA Project, to provide access to all citizens of Utah including rural, lower income populations, their families, and communities, to be better prepared to respond to, and recover from disasters of all kinds.

Recommended VISTA activities under the Utah Citizen Corps VISTA Project should be:

I. Assist in organizing and coordinating community Citizen Corps Councils. This may include:

1. Community Emergency Response Teams;
2. Community Disaster Awareness Education;
3. Disaster preparedness in the schools;
4. Crime Prevention and Community Policing programs such as Neighborhood Watch and Volunteers In Police Service;
5. Medical Reserve Corps and other Public Health disaster preparedness programs;
6. Local Emergency Planning Committees;
7. Fire Corps and other Educational Outreach Programs.
8. Be Ready Utah preparedness efforts.

II. Support the County Emergency Services Program in achieving its goals for community preparedness;

III. Support community goals for disaster preparedness including but not limited to the following programs;

Community Programs:

- A. Recruit new members to serve in targeted preparedness affiliated programs.
- B. Become active on/in the Citizen Corps Councils, and recruit new members from county. And/or move toward the establishment of a Citizen Corps Council in county.
- C. Establish volunteers as a Citizen Corps Council. Volunteer Centers shall enhance volunteer recruitment.
- D. Organize, coordinate and support county crime prevention programs, specifically neighborhood / mobile watch and Volunteers in Police Service.
- E. Recruit, organize and train (with state and local help) a cadre of local Disaster Preparedness Presenters.
- F. Assist in organizing/coordinating disaster preparedness in schools, including Planning, Training and Exercises.
- G. Organize/Coordinate the Storm Ready Program of the National Weather Service, and implement it in county/city according to NWS guidelines; coordinate with local Emergency Management.
- H. Coordinate with County EPM, Red Cross, Communities of Faith, Volunteer Centers and others to identify individuals and groups within jurisdiction who have special needs to be addressed in case of emergency or disaster. (Examples are those needing oxygen or other respiratory assistance, those who are bed-ridden and/or non-ambulatory, non-English-speakers, resident care facilities)
- I. Assist local communities to coordinate with Utah's Special Needs Registry.
- J. Coordinate with local EPM in creating and maintaining County Disaster Resource Lists and the Resource Management Annex of your County Emergency Management and Operations Plan.

- K. Complete both Independent Study and Classroom training in Donations Management, and recruit volunteers to perform this function for local EPM. Coordinate with local EPM and with the State Donations Management Officer.
- L. Complete both Independent Study and Classroom training in Volunteer Management, and recruit volunteers to perform this function for local EPM. Coordinate with your local EPM and with the State Volunteer Management Coordinator.
- M. Become a member of the county Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and support its leadership in LEPC programs and goals.
- N. Coordinate all of the above with the local Emergency Program Manager.