Janurary 2025 After Action Reveiw

TEAM MEETING, ADMINISTRATIVE HOURS (JAN '25)
- Administrative
- Team Meetings
- # of Total hours

166.49

75.1

# of Total Planning and Team Meeting Hours

ADVANCED TRAININGS AND DRILLS (JAN '25)
- Exercise
- Drills

CITY WIDE DEPLOYMENTS (JAN '25)
- Emergency Deployments
- Planned Deployments

ADVANCED TRAINING HOURS (JAN '25)
- Prepardness Events
- Team Meetings

NEW METRICS (JAN '25)
- Mentor - Mentee Hours
- Virtual activity hours

183.91   188.91

# of Hours in Deployments

NYC CERT volunteers kicked off 2025 with a splash, braving the icy waters of Coney Island for the annual Polar Bear Plunge! This past month has been a whirlwind of activity, with our teams responding to several planned deployments. Volunteers also sharpened their skills with a CPR/AED training coordinated by our dedicated Manhattan Division 3, gained valuable insights at a Human Trafficking awareness presentation, and enhanced their communication abilities with a point-to-point radio class. We are incredibly grateful for the dedication and commitment of our volunteers who continue to serve our city with strength and resilience.

MONDAY RADIO ROLL CALL

Radio Channel
CERT MN

2/3 Responding Borough:
Queens

Scenario: Is your team radio being rotated?

Documents to Review:
Citywide Radio Drill Refresher
Call signs per Radio

Download the NYC CERT SOPs

New York City Emergency Management Staff is excited to announce the release of the updated NYC CERT Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)! All volunteers are encouraged to review the

NYC CERT hopes that all who celebrate had a Happy Lunar New Year!
Click here or more information on Lunar New Year

Black History Month at NYPL

As we celebrate Black History Month, we hope to promote events and encourage the public to participate in opportunities to deepen their understanding of Black history and its impact on the world.
The New York Public Library celebrates Black History Month throughout February with events and programs, recommended reading, and a wide array of resources for all ages. Please follow the links below for more information on upcoming events.

Free Events for Adults

latest iteration of expectations and guidance.
For any questions, please reach out to your volunteer leadership or email CERT@oem.nyc.gov.

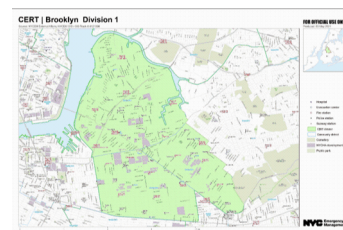View and Download the Complete NYC CERT Basic Training Student Manual

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View the **NYC CERT Event Calendar** to see upcoming training, meetings, and planned deployments.

After you participate, be sure to **Submit Your Volunteer Hours!**

*Only events submitted and approved through the Event Request form will be available to volunteers to submit service hours. If you don't see your event listed, please connect with your division leadership. *
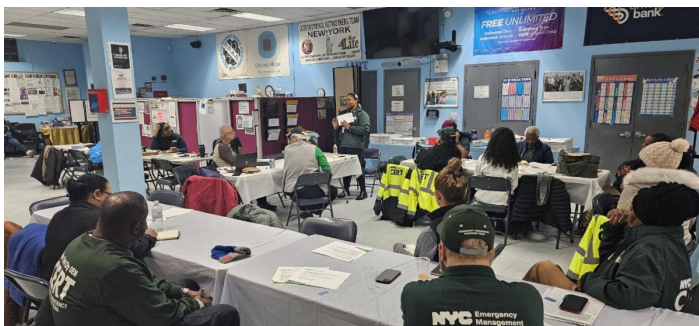
For more questions on how to submit your service hours you can view the **Hours Submission FAQs**.

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

- Brooklyn - Bronx - Manhattan -

Bronx Boroughwide Meeting

On behalf of NYCEM and the Bronx CERT leadership team, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all of you who attended this week's borough meeting and making it a success.

We truly appreciate you taking the time to:

- Connect with fellow CERT members: The icebreakers and breakout sessions provided valuable opportunities to meet new faces and strengthen existing relationships within the Bronx CERT community.
- Learn about open positions: We encourage you to consider volunteering for leadership roles within your division to further support the important work of CERT.
- Discuss important topics: We had productive conversations about ID renewals, uniform updates, the 25-hour minimum requirement, and utilizing Airtable for upcoming NYCEM training and other resources.

Your active participation and dedication make a real difference in the community. We look forward to continuing to work together to enhance the readiness and effectiveness of the NYC CERT program in the Bronx.

13th Annual Community Preparedness Symposium

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.

Update on Material requests
All requests will contain the following:
- My Emergency Plan - 50
- Hurricane Map - 50
- Notify NYC card - 50
- NYC CERT card - 50
- Give-a-ways will depend on availability

Note: Ready New York plastic bags and tablecloths are no longer available.

All Division IDs are Ready

Membership:
Credentials for probationary members, who graduated last cycle (April), expired on September 30th. All members should

CALL FOR PRESENTERS

13th Annual Community Preparedness Symposium
Lead the Way and Prepare Today

Deadline Extended!
Apply by Friday, 2/7/25
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CPSYMPOSIUM25

Questions? Email:
communityprep@oem.nyc.gov

Leadership:
Please remember to schedule a pick-up, or permit your members to schedule a pick-up for their updated IDs using this link: https://on.nyc.gov/CERTpickup

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.

Do you know a community or faith leader in NYC paving the way on how communities can better prepare for, respond to, and recover for emergencies?

We are seeking engaging speakers who can discuss how communities can better prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies. We aim to unite diverse voices and find intersections among different sectors or topics during emergencies.

The 2025 Community Preparedness Symposium will take place on April 2, 2025, at Baruch Vertical Campus, New York, NY. We are expecting over 200 community leaders from NYC and the region to attend the event

- **Proposal Submissions Accepted starting:** January 10, 2025
- **Proposal Submission Deadline Extended to:** February 7, 2025
- **13th Annual Community Preparedness Symposium:** April 2, 2025

Questions? Contact the team
via **Communityprep@oem.nyc.gov**

Have them apply to present at this year's symposium! They can apply here by February 3rd:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CPSYMPOSIUM25

Community Safety Event for Houses of Worship

SAFETY AND PREPAREDNESS FOR HOUSES OF WORSHIP

Medgar Evers College
Founders Auditorium
1650 Bedford Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11225

Date
Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 5:30PM

Want additional information, please contact:
Ed Powell: (917) 682 - 4754

- Emergency Prep & Safety Tips
- Fire Prevention Planning
- Network with other Faith Leaders
- Active Shooter Training
- Communication Planning
- Life-saving techniques like CPR

Register and confirm your attendance plus get an entry to the Go Bag raffle via https://bit.ly/NYCEM_CommunitySafety
MUST BE PRESENT AT EVENT TO PARTICIPATE IN GO BAG RAFFLE

Join us for an engaging and informative community safety event! Doors open at 5:30 PM for an hour of networking and access to resource tables featuring the NYPD, FDNY, NYC Emergency Management and more. The event kicks off at 6:30 PM with speakers covering critical topics such as life-saving techniques, fire prevention & extinguishing methods, flood prevention strategies and the key steps to organizing your safety plan. Participation in this event will give you a chance to win a **Go Bag**!

Click here to register

Responding to the Disabilities and Access and Functional Needs Community Webinar

Wednesday February 5, 2025 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM ET

Please join FEMA Region 2 in partnership with the National CERT Association (NCA) and California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) for a webinar discussion about Responding to the Disabilities and Access and Functional Needs Community.

During this presentation, attendees will learn about how New Jersey has embraced the whole community philosophy by engaging people with disabilities and access and functional needs (DAFN) in its CERT program. By starting at the municipal level, these CERTs help improve and enhance emergency preparedness and response efforts—from helping individuals with DAFN create personal preparedness plans to ensuring accessibility is restored following disasters. Strategies on how to best involve and serve individuals with DAFN in relation to the CERT program in other States will be discussed.

Who should attend? Local, State, Federal government, Community and Faith-based Organizations, Emergency Managers, CERT Leads, Program Managers and volunteers.

Registration: https://fema.cosocloud.com/dafn/event/registration.html
Make sure to test your Adobe Connect before the meeting.

How to Help: DC Plane Crash
On January 29, 2025, many people were killed after a helicopter collided with a passenger plane in Washington, DC. The GoFundMe community is coming together to support those affected. Click Here to donate to verified fundraisers today to help the people and families affected.

California Wildfires - Where to Donate?
Donate online at https://redcross.org/donate/
Donate online at https://calfund.org/funds/wildfire-recovery-fund/
Your generosity will help provide essential resources, shelter, and support to those affected by the devastating wildfires.

National VOAD explains that sorting, storing, and transporting unsolicited goods can overwhelm relief efforts. Cash donations to nationally recognized organizations are the most effective way to help. Organizations can buy exactly what's needed, when it's needed. Purchases are made locally, supporting businesses and aiding recovery and streamlines the relief efforts, eliminating wasted time or resources dealing with an influx of donated items.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

New CERT Graduate Orientation

Do you have questions about:
- Weekly NYC CERT newsletter?
- Submitting your volunteer hours?
- Registering for upcoming events and training

This session will provide an overview of how to engage with the NYC CERT program by providing a walk-through of:
- the NYC CERT Event Calendar for upcoming meetings, training and deployment opportunities
- How to submit Your Volunteer Hours
- How to best utilize the information provided in the weekly newsletter

Registration, Tue, Feb 4, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Emergency Operations Center/ & NYCEM Watch Command Overview

Learning Objectives include:
- NYCEM 101
- Operations Division
- CERT Roles in the EOC
- Tour of the EOC

We ask that you wear your NYC CERT polo shirt.

Registration, Wed, Feb 26, 2025 at 6:30 PM

CISA Learning

CISA's new Learning Management System has replaced the Federal Virtual Training Environment (FedVTE) and will replace multiple other platforms. CISA Learning will be the go-to learning platform CISA staff, contractors and external partners. CISA Learning will continue to offer the same no cost online cybersecurity training as FedVTE on topics such as cloud security, ethical hacking and surveillance, risk management, malware analysis, and more.

CISA Learning using the following link: https://learning.cisa.gov/
- External users will access CISA Learning via Login.gov, a secure government site.
- While Login.gov uses personal identifiable information (PII) for verification, this information is not shared with or captured in CISA Learning.
- For more information, visit: What is Login.gov? | Login.gov

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

NYC CERT Orientation Support

We are seeking volunteers from our active membership to assist with upcoming in-person Orientation sessions for new applicants in 2025. These evening sessions, held from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM at NYCEM headquarters, will require volunteers to assist with light logistics, set-up, and answer questions from attendees. We encourage interested members to consider this valuable opportunity to contribute to the NYC CERT program.

Register for an Orientation Date

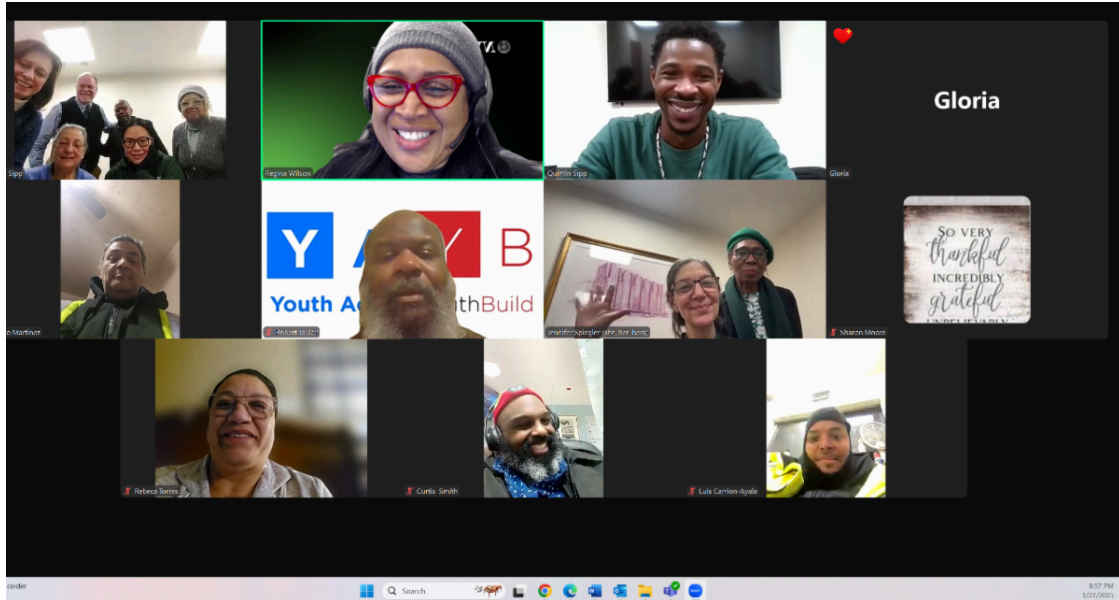## Recent Activity

NYC CERT Orientation

On Tuesday, January 28th, CERT Staff added a fourth orientation session for the month. This was done to enable more applicants the opportunity to complete the required session and gain eligibility to register for the upcoming

winter cycle. All attendees registered for a basic training class after the orientation! We look forward to welcoming them to the program at graduation.
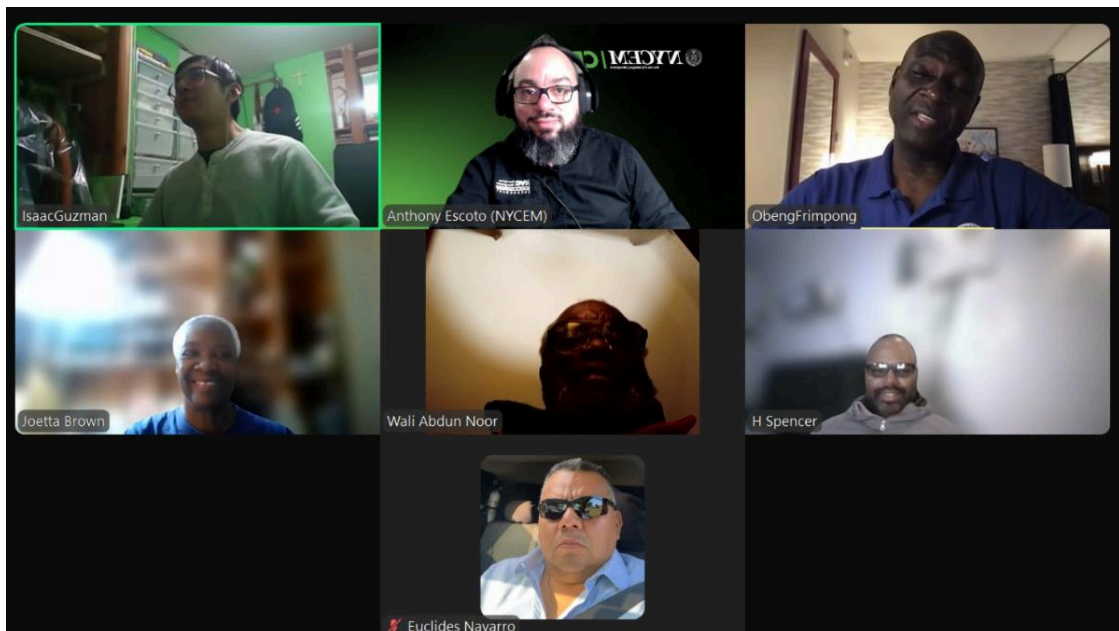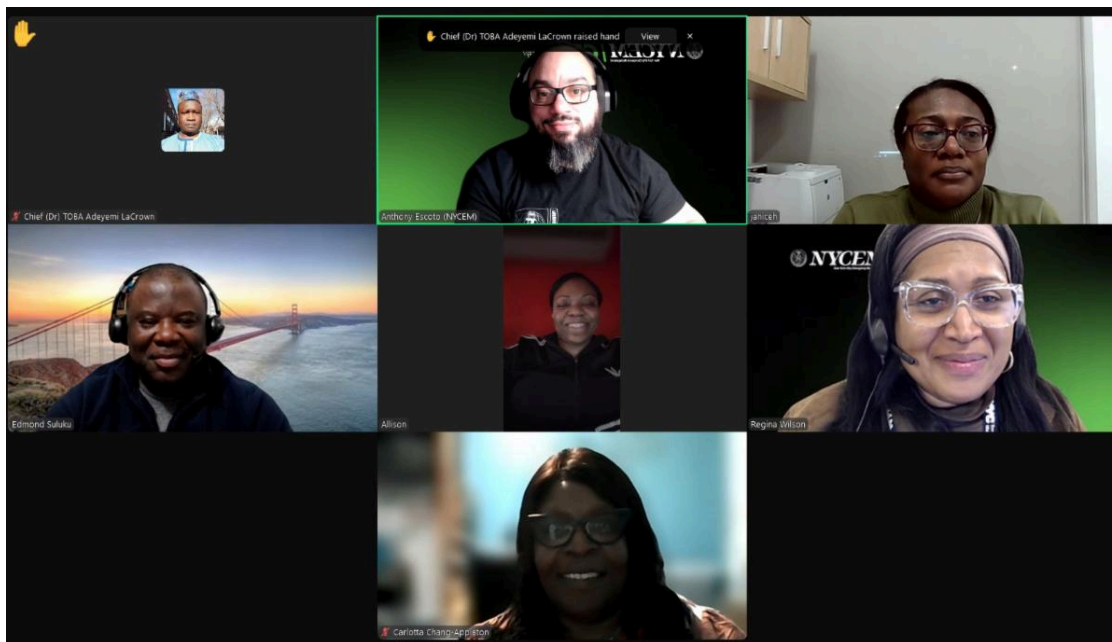
Meetings

Manhattan Division 5

Manhattan Division 5 held its monthly team meeting on January 27th, 2025. The team discussed ways to complete their 25-hour minimum for the year to stay active in the CERT program. The team was enthusiastic about planning for the new year and discussed retraining and hands-on exercises. The team made plans for a day of fun and scheduled a barbeque in the summer.
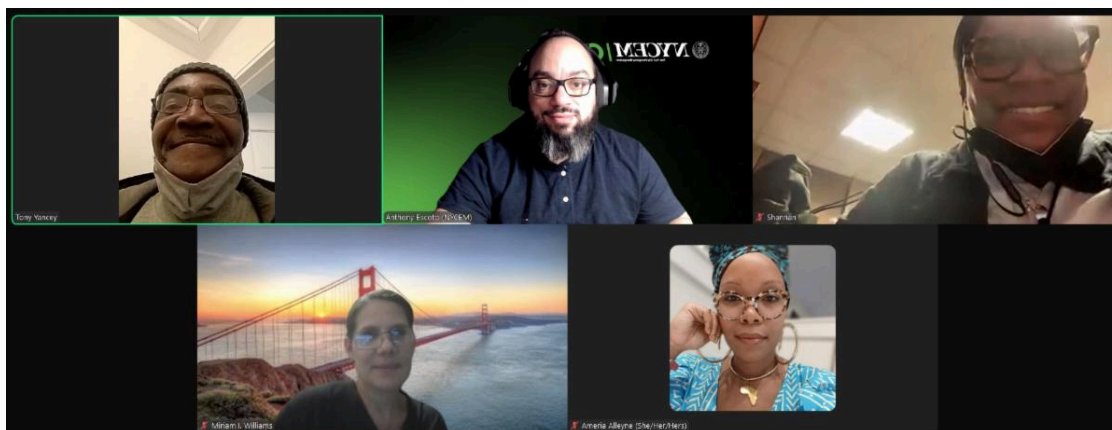
Bronx Division 1

Bronx Division 1 members gathered this past Monday, January 27th, for an overview of recent events. Division member Obeng Frimpong, currently deployed in his role with FEMA, shared his experience with the team, which opened conversations and questions on the federal support for disaster and what triggers what in the response phase of an emergency.

Bronx Division 5

Bronx Division 5 recently convened to plan and talk about how they can strategically support local events. While looking to improve their local footprint through recruitment at local events. While reminders about the upcoming Bronx Borough Meeting where most will be able to attend. Looking forward for a new year of activities of Bronx Division 5!

Brooklyn Division 3

Brooklyn Division 3 kicked off the year with its initial meeting the year, celebrating new leadership and planning new initiatives with the team while welcoming new members as well. Welcome Tony Yancey as the new Division chief!

Brooklyn Diviaion 1

Your copy should address 3 key questions: Who am I writing for (audience)? Why should they care (benefit)? What do I want them to do (call-to-action)?

Create a great offer by adding words like "free," "personalized," "complimentary," or "customized." A sense of urgency often helps readers take action, so consider inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining!"

Send Us Your Photos!

Please continue to share an and all photos and videos from your NYC CERT events 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!

NYC CERT CALENDAR

What is a Buddy Check?
A simple check-in can mean the world. Reach out to family and friends, especially those who might be isolated. Your call, text, or visit could brighten their day and provide essential support. Don't underestimate the power of human connection. Be a good neighbor, be a good friend. Check in today!

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.

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.

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.

What is the NYC CERT Uniform?

We are a Team! To ensure we all represent NYC Emergency Management with professionalism, this message serves as a friendly reminder about our uniform policy. Whether it's a preparedness event or an emergency response, being in proper uniform allows us to be easily identified by the public and first responders. It signifies our commitment to safety and fosters a sense of unity.
Here's a quick rundown of the NYC CERT uniform:

- Green NYC CERT polo shirt (mandatory)
- Khaki pants (mandatory)

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**

- NYC CERT reflective vest (always most visible outer layer)
- NYC CERT credential on lanyard, visible at all times (mandatory)
- Optional items: NYC CERT baseball hat, windbreaker, green helmet (for emergency responses), green CERT response bag (for emergency responses), NYC CERT branded sweaters/jackets (produced with NYCEM approval)
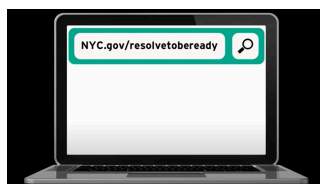
Not sure about an item? Don't hesitate to reach out! Contact us at cert@oem.nyc.gov and we'll be happy to answer any questions or address any concerns you may have.

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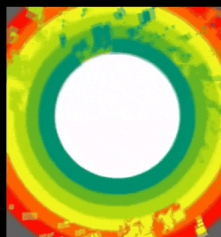

NYCEM's YouTube page
NYC CERT recruitment video
2021 National Volunteer Week video

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

Listen to all 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
Specialist
Recruitment & Retention

REGINA WILSON
Specialist
CERT Leadership

GABRIEN ZERVOS
Specialist
Operations & Engagement

VANESSA RODRIGUEZ
AmeriCorps
Member

NYCEM CERT VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

Schedule a meeting with NYC CERT Staff: https://on.nyc.gov/bookCERT

Choose a Topic:	CERT Pick-up (In-Person)	NYC CERT Operations	Advanced Training	Exercises & Tabletops
	General Questions	CERT ID Questions	Leadership Interest	Borough Discussion	Division Discussion

This application lets you book a one-on-one meeting with a staff member who specializes in each specific topic. Please provide a clear description of your needs so we can prepare to address all of your questions and concerns.

NYC Emergency Management | NYC.gov/emergencymanagement
{Click here to view as a webpage}

NYCEM
New York City Emergency Management