

CLARION COUNTY CITIZEN CORPS COUNCIL

The Clarion County Citizen Corps Council brings together leaders from first responder groups, emergency management, volunteer organizations, government, and the private sector to engage all citizens in making our communities safer, stronger, and better prepared for emergencies of all kinds.

Charge to Clarion County Citizen Corps Council Members

- ◆ Identify opportunities for local organizations to collaborate to accomplish the shared goals of the Citizen Corps Council and to achieve results greater than would be possible as a stand alone program.
- ◆ Exchange facts and information on programs to promote public awareness, training, safety and volunteer service opportunities and on safety and preparedness messages to be conveyed to the public.
- ◆ Develop and disseminate messages on safety and emergency preparedness that will be effective in engaging communities and individuals in Citizen Corps.
- ◆ Serve as the catalyst for engaging others within their areas of expertise to promote the Citizen Corps mission.

The County Citizen Corps Council will meet Quarterly; smaller working groups may meet more frequently.

Membership does not encompass financial support from Citizen Corps or FEMA; nor is there any financial obligation from member organizations.

The purpose of the Council is to foster collaboration; it is not intended as an advisory or governing body, nor to set county policy.

The Clarion County Citizen Corps program is administered under the immediate direction of the Clarion County Office of Emergency Services and is funded by federal grants through PEMA.

Securing our safety and freedom requires that we all work together. Every American has a critical role to play. Major disasters in a community can overload the capability of first responders, especially during the first critical 12 to 72 hours of the event. Citizen Corps will provide the community with a well-trained, readily available pool of local people who know their community and who can help during this critical time when outside assistance may have not yet arrived.

On a day-to-day basis, our Council will help citizens take a more active role in crime prevention, risk reduction, emergency preparedness, and public health issues. Citizen Corps Council and the programs they oversee will make our community a safer, better place to live.

Specific benefits include:

- * Supplementing a community's professional police, fire, emergency management, public health, and public safety capabilities where appropriate, especially in times of emergency
- * Giving our residents a greater sense of security, responsibility, and personal control
- * Showcasing our community's efforts in crime prevention, public health and safety, emergency medical response, risk reduction and mitigation practices, emergency preparedness, and emergency response as part of the national Citizen Corps initiative
- * Bringing together the volunteer and the first responder communities to promote the concept that everyone has a role in making our community safer, stronger, and better prepared
- * Demonstrating our leadership and our personal commitment to the safety of our community
- * Building community pride and patriotism