

Gabrien Zervos

From: NYC Emergency Management <cert@oem.nyc.gov>
Sent: Saturday, January 7, 2023 12:01 PM
To: Gabrien Zervos
Subject: [BULK] [EXTERNAL] NYC CERT Newsletter

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NYC CERT Newsletter | Issue 106 | 01/07/2023



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](#)

December After Action Report



MONDAY RADIO ROLL CALL
Borough Channel: CERT BK

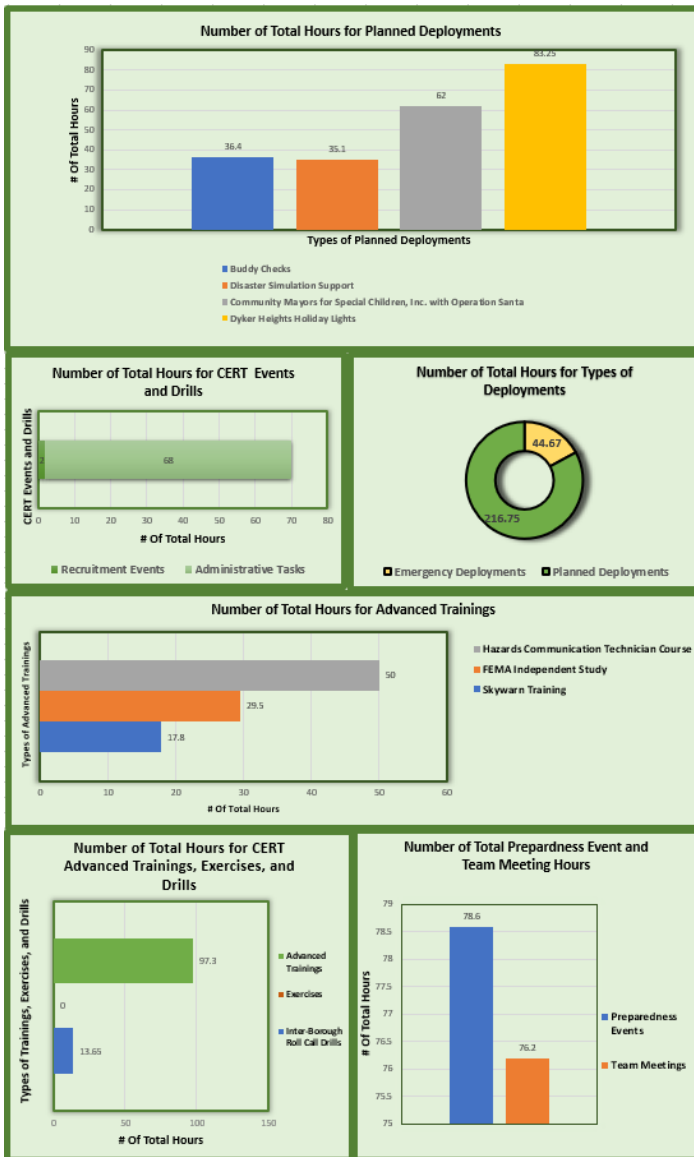
01/06 Responding Borough: Manhattan

Call Scenario: How often do you conduct division meetings?

Documents to Review:
[Citywide Radio Drill Refresher](#)
[Call signs per Radio](#)

QUIZ OF THE WEEK

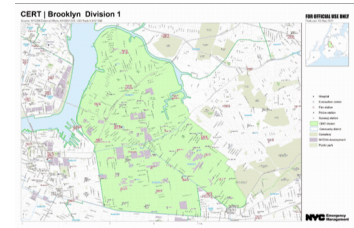
We are still hoping to have all of our members complete this volunteer survey. There is no right or wrong answer. NYC CERT volunteers wear many hats in the community. We are interested in what other organizations you also support. [Click Here](#) to participate in this survey.



The month of December brought out not only the holiday spirit, but the spirit of preparedness as well! Last month members participated in the long-awaited Dyker Heights Holiday Lights and Operation Santa Clause deployments, which were two out of the four main planned deployments that helped accumulate 216.75 hours. Alongside that holiday cheer, also brought severe winter weather conditions, and thanks to NYC CERT volunteers our communities felt safer. Thank you to all who served last month and let's continue to improve and serve together!

Message From Your Brooklyn Borough Coordinator

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](#)

December 31, 2022



"There may be many Divisions but in the end there's still only one Brooklyn! - Angela 🍷"

Dear Fellow Volunteers:

With the end of 2022 comes the excitement of something new in the New Year. I want to take a few moments to thank all who gave their time, knowledge, and insights on how we can continue to grow stronger as active NYCEM CERT volunteers.

While others work their way towards being different, you strive towards making a difference. Your passion and energy are unparalleled, and I respect your spirit of volunteerism immensely. I have been so very grateful to all who helped freely and often along the way including the dedicated NYCEM Program Staff. Thank you for being so selfless with your time, skills, and dynamic personalities. It's hard to come up with adequate words to describe how much your support means. You are dedicated, patient, and focused.

There are so many of you that I am honored to call fellow volunteers. Sharing time and action in community with those who genuinely shared with me is a gift. I honestly enjoyed meeting each of you on deployments, in emails, text messages, and in the Zoom rooms! You are hardworking and full of innovative ideas. I hope that the good work you do will come back to you many times over. If gratitude is worth millions, then you are a billionaire. Thank you for your priceless work. It will not be forgotten by me and I am sure the NYCEM program staff will remember also.

I truly believe every positive action whether big or small changes the world for the better. Continue to do the good...even if nobody is there to see it. Please be sure to welcome your new Brooklyn Coordinators with kind words and intentions. I will continue as a CERT volunteer working on special projects of interest to me that encompass all five boroughs and beyond.

Have a wonderful and peaceful start to 2023. I hope we can work together again very soon. Be safe and be well.

Respectfully,

Angela M. Thompson
CERT Brooklyn Borough Coordinator
2021-2022



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](#).



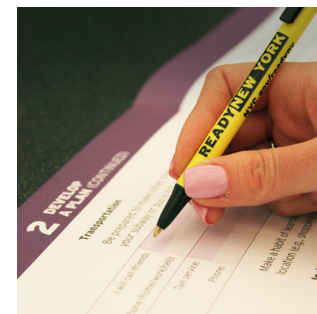
If your division is hosting or participating in an upcoming event, please complete the [Event Request form](#) to have your opportunity published through Eventbrite.com for members to register.

Support the Hope Count



We need your help!

On the night of **Tuesday, January 24th, 2023**, the Department of Social Services will conduct its annual Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) Survey, a point-in-time survey undertaken each winter that helps the city estimate the number of unsheltered New Yorkers living on the street on one of the coldest nights of the year. The results gathered through this survey provide the city with valuable information that helps determine how to allocate resources to best serve New Yorkers in need with care and compassion.



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](#).

The night of HOPE is coming soon, and I am asking you to help us conduct this survey by canvassing streets, parks, subways, and other public spaces. For the past two years, the HOPE survey has been conducted by our homelessness outreach partners, but now we are once more asking you to join for one night that will help unsheltered New Yorkers for the rest of the year.

Volunteers are needed from approximately 10:00 PM to 4:00 AM on the night of January 24th. Just a few hours of your time will help us in our ongoing efforts to support unsheltered New Yorkers and encourage them to come off the streets and subways. Thanks to the efforts of past volunteers along with the ongoing 24/7/365 efforts of the street outreach teams, we have referred more than 5,000 New Yorkers experiencing unsheltered homelessness to transitional and/or permanent housing in FY22 alone.

As we work to address unsheltered homelessness across our city, one person at a time, this is a great opportunity to participate in an extraordinary citywide effort. If you have volunteered before, I encourage you to sign up again. If you have yet to experience how truly rewarding a night of HOPE can be, you are invited to join for the first time.

The safety of everyone involved in HOPE is the highest priority. Facilities will be set up to promote social distancing, and masks and other PPE will be provided. Also, training for HOPE volunteers will be conducted remotely and volunteers will be dismissed remotely and will not be required to return to their designated HOPE site after canvassing.

Please visit nyc.gov/hope to learn more and to register. Your participation is essential to helping us address the challenge of homelessness and support some of our city's most vulnerable residents as they get back on their feet.

2022 Volunteer Hours Deadline is January 20th



All volunteers must [submit their volunteer](#) hours for 2022 by **Friday, January 20th**. As a volunteer, you should be receiving credit for the hard work and incredible support you provide in serving your community whether it be at in-person events, during virtual training or on deployment. If you have any difficulty submitting your hours, please contact us at cert@oem.nyc.gov.

CERT SPOTLIGHT

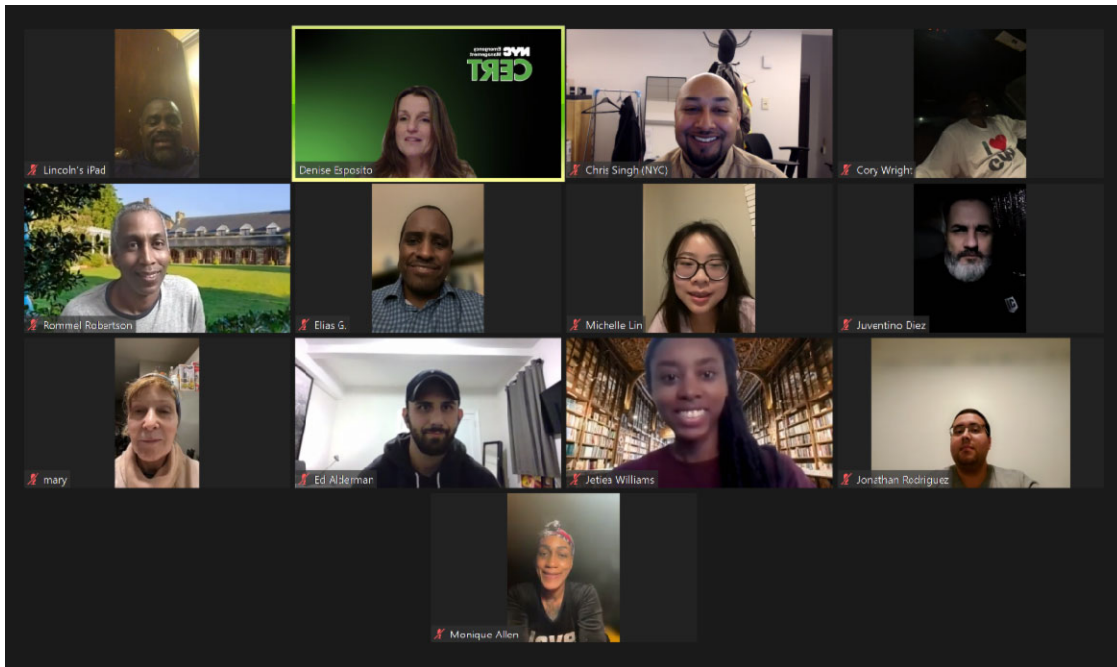
Throwback Edition

Current Deputy Commissioner of Community Engagement, Herman Schaffer discusses the importance of the New York City Community Emergency Response Team back in 2012.



VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY

CERT Orientation



CERT applicants attended a virtual orientation session on Wednesday evening to learn more about the expectations and responsibilities of NYC CERT members and what topics are covered in Basic training. Most applicants did an online search for opportunities to volunteer in their communities and found the NYC CERT program to be the perfect fit. We hope to see many of these faces in the upcoming Basic training next month!



Town Hall Meeting

An emergency Town Hall, hosted by Assembly Member Anderson, was held in Southeast Queens on Thursday, January 5th to address flooding concerns after winter storm Elliot. Many agency representatives were present including NYCEM Commissioner Zachary Iscol, who sat on a panel to answer questions from residents. NYC CERT member, Christopher Lino was joined by NYC CERT staff member Denise Esposito to distribute Ready NY literature and recruit for Queens Division 5 CERT. Thank you, Christopher!

Deployments

Coney Island Polar Bear Plunge!



This past Sunday, January 1st, NYC CERT assisted the Coney Island Polar Bear Club in its 120th Annual New Year's Day Plunge. The Annual Polar Bear Club Plunge took place from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM on the beach in Coney Island where it involved thousands of swimmers entering into the chilly water, swimming a bit and then directed to safely exit the water to warm up.

The plunge raised funds to support local organizations including the New York Aquarium, Alliance for Coney Island, Coney Island USA, Coney Island History Project and other local arts and history groups that help to make a difference in the Coney Island community.

Thank you to all who supported this long tradition. Your role can be crucial during these events, as seen during last year's polar plunge when a participant was in need of help and was resuscitated by a fellow CERT member.

Monthly Meetings



Manhattan Division 2 started the new year by welcoming new graduates, while also announcing potential new partnerships with the local public safety committee opening up new local engagement opportunities for the division.
Great work all!

Brooklyn Division 7 gathered virtually for the first time this year, led by newly appointed Division Chief Joseph St John. As the new year starts leadership has called for support from membership to become cabinet members as well to provide more support and engagement opportunities for leadership and general members.



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



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Human Trafficking Awareness Presentation



The month of January signifies Human Trafficking Month and serves as a reminder to always be aware of these heinous acts.

On January 23rd, there will be a presentation held to learn how to define and understand the severity and scope of human trafficking, identify red flags of trafficking, the intersections between intimate partner violence and human trafficking, and trauma-informed lens, resources, and tools to increase efficacy in supporting survivors of trafficking.

[Click Here to Register](#)

NOAA Eastern Region Climate Services Webinar

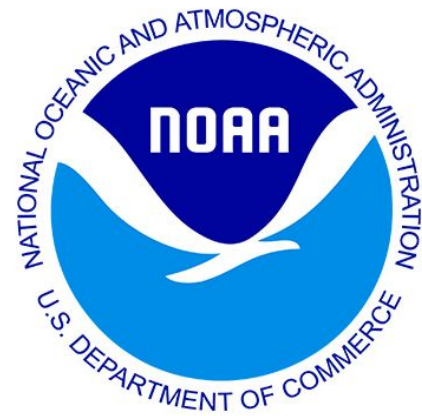
The Northeast Regional Climate Center hosts a monthly webinar with NOAA affiliates to address timely weather and climate concerns.

The topics vary by the day the presentation is given; they are as follows:

- Tuesday, January 31 - Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation Tool

[Webinar time: 9:30am-10:30am]

[Click Here to Register](#)



Preparedness Webinar for People with Loss of Sight, Hearing or Combined Loss



FEMA will be hosting a webinar on January 19th from 12:30pm-1:30pm concerning preparedness for people with hearing or vision or a combined loss and how Emergency Managers should consider this population when making their plans.

This webinar will highlight preparedness for individuals as well as emergency managers for developing plans for their community.

[Click Here to Register](#)

Resolve To Be Ready With: Organizations Preparing for Emergency Needs (OPEN)

FEMA HQ and Region 2 will be hosting a webinar on the Organizations Preparing for Emergency Needs (OPEN) training on January 25th from 2pm-3pm.

Organizations Preparing for Emergency Needs (OPEN) training provides a variety of organizations tools they need to prepare for disasters and sustain operations, in order to provide critical services to those disproportionately impacted by an incident.

[Click Here to Register](#)



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

Ready New York Speakers Bureau Refresher

The Ready New York program is looking for trained presenters who are interested in engaging more community members via the Ready NY program. Joining the Speakers Bureau for these events also puts you in the running John D. Solomon Award for Exemplary Service in Emergency Preparedness Education.

If you are interested in learning more or just brushing up on your presentation skills, [sign up for the teach-back event on January 17th!](#)



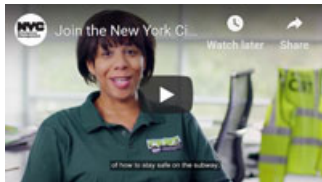
[NYC CERT online platform](#) includes online courses to support volunteer growth.

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



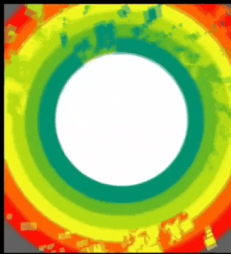
[NYCEM's YouTube page](#)
[NYC CERT recruitment video](#)
[2021 National Volunteer Week video](#)



[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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