



READY NEIGHBORHOODS COMPETITION CRITERIA

1. Neighborhood residents, community peers and civic organization members must complete and document the following program requirements.
2. There will be two winning teams for each of the following categories:
 - Small Neighborhood Organization
 - Medium Neighborhood Organization
 - Large Neighborhood Organization

Points will be awarded up to:

- 20 Points—25% of all neighborhood residents (or qualifying organizations) have completed a family communication plan, including listing emergency contact numbers.
- 20 Points—25% of all neighborhood residents (or qualifying organizations) have identified a safe location in their homes, places of employment, schools, houses of worship, and other applicable locations within their community.
- 20 Points—25% of all neighborhood residents (or qualifying organizations) have an emergency preparedness kit, including first aid materials.
- 10 Points—10% of all neighborhood residents (or qualifying organizations) who complete training for compression-only CPR techniques.
- 5 Points—10% of all neighborhood residents (or qualifying organizations) have completed CERT.
- If a team exceeds a category percentage as outlined above, five bonus points will be awarded for each category in excess.

Extra Activities—25 points

This is an opportunity for Neighborhood Associations to maximize their participation numbers. This increases the chance for a group to win the ultimate prize, but it also maximizes training, continued planning and overall preparedness.

- 3 Points—Association has more than 10% participation in CERT training.
- 6 Points—Association involves non-affiliated citizens to participate and join in with their communal preparedness efforts.
- 10 Points—Two or more residents complete CERT Train the Trainer program.
- 3 Points—Association completes a comprehensive Continuity Plan to encourage continuing awareness related to disaster preparedness (*example attached*).
- 3 Points—Association establishes a leadership pyramid, detailing specific individual responsibilities and communication methods related to disaster response (*example attached*).

Continuity Plan Example

Communication: Maintain a directory or database of residents including phones, cell phones, and e-mail accounts (update quarterly or as needed.) Include emergency numbers.

Shelter: Investigate the possibility of getting proper shelter designation for local buildings—churches and schools.

Equipment: Determine what residents would be willing to share items they own for emergency uses. Examples would be chain saws, generators, lawn tractors.

CPR: Increase the number of residents who are familiar with the compression-only CPR procedures. Encourage neighbors to secure certification through the Red Cross.

CERT: Encourage more neighbors to get Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training and CERT “Train the Trainer” certification. Set up method to get regular renewals as required. Ask the group to review the continuity plan, providing updates as needed. Investigate the possibility of getting CERT On-The-Go class for your neighborhood.

Leadership Pyramid Example

This outlines a sample model for reacting to a neighborhood disaster. We all know that, given the nature of disasters, a local area may not receive outside assistance for up to three days. Therefore, being able to address local needs quickly and effectively is of paramount importance.

Note that the organization of response rests with the president—making emergency calls, and assigning personnel for specific situations. This prevents unnecessary phone calls and reduces confusion related to areas that might have too many “helpers” and others having none.

The organization must decide its own disaster plan in relation to leadership. It must specify a “chain of command” to rely on if the president or other personnel are disabled. The president and other officers must have written copies of key neighborhood leaders with appropriate contact information—officers, health professionals, and people with CPR knowledge and CERT training—as well as numbers for contacting police, fire, utility, and ambulance services.

Neighborhood Leaders: President, vice president, other officers as needed, block captains

Responsibilities:

President with assistance from vice president

- Establish communication methods; phone tree, text messages, door to-door
- Assess health needs and make 911 calls as needed
- Assess any utility problems: water, gas, electricity. Make assistance calls as needed.
- Secure local medical assistance (physicians and CPR volunteers); assign where needed.
- Secure CERT-trained people for any rescue needs.
- Organize distribution of resources (water, food, blankets) as needed.
- Confirm the availability of shelter, and plan transition to that location.

Block captains

- Check utilities in assigned area—water, gas, and electricity—for problems.
- Assess health needs, paying particular attention to young children, elderly residents, and those with specific health problems.
- Report findings to president.
- Carry out assignments from president—distributing resources, helping with transition to shelter, directing volunteers, etc.