



**ORANGE COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

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300 West Tryon Street
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Central Administrative
Services

Dental Health Services

Environmental Health Services

Health Promotion and
Education Services

Personal Health Services



300 West Tryon Street

Hillsborough, NC 27278

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FAX: (919) 644-3007

Quality Assurance/Risk Management Unit

November 15, 2006

Dear Community Representative:

The Orange County Health Department has teamed up with Orange County Emergency Management to start the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program. We are contacting community leaders to promote CERT and encourage residents and businesses to join.

The CERT program teaches people how to provide basic emergency response services in their neighborhood. Following a major disaster, first responders may not be able to meet service demands. Factors such as the number of victims, communication failures and roadblocks may prevent people from obtaining the emergency response services expected during disasters. Community members will have to rely on each other to meet immediate needs until professional health and safety responders can reach them.

Orange County CERT consists of a 5-week training program. Community members receive basic training in emergency preparedness, fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, disaster psychology, personal safety, and animal care and protection. The training ends with a review of material covered and an exercise where teams practice newly learned skills. Each member will receive educational material and emergency response gear (hard hat, reflective vest, safety whistle, identification badge, and more). After training, teams function as self-sustaining units and respond to community emergency needs as they arise.

The Los Angeles Fire Department started CERT in 1984 to prepare citizens for earthquakes. The program was so successful that FEMA adopted the curriculum to make it a national program. While Orange County doesn't have a high risk for earthquakes, we do have our share of natural disasters. Hurricanes, ice storms, and flooding have impacted our area. Orange County could also be faced with disasters like terrorism, chemical emergencies, and disease outbreaks, all of which could delay vital emergency response services.

Please promote CERT to your community group (and neighbors) and register for one of our upcoming trainings. **There is no registration fee and all training materials are provided at no cost.** Our program brochure, training calendar, and registration form are enclosed. Feel free to make copies of these materials and distribute to your members.

If you have any questions, contact me, Candice Watkins-Robinson at 919-245-2388 or cwatkins@co.orange.nc.us. You can also visit our webpage at www.co.orange.nc.us/health and the national CERT site at www.citizencorps.gov/cert to learn more. Thank you for your time and **we look forward to seeing you in training!**

Sincerely,

Candice

Candice Watkins-Robinson
Coordinator
Orange County CERT Program

Training Calendar

Orange County CERT teaches participants how to provide basic emergency services after a disaster. If you live or work in Orange County, you can form a CERT to meet critical needs in your neighborhood or workplace after a disaster. To form a CERT gather 5 or more people and register for the weekend or weekday training program.

Weekend Schedule

Week	Date	Unit	Time
1	1/13/2007	Emergency Preparedness Fire Safety	9AM-3PM
2	1/20/2007	Disaster Medical Operations I Disaster Medical Operations II	9AM-3PM
3	1/27/2007	Light Search and Rescue CERT Team Organization	9AM-3PM
4	2/3/2007	Disaster Psychology Personal Safety and Property Protection	9AM-3PM
5	2/10/2007	Animal Care and Protection Course Review and Exercise	9AM-3PM

Weekend training is held on Saturday from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm. In this time, two units are taught. Classes will be held at Southern Human Services Center in Chapel Hill. Class size limited to 30 people. Advance registration is required. **Registration deadline is January 5, 2007.**

Weekday Schedule

Week	Date	Unit	Time
1	2/12/2007 2/14/2007	Emergency Preparedness Fire Safety	6PM-9PM
2	2/19/2007 2/21/2007	Disaster Medical Operations I Disaster Medical Operations II	6PM-9PM
3	2/26/2007 2/28/2007	Light Search and Rescue CERT Team Organization	6PM-9PM
4	3/5/2007 3/7/2007	Disaster Psychology Personal Safety and Property Protection	6PM-9PM
5	3/12/2007 3/14/2007	Animal Care and Protection Course Review and Exercise	6PM-9PM

Weekday training is held on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm. One unit is taught each evening. Classes will be held at Northern Human Services Center in Hillsborough. Class size limited to 20 people. Advance registration is required. **Registration deadline is February 2, 2007.**

Join Orange County CERT ... Be ready when disaster strikes!



Orange County Community Emergency Response Team
 Training Registration Form – Group Face Sheet



The group contact person should complete this form and instruct team members to complete the individual registration form. Your group's information will be entered into the Orange County CERT Program Database and will not be shared with program partners or members without your consent.

Contact Information

Organization / Community Name:		Number of People in Your Community or Served by your Organization:	
Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	
Phone:	E-mail:	Cell Phone:	
Web Site:		Anticipated # of CERT Members:	
Contact Person:		Phone (if different from above):	
Email (if different from above):		Fax Number:	
Does your facility have a training room or classroom? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		Group Training Preference <input type="checkbox"/> Weekday <input type="checkbox"/> Weekend	
Please create a name for your CERT. <i>Team names should reflect the community that your unit will represent and must include the larger program name. Example: Cedar Grove Community Emergency Response Team or Chapel Hill CERT.</i>			

Organization / Community Description

Please check the label that best describes your group:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business / Business Association | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Watch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Church | <input type="checkbox"/> School / University |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civic Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homeowner's Association | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Please tell us about your community or organization
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Please tell us why your group wants to form a CERT

Return to: Orange County CERT Program
 Attn: Candice Watkins-Robinson
 300 W. Tryon Street, PO Box 8181
 Hillsborough, NC 27278
 Fax: 919-644-3380
 Phone: 919-245-2388

Program Use Only:	
Date Received	
Group Assignment	
Training Session	

Orange County Community Emergency Response Team

Training Registration Form – Individual



Your information will be entered into the Orange County CERT Program Database and will not be shared with program partners or members without your consent.

Contact Information:

First Name:		Last Name:	
Address:			
City:	State: NC	Zip:	
Phone:	Cell Phone:	Pager:	
E-mail Address:		DOB:	
Gender:	Occupation:	Community Name:	
Team Name: <i>(Answer this question if you're registering as part of a group. This name must match the name provided on the group registration form.)</i>			

Emergency Contact

Primary Contact's Name:		Relation:	
Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	
Phone:	Cell Phone:	Pager:	

Alternate Contact's Name:		Relation:	
Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	
Phone:	Cell Phone:	Pager:	

Participation

Preferred Level of Participation in CERT Program	
(Please Select One)	
<input type="checkbox"/> CERT Member (Completes training program and deploys with community team) <input type="checkbox"/> CERT Support / Orange County Citizen Corps Council (Contributes to program planning initiatives) <input type="checkbox"/> CERT Member and CERT Support Team	
Participation in the CERT training program will require heavy lifting, bending, prolonged sitting, and other strenuous activities. Please provide information about any special needs or restrictions you may have so that we can accommodate your needs as best as possible.	
Applicant Comments:	
Training Preference: <input type="checkbox"/> Weekday <input type="checkbox"/> Weekend	Program Use Only Date Received: _____ Group Assigned To: _____ Training Session: _____

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