

What is Citizen Corps?

Citizen Corps is a series of volunteer based programs which will help people across America take a more active role in crime prevention, emergency medical support, and be better trained in a wide range of emergency preparedness and disaster response activities. Citizen Corps offers the means for citizens to help make our communities safer, stronger, and better prepared.

We all have a role to play in keeping our community safe and secure. Citizen Corps provides opportunities for volunteers to prepare and train in and with their community. Individuals must be prepared to help themselves and others in an emergency.

In 95% of all emergencies, bystanders or victims are the first to provide assistance!



Citizen Corps Programs.

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)

-**CERT** is a partnership between first responders and the community they serve. CERT training prepares people to take care of themselves and others in a disaster situation, and assist emergency responders whenever needed.

-**CERT** volunteers can help with a variety of community safety activities including education, First Aid stations at community events, and missing person's searches.

-**CERT** volunteers are trained by the Arlington Heights Fire Department.

Neighborhood Watch.

-**Neighborhood Watch** works with the Arlington Heights Police Department to help with the prevention of crime, neighborhood emergency preparedness, and terrorism awareness.

-**Neighborhood Watch** groups are not vigilantes. They are extra eyes and ears for reporting crime and helping neighbors.

-The **Neighborhood Watch** program is an excellent way to strengthen and secure our community.

The Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)

The VIPS program offers a host of resources and information for and about law enforcement volunteer programs. Citizens can support the Arlington Heights Police Department's efforts in a variety of important ways. Citizens can assist the police department with duties such as Community Liaison Activities and Youth-Related Activities. The Arlington Heights Police Department is looking for residents who want to give back to their community.

Arlington Heights Medical Reserve Corps (AHMRC)

The **Arlington Heights Medical Reserve Corps** provides licensed health professionals (current or retired) the opportunity to volunteer their time and skills within a planned, organized and coordinated local Medical Reserve Corps unit to supplement existing resources during times of large scale emergencies. -**AHMRC** also assists in promoting public health in their communities throughout the year.

For more information about the **AHMRC** please visit the Health Services Department at www.vah.com.

42% of Americans expect to need help with evacuation prior to a disaster.

You're Role!

You can help your family and community become **Safer, Stronger**, and better **Prepared** for an emergency. Prepared citizens can take care of themselves and help care for others. This allows first responders to focus on the most life threatening situations.

Be Prepared: Learn the potential for disaster in your community. Develop a family disaster plan. Put together a Disaster Kit.

Train: Take advantage of CPR, First Aid, CERT, VIPS or other courses in your community.

Volunteer: There are many opportunities, both in prevention and response available in the community. You can be better prepared to protect your family, neighbors, and community.

Only 44% of Americans have a household emergency plans.



Every community is different. Citizen Corps calls on Arlington Heights residents' creativity and inventiveness to develop other programs or activities that work in your area and that encompass all sectors of your community. Successful programs or approaches to citizen participation that start in Arlington Heights can spread nationwide through the Citizen Corps

For complete information about Citizen Corps, programs and partners visit:

www.citizencorps.gov

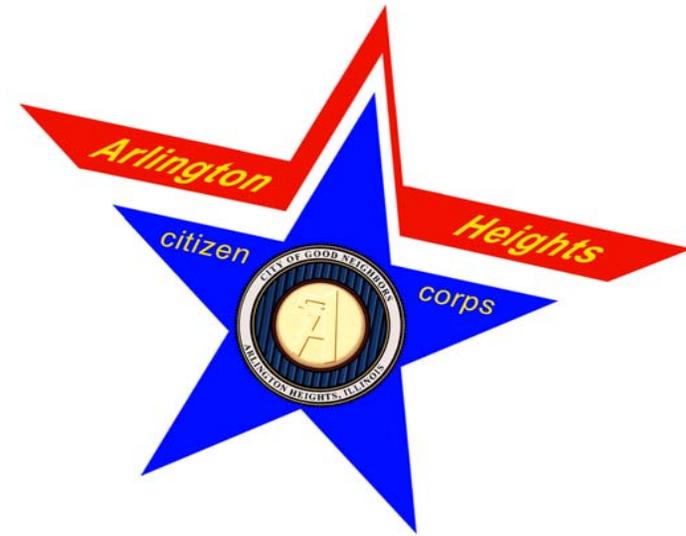
For further information on the **CERT** program please contact the Arlington Heights Fire Department Public Education officer at (847)368-5450.

For **Neighborhood Watch** and the **VIPS** program please contact the Arlington Heights Police Department Crime Prevention officer. (847)368-5300.

For information on the **AHMRC** contact the Arlington Heights Health Services Department at (847)368-5760.

Get Prepared!

Get Trained!



Get Involved!

Village of Arlington Heights.

Citizen Corps

Public education, training and volunteer opportunities to support homeland security, community preparedness and family safety.