

# Teen CERT: Enhancing School Emergency Management through Youth Engagement and Preparedness

**Welcome! The Webinar will begin at 2:00 p.m. EDT.**

- Please **turn on your computer speakers**.
- **Use the chat tool** to send a message to the moderator. Your questions and comments will be addressed at the end of the call.
- You are invited to **participate in a 30-minute Web chat** via the REMS TA Center Community of Practice following the Webinar. View the announcement email for instructions to join.
- For support during the Webinar, **please contact the REMS TA Center** at [info@remstacenter.org](mailto:info@remstacenter.org) or 1-855-781-REMS [7367].
- **Use the Handout Pod in the upper right-hand corner of your screen** to download the slides and handouts.



# Teen CERT: Enhancing School Emergency Management through Youth Engagement and Preparedness

# Agenda

Federal Guidance on School Emergency Management

Overview of CERT and Teen CERT

Teen CERT Case Examples

Details on Lincoln County School District's Teen CERT Program

Teen CERT Resources

Q & A Session

# Questions?

Remember to pose your question using the Q&A Tool on the lower right side of your computer screen.

# Now Is The Time

The President's plan to protect children and communities by reducing gun violence.

Tasked six Federal agencies to come together and outline guidelines for developing high-quality emergency operations plans for:

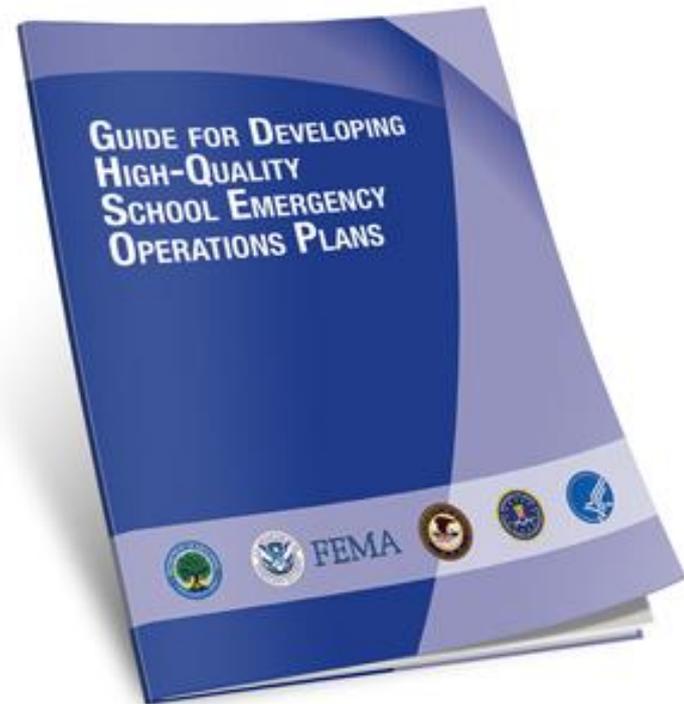
- Schools
- Institutions of Higher Education
- Houses of Worship

**Download the report:** <http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/preventing-gun-violence>

# Federal Guidance

- Released by the White House on June 18, 2013
- First joint product of ED, DHS, FEMA, DOJ, FBI, and HHS

- **<http://rems.ed.gov>**:
- Download the full *Guides*
- Click through “At-a-Glance” versions in html
- Access topic-specific resources



# Five Preparedness Missions



**an incident or emergency**

# Planning Principles



# Six-Step Planning Process



# Introduction to CERT



CERT is a nationally supported, locally implemented program that teaches people how to be better prepared for hazards that may impact their communities and trains them in basic disaster-response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

# CERT Basic Training Units

- **Unit 1:** Disaster Preparedness
- **Unit 2:** Fire Safety and Utility Control
- **Unit 3:** Disaster Medical Operations 1
- **Unit 4:** Disaster Medical Operations 2
- **Unit 5:** Light Search and Rescue
- **Unit 6:** CERT Organization
- **Unit 7:** Disaster Psychology
- **Unit 8:** Terrorism
- **Unit 9:** Final Exercise



# Why Teen CERT?

- Provides students with skills to stay safe, protect themselves, and assist others during emergencies
- Engages students in school-safety activities and planning
- Harnesses the considerable potential of youth to persuade their peers and adults of the importance of preparedness
- Develops the next generation of community leaders and emergency managers

# Teen CERT Overview

- Uses the same curriculum as the Basic Training offered throughout the country
- Intended for high school-aged participants
- Emphasizes safety first
- Training and volunteer hours may count for community service credit
- More than one successful model

# Local Examples

- Harvest Christian Academy CERT Club
- Meridian High School
- Mid America Teen CERT
- Milton Hershey School
- Mississippi Youth Preparedness Initiative
- North Carolina 4-H CERT
- San Marcos Consolidated Independent School District
- Simon Sanchez High School Tourism Academy
- South Los Angeles Teen CERT Collaborative
- Texas School Safety Center

# Teen CERT Semester Class



**Lincoln County School District  
Oregon**

# Purpose

- Disaster – when professional emergency response is delayed or unavailable
- Empowers teens with lifelong emergency preparedness and response skills



# Goal



- Help Yourself
- Help Your Family
- Help Your Neighbor

## TEEN CERT GOAL

- Help Your School

# Priorities

- Safety
- Buddy System
  - Work in pairs
  - Gear-check
  - Look out for each others' safety
  - Accountability



# Unit 1: Disaster Preparedness



- Hazards & Threats to Our Area
- Identify & Reduce Hazards at Home & School
- Utility Shut-off Procedures
- Home Disaster Kit & Plan

**Team-Building Begins**

# Unit 2: Fire Safety

- Fire Chemistry
- Extinguish Small Fires
- Hazardous Materials



**They are hooked!**

# Units 3 & 4: Disaster Medical

Identify & Treat the “3 Killers”



**Airway Obstruction**



**Bleeding**



**Circulation (shock)**



# Units 3 & 4: Disaster Medical

Triage = Sort

Immediate

Delayed

Minor

Dead



**Assessment & Decision-Making**

# Units 3 & 4: Disaster Medical



- Proper Hygiene
- Treat Minor Injuries
  - Splinting
  - Wound Care
  - Fractures, Sprains
  - Burns
  - Hypothermia

## First-Aid Skills

# Unit 5: Light Search & Rescue

## 1. Assess: Assess the Situation

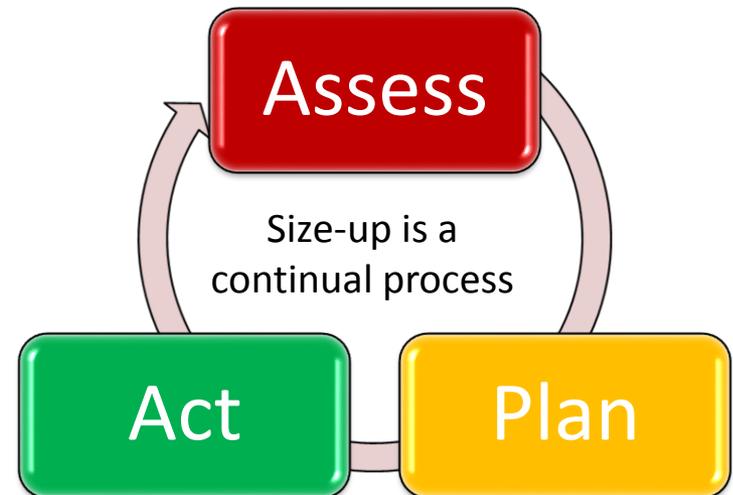
- Gather Facts
- Assess Damage
- Consider Probabilities
- Assess Your Situation

## 2. Plan: Make a Plan

- Establish Priorities
- Make Decisions
- Develop Plan of Action

## 3. Act: Take Action

## SIZE-UP PROCESS



**Evaluate, Communicate, Plan**

# Unit 5: Light Search & Rescue

- Damage assessment (light, moderate, heavy)
- Search methods
- Removing victims
- Lifts, drags, carry's
- Using available resources
- Safely lifting objects out of the way
- Leverage
- Cribbing



**Planning, Decision-Making, Teamwork, Physics**

# Unit 6: CERT Organization

- Leadership & Management Structure
- Incident Command System (ICS)
- Documentation



**Leadership, Followership**

# Unit 7: Disaster Psychology



- Reduce your stress & the survivors' stress
- Listening & empathizing
- Psychological & physiological symptoms

# Unit 8: Terrorism

- Terrorist Weapons
- Environmental & Physical Indicators
- Home Preparedness



**Terrorism =** 

# Teen CERT Certification

- Skills Demonstration
  - Safety Gear Check
  - Gas Shut-off
  - Fire Extinguisher
  - 3 Killers (airway, bleeding, circulation)
- Knowledge Test
  - Safety & Buddy System
  - Activation
  - Size-up
  - Search Criteria
- Rules of Conduct



# Final Exercise/Drill

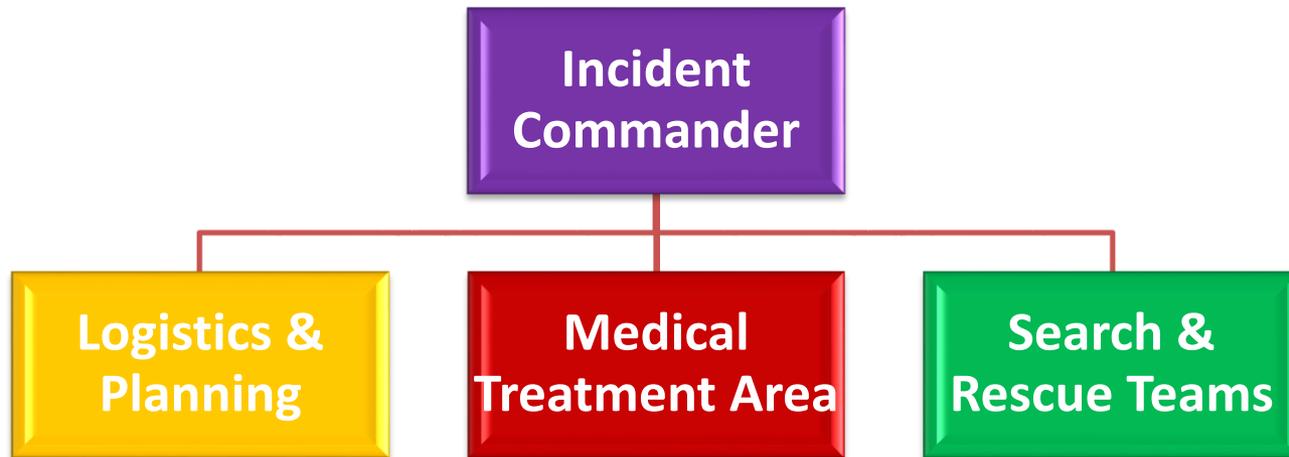


- Realistic Scenario
- Actor Victims
- Practice Skills in a Controlled Environment
- At School

## All-School Earthquake Drill



# Final Exercise/Drill



# Final Exercise/Drill

- Debrief
- Section Leaders
- Actor Victims
- Observer/Evaluators
- Self-Awareness



# Graduation

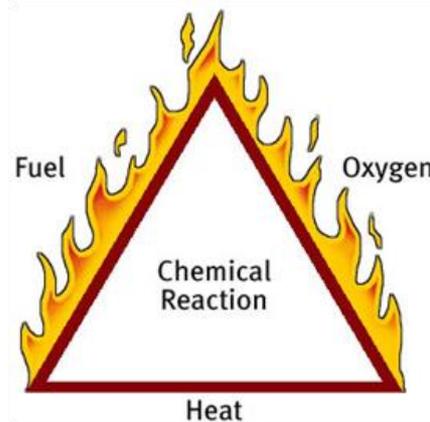
- Dignitaries
- Shake Hands
- Photos
- Certificates



**A Job Well Done!**

# Integration of CERT into Existing Curriculum

- **Chemistry** (fire & hazmat)
- **Health Sciences** (medical)
- **Physics** (cribbing, leveraging, building assessments)
- **Earth Sciences** (natural disasters)
- **Psychology**
- **Organizational Skills & Teamwork** (search methods, documenting, ICS, triage, buddy system)



# Time Commitment

- **25-30 hours or more**
  - 1 time per week (2-3 hrs.)
  - 2-3 times per week (1+ hrs.)
  - Daily, ideal
- **Class Format**
  - Semester Class
    - Health, Science, Voc. Ed
    - Leadership Class
  - Summer Class
  - Afterschool Club
  - Senior Project



**Think Sustainability**

# Delivery of Teen CERT Curriculum

- School Teacher and/or Coordinator
  - Health, PE, Science Teacher
  - School Nurse
  - School Resource Officer
- Community Partners
  - Emergency Management professionals
  - Fire, Police, EMS
  - Red Cross, or other disaster-relief personnel
  - Geologists
  - Public Works personnel



# Keys to Success



- Team-Building
- Ownership
- Field Leadership Labs
  - Leader
  - Follower
  - Buddy
  - Team Member

# Participants in Teen CERT

- Class Size: 20-25 or more
- Cross-section of student body, including students with disabilities and others with access and functional needs
- Application Process??
- GPA/Behavior??
- Grade level (High School)



**THINK SAFETY**

# Benefits to Students

- Accountability
- Responsibility
- Organization
- Leadership
- Teamwork
- Personal Protection
- Emergency Prep at Home
- Life-Saving Skills
- Community Service Hours
- Improved Self-Image
- Self-Awareness
- Life-Long Learning Skills



**Satisfaction from helping others**  
*"I can make a difference"*

# Helps to Influence Careers

- Medical
- Law Enforcement
- Fire
- Health & Human Services
- Public Works
- Emergency Management



# Benefits to Schools

- Improved school safety and security
- Reduction in school violence
- Peer role models
- Awareness of additional resources in case of an emergency
- Trained team of first responders for mass casualty disaster



***TEEN CERTS  
are NOT replacements for  
professional responders.***

# Tools and Resources

- [Teen CERT Webpage](#)
- Teen CERT Annexes
  - [Basic Training](#)
  - [Train-the-Trainer](#)
- [Start and Maintain a Program Guide](#)
- [Free Printed Teen CERT Activity Books](#)
- [Teen CERT Brochure](#)

# Youth Preparedness

- [Youth Preparedness Webpage](#)
- [National Strategy](#)
- [Children and Disasters Newsletter](#)
- [Program Implementation Guide \(Spanish\)](#)
  - [Funding Guide \(Spanish\)](#)
  - [Risk Management Guide \(Spanish\)](#)
- [Youth Preparedness Program and Resource Catalog](#)
- Youth Preparedness Technical Assistance Center: [FEMA-Youth-Preparedness@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-Youth-Preparedness@fema.dhs.gov)
- [Youth Preparedness Council](#)

# Contact Information

## Technical Assistance

- [cert@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:cert@fema.dhs.gov)

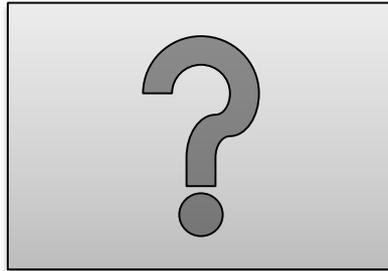
## State CERT/Citizen Corps Program Manager

- Go to our [State Program Manager](#) page
- Click on “state/territory point of contact”

## Local CERT Point of Contact

- Go to [CERT Webpage](#)
- Click “Find Nearby CERT Programs”

# Q&A Session



# Questions?

# Wrap Up & Web Chat

**To join the Web chat, use the steps below:**

1. Join or log in to the REMS TA Center Community of Practice (CoP). <http://rems.ed.gov/COP/Default.aspx>
2. Click **Community Forums** in the left-hand navigation.
3. Click **Teen CERT Web Chat** under **K-12 Public Forums**.
4. Click **Web Chat @ 3:15 P.M. Today! Join Us!** to enter the forum.
5. Click **Add Reply** to post your question.

# What is the CoP and How Can I Join?

We encourage you to sign up and explore the REMS TA Center Community of Practice (CoP) now, as it is a powerful resource for schools, school districts, institutions of higher education, and their community partners to collaborate on special projects, share news and resources, discuss trends and ideas, and learn from the experiences of others in the field. It offers a variety of forums to exchange ideas and resources with practitioners who do similar work. Visit <http://rems.ed.gov/COP/Default.aspx> to join.

If you have any questions or issues accessing the CoP, please contact the REMS TA Center at [info@remstacenter.org](mailto:info@remstacenter.org).

# About the REMS TA Center



Phone: (855) 781-7367 (REMS)

Email: [info@remstacenter.org](mailto:info@remstacenter.org)

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