

ACTIVATION STATUS: NYC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER IS ACTIVATED.

PLEASE NOTE: Program staff will respond to inquiries and requests as soon as possible. We appreciate your patience and support.



Hello NYC CERT! My face may be familiar to some of you, but for those that don't know me my name is Gabrien Zervos, and I am your new CERT Operations and Engagement Specialist. I previously served as an AmeriCorps member for CERT, but I am now rejoining New York City Emergency Management and the CERT program in a more permanent role. No words can express how enthusiastic I am to get started. I am looking forward to meet old and new faces within the program, as well as continuing to work towards the betterment of our city through the passionate and persevering efforts of this program.



Happy Veterans Day

I pledge allegiance to the American Flag; forever may she wave.
God bless those covered with her as they're lowered to their grave.
We must not take for granted the freedoms that we share
and the soldiers that protect us in our darkest hour.
Soldiers leave their loved ones to heed their country's call,
ready to place their lives in danger, willing to give it all.
Sleepless nights and endless days are common, but they know
without the blood of patriots, the freedom tree won't grow.
Through hail, rain, snow, and heat, blood, sweat, and tears,
they march into the heat of battle, pushing aside their fears.
When the physical battle is over, the mental battle begins.
For some, it's only temporary, for others, it never ends,
so pray for all of our soldiers, and let us never forget
we can never repay them; we will always be in their debt.

-The Soldier, by Gary S. Spears



MONDAY RADIO ROLL CALL

Borough Channel:

CERT MN

11/13 Responding Borough:

Manhattan + Staten Island

Call Scenario: What is the most recent drill your team conducted?

Documents to Review:

Citywide Radio Drill Refresher

Call signs per Radio

To all Veterans, we are forever grateful for the intrepid spirit and valor you've shown, and the part you played, to uphold our nation's values.

Find resources for Veterans at [The United States Department of Veterans Affairs](#).



In November, we also acknowledge those who support their family members that have given up a normal life to ensure the safety of our nation.

Support for military families can be found at [Military OneSource](#).



Happy Diwali

Diwali is a festival that brings people together to celebrate the triumph of light over darkness. It is a time for hope, love, and positivity. The festival of Diwali symbolizes integrity and vivacity. The lighting of Diyas (oil lamps) is said to remove darkness and bring in the light of knowledge and prosperity. The festival is also celebrated to spread love and encourage nonviolence.

Let us light up our homes and hearts with the warmth of kindness and the spirit of togetherness. Peace, happiness, and prosperity to all. Happy Diwali!

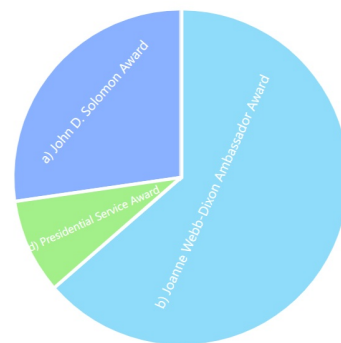
Quiz



Each week we will propose a quiz question that relates back to lessons learned during NYC CERT training or from your experience as an active member. The answer will be revealed in the following week's newsletter. Good Luck!

[CLICK HERE FOR THIS WEEK'S QUIZ](#)

Previous question: Name the annual recognition award that is presented at NYC CERT Graduation to a division that focuses on building and expanding partnerships within the community.



The correct answer is: **b) Joanne Webb-Dixon Ambassador Award**

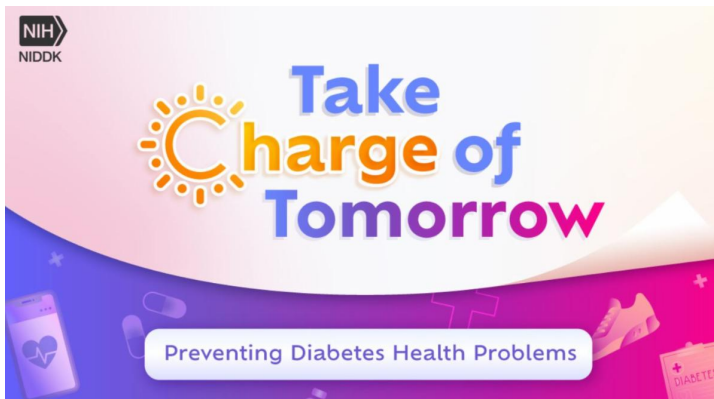
Tried to throw you a little curve there!

While the Carlos Nieves Award is a division award, it actually recognizes excellence in deployment, rather than the development of community partnerships. Further details on all awards and past winners can be found on the nyc.gov website, here:

<https://www.nyc.gov/site/em/volunteer/awards.page>



[View and Download the Complete NYC CERT Basic Training Student Manual](#)



Diabetes Awareness Month

November is National Diabetes Month. It's time to take action and learn more about ways to detect and prevent Diabetes. Approximately 96 million American adults—more than 1 in 3—have prediabetes. Of those with prediabetes, more than 80% don't know they have it. This serious disease can cause heart attack, stroke, blindness, kidney failure, or loss of limbs. If 1 in 3 American adults has prediabetes, it could be you, your sibling, or your best friend.

Educate Yourself

[Learn more](#) about how to recognize and/or manage Diabetes.

Take Action

Take a [Prediabetes Screening test](#).



Get Involved

The 2023 Global Diabetes Walk needs you. Participate by choosing the distance and the date(s) you want to walk. Many walks take place on November 14th, World Diabetes Day, but any time in November is fine.

Get the specifics of [Global Diabetes Walk](#). [Register Now](#).



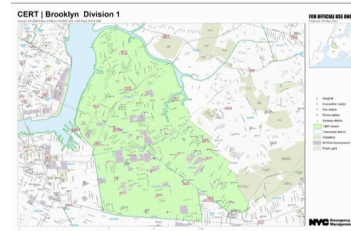
12th Annual Community Preparedness Symposium

The Call for Speakers is open for the 2024 Community Preparedness Symposium - Path to Preparedness: Empowering Community Action.

NYC Emergency Management's Community Engagement team is looking for engaging speakers to contribute to the 12th Annual Community Preparedness Symposium. Do you know a community or



The [NYC CERT Standard Operating Procedures \(SOPs\)](#) provides guidance and outlines policies and procedures for you and your team to follow.



NYC CERT Division maps are available (pdf format) to support recruitment and preparedness planning in your community.

[Brooklyn](#) - [Bronx](#) - [Manhattan](#) - [Queens](#) - [Staten Island](#)



View the [NYC CERT Event Calendar](#) to see upcoming training, meetings, and planned deployments.

After you participate, be sure to [Submit Your Volunteer Hours!](#)

For more questions on how to submit your service hours you can view the [Hours Submission FAQs](#).

faith leader in NYC paving the way with how communities can better prepare, respond and recover from emergencies? If yes, please help spread the word and encourage people in your networks to apply.



For more information and to apply, please scan the QR code or simply click on <https://lnkd.in/eCp9PXTM>.

The Call for Speakers submission deadline is on **Friday, Dec. 1, 2023**.

Send Us Your Photos!



Help us celebrate 20 years of CERT in New York City by sending us your photos and videos from your event at on.nyc.gov/CERTupload

Please note **Date (including year), Borough, Division (or team), Event, members included (if available).**

If you have any questions, please contact us at cert@oem.nyc.gov. Thank you!

Download Photos from the Gracie Mansion Anniversary Event

READY NEW YORK

If your division is hosting or participating in an upcoming event, please complete the [Event Request form](#) to have your opportunity published through Eventbrite.com for members to register.

Your NYC CERT Ready New York Liaison can submit a [Ready New York Material Request](#) for upcoming events.



Get Notified with New York City's official source for information about emergency alerts and important city services. Download the free [Notify NYC](#) mobile app, available for [iOS](#) and [Android](#).

Have Questions? Let's Chat!



NYC CERT members have access to NYC CERT program staff for support. While your first step in answering program-related questions should be to speak with your volunteer leadership, you can always schedule a meeting or even a quick chat with program staff to answer questions, note concerns, provide suggestions, or even to tell us how wonderful of a job we're doing...

You can book a meeting here:

<https://on.nyc.gov/bookCERT>

You may choose from the following services (direct links):

[CERT Pick-up \(In-Person\)](#)
[General Questions](#)
[CERT ID Questions](#)

[Advanced Training Exercises/ Tabletops](#)
[NYC CERT Operations](#)

[Leadership Interest Division Discussion](#)
[Borough Discussion](#)

Step 1) After selecting the service (topic) you will be provided a calendar view with accompanying dates and times for staff availability. A staff member with specific knowledge of the chosen service will be assigned to the scheduled meeting.

SELECT A SERVICE

CERT Pick-up (In-Person) ☐

This service is to schedule a date and time to... [Read more](#)
Free - 15 minutes

CERT ID Questions ☐

This service is to provide support for any q... [Read more](#)
Free - 30 minutes

General Questions ☐

Please select this service if you have genera... [Read more](#)
Free - 30 minutes

Leadership Interest ☐

This service is for any current members wh... [Read more](#)
Free - 30 minutes

Step 2) Upon booking this meeting, you will receive an email confirmation to the email address provided. If something comes up or you are unable to attend the meeting, just send an email to cert@oem.nyc.gov letting us know and you can go through the scheduling process again to find a new date and time.

October 11

DATE

TIME

< > October 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

10:00 AM	10:30 AM	11:00 AM
11:30 AM	2:00 PM	2:30 PM
3:00 PM	3:30 PM	4:30 PM
5:00 PM	5:30 PM	

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



MHHC Community Unity Walk & Clean Up

Members will help clean up the community street sidewalks by picking up debris with equipment provided by the NYC Department of Sanitation.

[Registration | Sat, Nov 18, 2023 at 9:00AM](#)

Community mayors for Special Children Operation Santa Claus at JFK Airport

Assist the Community Mayors for Children with Special Needs, Inc. at the annual Operation Santa Claus event at JFK Airport.

[Registration | Wed, Dec 13, 2023 at 8:00AM](#)



NYC CERT CALENDAR



Buddy Check

As we close out a long year of volunteering to support your community and head into a new year with new challenges, please take some time to support one another. The best way to do that is by performing buddy checks.

What is a buddy check?

Taking the time to check on family and friends, especially those unable to leave their home for any reason. You might be surprised by the impact you'll have on those who you connect with.

[Report your Volunteer Hours](#)

Search for *Buddy Check* Event



MENTOR PROGRAM

Are you interested in becoming a mentor to new NYC CERT members?

All Volunteer leadership should be encouraging active members to serve in a mentor role in order to support both their growth as leaders and provide new opportunities for newer members to become more engaged.

Complete the [NYC CERT Mentor Program form](#) to let us know if you'd like to be a mentor or mentee.

Complete the [Matching Questionnaire](#) to help pair the mentor to a mentee. Both forms must be filled out to participate in the program.

[NYC CERT online platform](#) includes online courses to support volunteer growth.

Schedule free training for your Division here : [FDNY Smart Fire Safety](#).

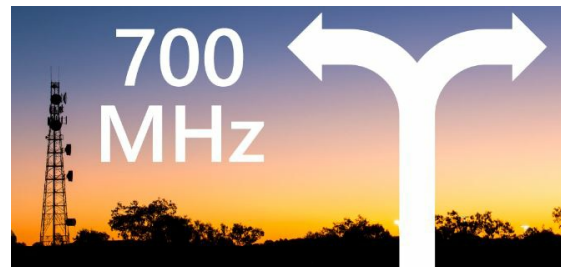
[FEMA Region 2 \(R2\) Webinar Catalogue](#) includes all recorded webinars.

ADVANCED TRAINING

Advanced Training: Citywide Radio 700MHZ (Virtual)

Learning Objectives:

- Objectives: Radio Approved Roles for CERT
- Citywide Network (700 MHz)
- Review of Radio Terminology & Functionality
- Operability of 700 MHz radios
- Calling Protocol
- Your Role and Responsibility as a Citywide radio operator



[Registration | Wed, Nov 15, 2023 at 6:30PM](#)

NYC CERT VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY

November 4, 2023 Brooklyn CERT



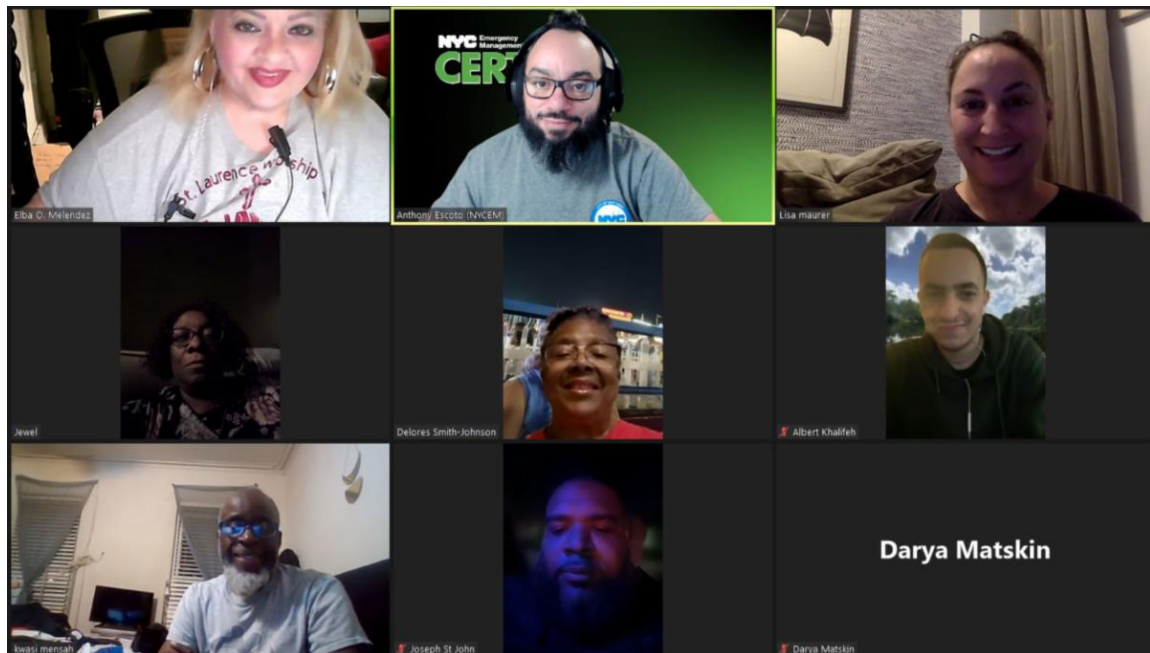
Brooklyn Divisions 5 & 7 staffed a preparedness event at the Holy Family Flea Market. Preparedness literature was available and shared with the community. After, Brooklyn Division 7 deployed to assist with a Diwali Festival of Lights celebration in Marine Park.

Image to the right:

BK Div 7 Chief Joseph St. John, BK Div 7 District 15 Leader, Albert Khalifeh, BK Borough Coordinator Elba O. Melendez, BK Div 7 District 18 member Adrian Jack, and NYS Senator Roxanne Persaud



Brooklyn Leadership Meeting



The Brooklyn Leadership Meeting was held virtually on Monday, November 6th, with Divisions 1, 4, 5 and 7 present. Division 1 reported on the progress of their holiday party collaboration with Brooklyn Division 2. Division 4 reported on the success of their past 2 hybrid meetings. Division 5 and Division 7 reported on their operations schedule throughout December, and on their holiday party collaboration.

[Download the NYC CERT Background](#) for use during CERT meetings and training in a virtual environment (e.g. Microsoft Teams, Zoom, etc.)

THINGS TO KNOW



How To Request NYC CERT

If approached to support an event in your community, the following steps must be taken:

- Event organizer submits an official request using the [NYC CERT External Request Form](#).
- NYC CERT Leadership *should not* submit form on behalf of the event organizer.
- For events lead by a NYC CERT Division, volunteer leadership (Ready New York Liaison, if a preparedness event) should submit this [Event Request form](#)

NYC CERT program staff will review all requests. If approved, program staff will add the volunteer opportunity to the [NYC CERT Event Calendar](#)

with a registration link. If more details are required for approval, program staff will use the contact information provided in the request form to connect with the organizer.

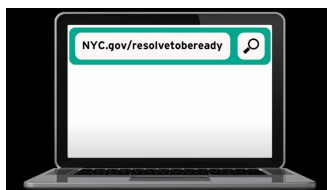
NYC CERT External Request Form: <https://on.nyc.gov/CERTrequest>

Find the NYC CERT Protocols here: [NYC CERT SOPs](#)

Schedule a meeting with NYCEM staff: [NYC CERT Volunteer Support](#)



[NYCEM's YouTube page](#)
[NYC CERT recruitment video](#)
[2021 National Volunteer Week video](#)



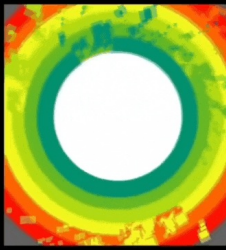
[Resolve to Be Ready Calendar](#)
 Regular reminders in simple steps that can help you work preparedness into your busy schedule.



Listen to the NEW episodes of NYCEM's two podcasts, Prep Talk ([SoundCloud](#), [iTunes](#) & [Spreaker](#)) and ¡Prepárate! on [SoundCloud](#).

KNOW YOUR ZONE is your destination for everything you need to know about hurricanes in New York City.

You'll find information about the city's hurricane evacuation zones, the hazards you may face from a hurricane, and what to do to prepare.



JOSEPH PUPELLO
Director
Volunteer Programs



ANTHONY ESCOTO
Program Manager
Training & Exercises



DENISE ESPOSITO
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Recruitment & Retention



REGINA WILSON
Specialist
CERT Leadership



GABRIEN ZERVOS
Specialist
Operations & Engagement



AMY JOY ROBATEAU
AmeriCorps
Member



[Schedule a meeting with NYC CERT Staff](https://on.nyc.gov/bookCERT)
<https://on.nyc.gov/bookCERT>

[General Questions](#)

[NYC CERT Operations](#)

[CERT ID Renewal](#)

[Leadership Interest](#)

[Training Exercises](#)



NYC Emergency Management | nyc.gov/emergencymanagement
[Click here to view as a webpage](#)



NYC Emergency Management Communications Network | 165 Cadman Plaza East, Brooklyn, NY 11201

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