

Gabrien Zervos

From: NYC Emergency Management <cert@oem.nyc.gov>
Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2023 12:00 PM
To: Gabrien Zervos
Subject: [BULK] [EXTERNAL] NYC CERT Newsletter

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NYC CERT Newsletter | Issue 115 | 03/11/2023

NYC Emergency Management CERT NEWSLETTER

NEW YORK CITY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

This weekly newsletter should provide you with helpful information that you can share and discuss with your community members.

[Click here to view as a webpage](#)



MONDAY RADIO ROLL CALL

Borough Channel: CERT BX (Bronx)

03/14: Brooklyn

Call Scenario: Report out how many team members have completed FEMA IS-100.

Documents to Review:

[Citywide Radio Drill Refresher](#)

[Call signs per Radio](#)

PeaceCorps & Americorps Week!

Peace Corps Week is an annual celebration, this year taking place from February 26 to March 4, 2023, commemorates the day that President John F. Kennedy established the organization on March 1, 1961. The Peace Corps' significant contributions to meaningful change in the United States and around the world are highlighted during this celebratory week.

← Tweet

NYC NYC Emergency Management
@nycemergencymgt

Shout out to our employees and CERT volunteers who are former Peace Corps members!

Yesterday morning Moriah Washington, our Director of Community Engagement, held a breakfast to discuss their experiences and how that translates into their work at NYCEM.



11:21 AM · Mar 3, 2023 · 1,371 Views

AmeriCorps Week is March 12 to March 18, 2023. During this time, we celebrate the dedication of the millions of Americans who have chosen to serve their country through AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors and encourage others to do the same.


Through our AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors programs, AmeriCorps engages 200,000 Americans annually in sustained, results-driven service. Members and volunteers continue to assist communities in managing the response to COVID-19, ensuring that students continue on track to graduate, combating hunger and homelessness, responding to natural disasters, combating the opioid epidemic, assisting seniors in living independently, supporting veterans and military families, and a great deal more.

Say thank you! We encourage you to say "thank you" to an AmeriCorps member during AmeriCorps week.

Throughout the week, share videos, photos, and posts with the hashtag **#AmeriThanks** on any social media platform celebrating AmeriCorps members, Seniors volunteers, and alums. Be sure to tag **@AmeriCorps** and use the hashtag **#AmeriCorpsWeek**!

¡PREPÁRATE PODCAST!

QUIZ OF THE WEEK



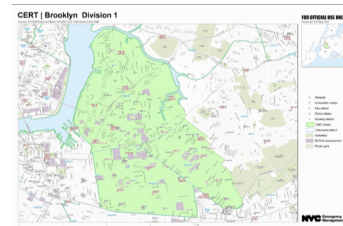
QUIZ OF THE WEEK IS BACK!

Each week we will have a survey with questions that relates back to lessons learned during NYC CERT training or your experience as a member. The answer will be revealed in the following week's newsletter. Good Luck!

[CLICK HERE](#)



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](#)



The most recent episode of the Spanish podcast "Prepárate!" produced by New York City Emergency Management is in honor of Women's History Month and includes EMT member Esther Ford from the New York City Fire Department. The 15-year veteran discusses her decision to join the department, her leadership role with the FDNY Hispanic Society, and the impact she hopes to have as an Afro-Latina of Garifuna heritage in her Bronx community. The Garifuna people are from the Caribbean island of Saint Vincent and are made up of free African and Native American ancestors. The Garifuna people and culture can be found in Honduras and Belize, in addition to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Share Your Memories of Superstorm Sandy



Brooklyn College Honors Students Seek Volunteer Interviewees for a Public History Project

- Tell us about what you remember of the Storm and its aftermath!
- Memories will be recorded and shared publicly.
- Part of the Community Hub for Sustainable Urban Futures at Floyd Bennett Field, this oral history project seeks to record and preserve the stories of the people of the Rockaways with Superstorm Sandy.
- Interviews can be conducted in person, on the phone or on the computer.



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](#).



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.



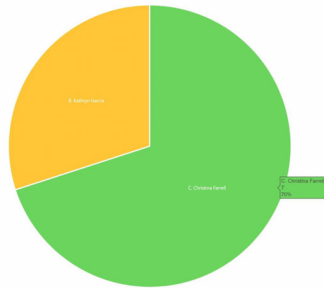
Your NYC CERT Ready New York Liaison can submit a [Ready New York Material Request](#) for upcoming events.

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](#).

If you are willing, contact:

Prof. Philip Napoli, Associate Professor and Chair
Brooklyn College Department of History
pnapoli@brooklyn.cuny.edu

Quiz Results



Thank you to all who participated in last week's Quiz of the Week. The correct answer is: **C) Christina Farrell**. 70% of you got it right!

Before taking on her latest role as First Deputy Commissioner for NYCEM, Christina managed the External Affairs Division. She always made sure that CERT members were engaged in, showcased at and recognized for events the agency participated in.

CERT SPOTLIGHT

Throwback Edition

This video from 2 years ago highlights CERT and its members that assisted and helped coordinate emergency planning and operations that took place throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic. This video stands as an acknowledgement to those who serve and as a thank you message to our CERT members that continue to help our community through both gray-sky and blue-sky deployments alike.



Help US Celebrate 20 Years of NYC CERT



Send us your CERT photos or videos!

We have created a link for you to easily upload your collection of CERT related photos and videos from your time in the program.

You may upload several items per event/deployment, but only a maximum of three per submission. After submitting, there will be an option to submit three more!

You can scan the accompanying QR code or use this link: on.nyc.gov/CERTupload

Please label the files in the following manner: **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!

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY

11th Annual Community Preparedness Symposium



This past Tuesday, NYCEM's Community Preparedness program hosted their 11th Annual Community Preparedness Symposium at Baruch College. The NYC CERT members pictured above attended the symposium event with other CERT members not pictured. This year's event theme was "A New Standard: Communities Ahead of Emergencies" and focused on how community organizers, leaders, youth, advocates and government entities can better prepare, respond, and recover from emergencies.

Monthly Meetings

Queens Division 1



Queens Division 1 held their monthly meeting this past Wednesday. Division Chief Terese Flores led the meeting along with Anthony Escoto, CERT Training and Exercises Program Manager. The topics discussed included upcoming training opportunities and a brainstorming session on ways to become more involved in the community through volunteer activity.



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

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Asylum Seeker Deployment

On March 13th from 10am to 3pm, CERT members have been requested by the NYC Taxi Limousine Commission to support the asylum seekers operation.

Volunteers would be tasked with assisting with loading and unloading boxes of clothes along with clothing racks in supporting efforts of the asylum seekers operation out of the Port Authority Bus Terminal to 12 West 40th Street.

If you are interested in registering for this opportunity, [please click here.](#)



Open Data Week 2023

Anthony Escoto & Shelly Bradshaw /
NYC Emergency Management

Capturing Volunteers' Impact in Communities

Where: Thursday, March 16 at 3:00pm
Where: Online
RSVP: [Capturing Volunteers' Impact in Communities](#)
Visit www.open-data.nyc to view the full program!

On March 16th, learn how NYCEM uses data to report critical operations and highlight the contributions of CERT volunteers to emergency preparedness and response efforts in all five boroughs in this presentation.

Presenters include:

- Anthony Escoto, CERT Training and Exercises Program Manager, NYCEM
- Shelly Bradshaw, Geospatial Data Program Manager, NYCEM

[Register Now](#)

Bay Ridge St. Patrick's Day Parade

The NYPD 68th precinct Office of Community Affairs is looking for twenty (20) CERT volunteers to support the St. Patrick's Day parade deployment taking place in Bay Ridge Brooklyn, NY on March 26, 2023.

Those volunteers who sign up will be assisting the NYPD 68th precinct with pedestrian and vehicle traffic control. At the request of Brooklyn Division 5 chief, this opportunity is open to all CERT members citywide.

[Bay Ridge St Patrick's Day Deployment | Sunday, March 26, 2023](#)



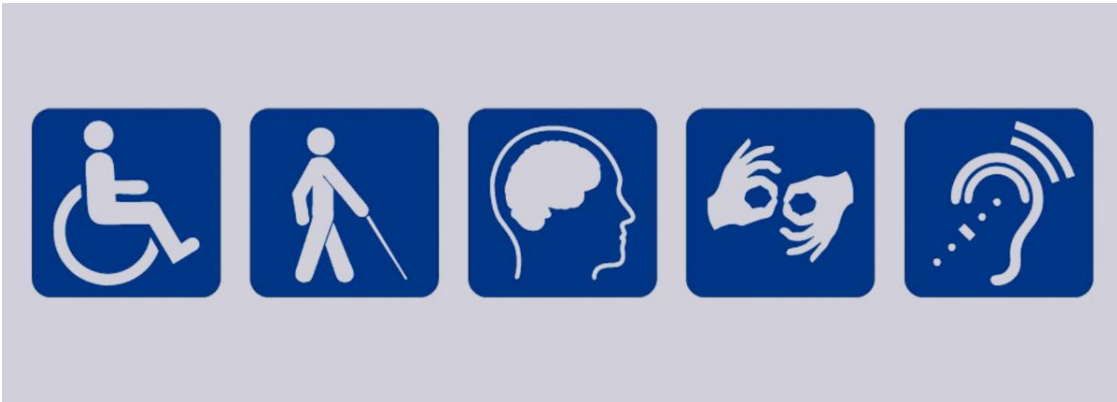


Bayside St. Patrick's Day Parade

The Bayside St Patrick's Parade Committee has requested NYC CERT volunteers to support this year's parade, taking place in Bayside Queens, NY on March 25, 2023. Volunteers who register will be assisting the 111th NYPD precinct with pedestrian management. This is a great way to gain hands-on experience as a volunteer!

[Bayside St. Patrick's Day Parade | Saturday, March 25, 2023 at 12:30 PM](#)

Communicating With People with Disabilities as First Responders



On March 21st from 1pm - 2:30pm, a webinar will be held by the National CERT Association (NCA) and the State of California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) in collaboration with the FEMA Region 2 National Preparedness Division to assist CERTs in better communicating with people who have disabilities.

According to disaster reports, 70 percent of disaster victims were people with disabilities or from other vulnerable groups. When disaster planning was examined, it was discovered that many emergency organizations lacked a plan for people with disabilities or only a small one. CERTS will gain a better understanding of how to better communicate with people with a variety of disabilities, how to recruit people with disabilities to your teams, and how to develop inclusive plans to assist disabled people in remaining safe in their homes from harm.

[Please click here to register.](#)



Ready Seniors Workshop

On March 23rd from 9am-4pm, FEMA Region 2 and the Administration for Community Living (ACL) will be hosting an in-person Ready Seniors Workshop. Other organizations such as the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) that provide essential senior support services are prepared for this in-person workshop and will be in attendance.

[Register here](#) | Thursday, March 23 | 9 AM - 4 PM

Bringing CERT Into The 21st Century

Taking place on April 4th from 1pm -2:30pm, a webinar highlighting new technology and its potential applications for CERTs is being hosted by the FEMA Region 2 National Preparedness Division in collaboration with the State of California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and the National CERT Association (NCA).

ICS4S leverages mobile technology with their patented design to enhance and transform emergency communications with a simple tap on a phone. It's more important than ever to be able to report, record and document information and share that information in a concise and effective way.



[Register here](#) | Tuesday, April 4 | 1 PM - 2:30 PM

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

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.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Emergency Operations Center & NYCEM Watch Command



On March 27th from 6:30pm - 9:30pm, NYCEM Watch Command staff invite you to NYCEM HQ to learn more about NYCEM's Emergency Operation Center & Watch Command. Topics that will be covered include:

- NYCEM 101
- Operations Division
- CERT Roles in the EOC
- Tour of the EOC

If you are interested in attending, [please click here.](#)

Cultural Awareness Training

This April 24th at 6:30pm, a training will be held virtually with the goal of improving cultural competence and awareness in the workplace and on the job when interacting with the various communities we serve.

Through self-reflection, participants will challenge their biases and assumptions, learn vocabulary that is culturally appropriate, and develop innovative strategies for cross-cultural interactions, all of which can help reduce cultural misunderstandings and improve collaboration and trust.

[To register please click here.](#)



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

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

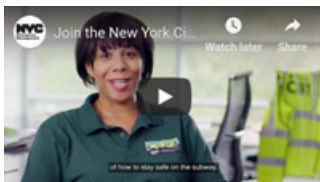
[FEMA Region 2 \(R2\) Webinar Catalogue](#) includes all recorded webinars.

COVID-19 Community Conversations: Mental Health, Equity and Resilience
 DOHMH is offering free virtual training to community groups. There are two options, a [1-hour informational virtual presentation](#) and a [3-hour interactive training](#) (available in English, Spanish, Cantonese, and Mandarin).

THINGS TO KNOW

CERT Credentials Ready for Pick-Up!

Just a reminder to coordinate with your leadership if your current CERT credential is expired. If you are a leadership member, please contact Denise Esposito to schedule a date/time to pick up your division's credentials, or to arrange for a member of your team to do the pick-up. Thank you!



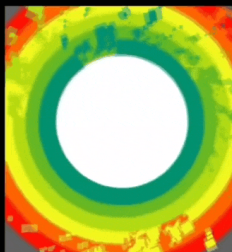
[NYCEM's YouTube page](#)
[NYC CERT recruitment video](#)
[2021 National Volunteer Week video](#)



[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.

NYC Emergency Management



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