PREPAREDNESS AND CITIZEN CORPS

Pam Weeks
Pennsylvania Citizen Corps
Program Manager
Community Preparedness

- Emergencies can range from inconvenient to devastating. Preparedness in advance can minimize their impact and make a big difference in ensuring the safety and well-being of individuals, families, businesses and communities.
Community Preparedness Goals

- Increased Collaboration between government and community leaders
- Integration of non-governmental assets and resources into government plans, preparations, and disaster response
- Personal Preparedness of all Pennsylvania residents in all-hazards prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response & recovery
- Volunteer Service to support community safety and to provide surge capacity support
Emergency Preparedness Efforts

- Federal, state and local government and the private sector are working hard to prepare and protect the nation, but we all have a role to play.

- The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania promotes emergency preparedness through its public education and outreach programs run by state agencies, Citizen Corps at the state and local levels and the federal and state Ready Campaigns.
Citizen Corps Mission

- The mission of Citizen Corps is to harness the power of every individual through education, training, and volunteer service to make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to the threats of terrorism, crime, public health issues, and disasters of all kinds.
Program Concept

- COUNCILS
- MAJOR PROGRAMS
  - Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)
  - Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)
  - Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)
  - Neighborhood Watches
  - Fire Corps
- AFFILIATES
Citizen Corps Councils

COUNCIL
- Planning Capabilities
- Outreach and Education
- Training and Exercises
- Volunteer Programs and Surge Support

Local
- Faith-Based
- Older Adults

State
- Government
- Emergency Responders
- Community Context

National
- Schools/Youth
- Business/Workplace
- Language/Culture
- VOADs
- Individuals with Disabilities

Social Networks
Economic Resilience
Information and Communication
Citizen Corps
National Partners
ReadyPA Campaign

- Website that serves as a clearinghouse for emergency preparedness info – [www.readypa.org](http://www.readypa.org)
- Citizen Corps C-Gram
- Citizen Corps Map
- Outreach Materials
- 2010 National Preparedness Month (NPM)
Best Practices

- 2010 NPM-Philadelphia Citizen Corps
- Businesses, Schools, Day Care Centers
Contact Information

pweeks@state.pa.us
(717) 651-2141