



### **Citizen Preparedness Corps**

Governor Cuomo's Citizen Preparedness Corps is a free program delivered state-wide by the American Red Cross in partnership with New York State. Developed in the wake of Hurricane Sandy, the program seeks to improve community resiliency on an individual and household level by teaching citizens valuable life skills on how to prepare for, respond to, and recover from any natural or man-made disaster.

### **Overall Goal**

The overall goal of the Citizen Preparedness Corps is to increase community resiliency. By teaching individuals how to take care of themselves and their household during a disaster it allows them to further expand their support to a neighborhood and community level.

### **Significance**

Disasters can occur at any time with little or no notice. The status of the affected areas after Superstorm Sandy was evidence that New York, as a state, was not prepared for such disasters, especially on an individual and household level. The risk factor of New York State is exponential compared to some states due to the geographical location and high population and it is imperative for citizens to be aware of their risks and know how to prepare, respond, and recover when such disasters occur.

### **Target Audience**

The Citizen Preparedness training is suitable for all individuals ranging from high school ages to senior citizens. The life skills that are learned through this presentation are valuable for anyone and everyone.

The presentation is given by one or two Red Cross members in the form of a NYS created PowerPoint making it accessible for any size group.

### **Presentation Outline**

The New York State PowerPoint presentation is about 1-1 ½ hours. Primarily, to increase awareness, it covers the different kinds of natural and man-made disasters that occur in the state of New York and provides all aspects of preparedness for small to large-scale disasters, including where to get more information and how to prepare a household emergency preparedness kit. The second half of the presentation provides guidance for responding and recovering from a disaster whether it causes structural, physical, or mental damage.

### **Scheduling**

Because there are minimal materials, we are able to accommodate any schedule and class size. To schedule a training in Tioga, Tompkins, Broome or Chenango Counties, or for more information, please contact the American Red Cross, Southern Tier Chapter:

Maia Kunzman  
Disaster Preparedness Associate  
The American Red Cross, Southern Tier Chapter  
Phone: (607) 442-4123  
Email: [maia.kunzman@redcross.org](mailto:maia.kunzman@redcross.org)