

CERT in Action Video Transcript

[MUSIC]

[LIGHTNING CRASHES]

Communities are susceptible to many types of disasters. Some, such as floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, and hurricanes are natural, while others, such as nuclear power plant disasters and hazardous materials emergencies are man-made. Some parts of the country will experience disasters that others will never see, like mudslides, winter storms, and volcanoes, while others - like flooding or wind storms -- can strike most anywhere. When disaster strikes, emergency services personnel will respond immediately. We count on their training and equipment to handle these situations. However, depending on the impact, emergency responders may not be able to quickly get to everyone who needs help. That's where Community Emergency Response Teams come in. CERTs are trained to search for and rescue people who might be trapped, to provide basic medical assistance, to put out small fires, and to handle other small

incidents before more injuries or damage occur. By using the skills and knowledge they learned in training, CERT members in a neighborhood, workplace, school, or other location can work as a team to help themselves and others until professional help arrives. That's what CERT is all about: Making a difference when it is needed the most. We call it doing the greatest good for the greatest number.

[LIGHTNING CRASHES]

[STRONG WINDS BLOW]

Okay.

Wow.

That was a storm, huh?

Yeah, scary too.

Yeah, it sure was.

Honey would you check the lights?

Yeah.

...Nothing.

Yeah...

How's everybody doing?

I'm scared.

I know, honey.

It's going to be alright.

Are you okay?

I'm okay.

I think the winds have died down and I'm going to check the house out make sure everything's okay. Then I need to get my CERT stuff and go meet the team. Do you guys know where your Go Kits are?

Uh huh.

Alright, we're going to get those and we're going to meet out front, okay?

Okay.

All right.

Hi Daddy!

Hey Sweetie!

A lot of shingles are down, a lot of big tree limbs. Other than that I think we were lucky.

The house looks okay, it looks safe. Obviously the power's out and I checked the phones, the dial tone's out too so, wires are down somewhere.

You got your cell?

Yup, got it.

And?

I've got 3 bars. I'll call my sister.

Why are you calling Aunt Cathy?

Because she's our out of state contact, so anytime anything happens here, we call her to let her know we're okay and anytime anything happens there, she calls us.

Okay makes sense.

Well, the house is safe so we can go back in, okay?

I have to get my CERT gear meet the rest of the team. Hey listen. I don't know where those wires are down, so I want you guys to stay inside. I don't want anyone to get hurt, okay?

Okay, daddy.

What a mess.

Hey Joe.

Oh, hey, Barb!

How are you?

All right.

Good.

How's everybody at your place?

We're alright.

Shaken up a little bit. It's a mess but we're okay. We were lucky.

You okay?

Yeah, we're all alright, but I noticed coming over, Peterson's at 1422 and the Parchman's at 1424; their places got hit by a fallen tree.

Oh boy.

Peterson's roof was damaged and the Parchman's deck is just totally crushed.

Wow. Everybody okay? Is everyone out of there?

Yeah, Rita's pretty shook up but she's not hurt.

I bet we'll find more.

Let's go over to the meeting place.

I hope it's still there.

[SIRENS RING IN THE DISTANCE]

Yeah ...

[INAUDIBLE]

Check it out on the other side we'll get rid of this branch.

Okay.

It could blow off and hit somebody.

Aww... Come on...

I don't think this area got hit like we did.

No, doesn't look like it.

I think it looks pretty good.

All the posts seem sound.

What do you think?

Yeah, absolutely.

Good command post.

Okay.

Okay.

Hey Bob.

Hey Joe.

Hey Barb.

How are you?

I'm doing great. How about you guys?

Our family's fine. House was okay.

Yeah, ours too. How about you?

We lost some shingles and the trash cans are probably history. You know walking over here, you know the gas station on Wallace? The roof that's over the gas pumps? It's blown down on the road. It's all mangled and twisted up. Pretty bad.

So how about the people there? Everybody okay?

No, nobody's hurt.

The manager put traffic cones out around the roof that's on Wallace Road so people could see it.

That's good.

Hey MaryLou.

Hey everybody.

I'm surprised this place is even still standing!

Yeah, me too!

Sorry I'm late. I passed a minor car crash down the street.

Anybody hurt there?

The drivers and passengers are fine, no pedestrians involved.

So who's in charge here?

Who got here first?

Joe and I got here first.

Joe, you have lots more CERT experience than I have. I just finished training - why don't you take the lead?

I can do that.

Man, those winds were pretty rough, weren't they?

You better believe it.

Wow.

Hey Wayne.

Hey guys, how are you guys doing?

I'm just donning the leadership stripe here.

Excellent.

So, my suggestion is we keep this as the command post. It's structurally sound, it's got a roof in case the rains come back and it's centrally located within the neighborhood. All right with everybody?

[SOUNDS OF AGREEMENT]

We're just talking about what everybody has seen. MaryLou saw a car crash.

Right. A car and a pickup truck actually at 4th and Berkley. Just bumps and bruises really. Everybody's okay and they're not blocking traffic. When I left, they were all exchanging information. It seemed pretty calm.

Good. What else?

Bob, you saw the twisted roof of the gas station.

Yeah, that was at Wallace and 13th. Seems to be all under control and traffic can get around the roof.

Okay. Anything else?

Not from me.

We've got that leaking propane grill that we saw.

Right.

And there were some downed power lines.

Right.

And we ought to really go back and check the Parchman's gas lines. Here's the details. </p>

Okay, thank you.

Hi everybody.

[THEY ACKNOWLEDGE VIVIAN]

Did you see the damage down at the community center?

[ALL]: No.

Yeah, a tree fell on it. It looks like some limbs went through the roof and a big window. There are people there in the day and the evening so, I wouldn't be surprised if there are injuries.

I think the priority has to be the community center. Vivian, you take Bob and MaryLou down there. You'll be in charge. I think you're right about the gas lines at 1424 Windsor. Barb, you and Wayne head over there on your way to the community center, alright? Wayne, you take the lead there.

All right.

Viv, can you have information back in 20 minutes?

Absolutely.

All right, terrific. Don't forget, write down everything you do and everything you see so we can get a good status report to the professionals when they get here. Thanks, everybody.

Wow, what a mess. All right, let's take a look at the exterior first. MaryLou, Bob, I want you to go to the right, Wayne, Barbara, I want you to go to the left. I'll stay here. Let me know what you see. Stick with your buddies and meet back here in five minutes. Everything clear?

[ALL]: Okay.

Okay, excellent.

[AMBIENT MUSIC]

Electrical box over here.

All clear.

Look at that tree. It's on the roof and the windows.

Wait, wait, listen, listen! Do you hear it? There are people in there. I can hear people.

Yeah, yeah I agree there's some voices there.

All right, listen, we need to go and tell Vivian.

Uh oh, there's some smoke in here.

It's locked. Let's get back and report.

All right, what did you all see?

It is a mess back there. We saw that big tree, it's up against the building and there's a big broken window. We can hear people inside there calling for help but I couldn't tell you how many.

Okay, all right thanks. What about you all?

Debris also but through a window back there we saw a lot of smoke.

Okay, it sounds like we really need to go in. I want you to stay in your pairs and I want you to use all caution. Use a right hand search pattern. I want you all to use a left hand search pattern. I'll stay up here and set up a triage area and just track what everybody's doing. Everybody okay with that plan?

[ALL AGREE]

All right, good luck. I'll let them know we're here.

This is the Community Emergency Response Team. If you can hear me, come to the sound of my voice.

Hi, I'm Walter and this is Becky. We saw you over here. Can we help?

Yeah, my name is Vivian and I'm from this neighborhood's Community Emergency Response Team. We've been trained by the fire department to help out when the professionals haven't arrived yet. Do either one of you have any medical experience?

Sure, I worked as an EMT in college.

Okay, what about you?

Putting Band-aids on my three year old grandson. That's about it. Sorry.

Okay, we can use all the help we can get. Do you live nearby?

Right over here.

Okay, do you have any blankets you can spare?

Sure do.

All right, why don't you run home and grab them and then come back here and you can help with minor injuries.

Okay. All right, thanks.

Okay, Becky. So we're going to go ahead and set up our triage area. We'll put minor injuries here and the more serious ones we're going to put here. The ones who need immediate attention we're going to put right here so the EMS has immediate access to them. Do you have any questions?

No questions. I got it.

Okay, thanks.

The stove is on fire. I burned my hand trying to put the fire out on the stove.

We got a fire.

Okay, I saw a fire extinguisher down the hall.

Storm hit.

Sir, can you walk with me?

Are you in charge?

Yes, hi.

I'm in a lot of pain. I think I hurt my arm and shoulder. Can you help me?

Yes, I can. My name's Vivian and I'm part of the Community Emergency Response Team and what I would like to do is put this piece of tape on you that just identifies your injuries and the severity of them.

Sure. All right, thank you.

Hey Becky, why don't you come over here and help me? She's hurt her arm. Why don't you take her over to the delayed section and check her out. Thanks.

Oh my gosh, I'm so scared.

I know you are.

The storm is over.

What happened?

I've been trying to call the fire department to have them come and rescue us.

I know you have. I know you have.

How are you doing?

Let me test it here.

Good thinking.

Okay, I'm going in. Going in.

[SOUND OF FIRE EXTINGUISHER]

Okay, I think the fire's out.

Backing out.

Backing out. Let's give it a second to make sure it's totally out.

Look at all those people.

Yeah, let's go get them.

Let's get this guy on the floor here first.

[MOANS IN PAIN]

Have you been able to talk to him at all?

I checked the airway. I'm getting some breath sounds there. I'm checking for profusion. All right, very slow profusion. Sir, can you squeeze my hand? Sir? He can't follow simple commands. He's an immediate.

We got another guy over here, you know.

All right, I hear him. We'll be over there in a moment.

Do you know what happened?

The tree, the tree came from nowhere.

All right. Sir, what's your name?

I'm Irving. It's bleeding. It hurts.

We're going to make him delayed, alright?

Okay, we'll be back in a minute, sir.

I'm Nora.

He's pretty bad.

How are you?

I'm just scratched and bruised and shook up.

Okay, take care of him.

We're going to try right now to look at him.

Are you alright? Any injuries?

My head.

Your head looks pretty bad.

[CRIES IN PAIN]

That looks like it's trapped in there. There's severe bleeding on the lower leg. We're going to make him an immediate.

Hey guys. How can we help?

Just in time. Listen, we have two people here that we need to move out immediately. For this man we're going to need a blanket or a stretcher if you can go out and try to find something. And then we'll take this boy out on that chair. While you're out there, please report to Vivian how many injured we have. This man's delayed and then this woman just has minor injuries. In fact, if you could just take these two folks out with you, that would be helpful.

You got it.

All right, I'm going to put this right here on your shoulder, and I want to give you some water, in case you're thirsty.

Hi what do you have here?

A minor.

Okay, why don't you go ahead and sit her up either against the wall or on the ground. What do we have here?

Irving here has a left arm injury. He's delayed.

Okay, I want you to set him up right over here either on the ground or against the wall.

We've got two more immediates inside and I've got a blanket for that.

Okay, why don't you go ahead and take Wayne back in and go and collect them.

All right.

Thank you.

All right, they're back with the blanket.

Wayne, why don't you take control of the head and take command please.

Okay folks, let's get the blanket down. Bob if you would, get his arms. Everybody good with the blanket?
On 1-2-3.

No further injuries on the back. Okay, on my count 1-2-3. Nice.

All right, I'm going to come around.

Are you holding his body? Everybody got a good grip? Okay, everybody ready to lift? On 1-2-3. Let's take him out feet first. Okay, put him right down here. All right, right over here, on my count, down on 3. 1-2-3.

Great, any left inside?

Yeah, we've got one more inside.

Bob will report.

Barb and I are to go in. We came across him, he was unresponsive. We adjusted his airways and he started breathing a lot better. He obviously has a serious head wound. He's going into shock, we believe. His profusion was kind of weak.

Okay, excellent. I'll go ahead and do an assessment myself. Okay, I'm just going to check you to see if there are any further injuries. I'm just checking to see if you are bleeding anywhere else.

[MOANS]

Nice job, good job buddy.

Are you okay?

Yeah, I'm good.

Let's get those hands on your lap and we're going to tilt you back. Okay Barb, are you ready for the lean?
Tilting back 1-2-3. Now lift on three. 1-2-3.

[INJURED GUY MOANS]

Thank you.

[AMBIENT MUSIC]

And, right here. 1-2-3, down and 1-2-3 forward. Nice.

Okay, Will, we're going to put you on this blanket right over here on your left. Are you ready for that?
Yeah, Barb and I are going to grab you. We're going to get a good grip on you. We'll tell you when we're ready to go. Okay, on 1-2-3.

Thank you.

Nice job you guys.

What do we have here Wayne?

Will here, we need to get him out immediately. He's got a head injury. You can see a little bit of glass in his head right there and he's got a left leg injury.

Okay, thanks.

The building's clear and we're going ahead and start helping these guys work on these guys right here.

Will? I'm just going to check you out. I'm going to put my hands on your head and I'm just checking for other injuries.

We need to deliver some of these reports to command post.

What do you have for me?

We went through the entire community center.

Bob and I found one room with heavy damage to the ceiling. It didn't even look safe to go in there and there's one room that's locked. We tried it, we called and we didn't get any answer but we were not able to go inside.

Wayne, what do you have for me?

Barb and I went to 1424 Windsor. Bad storm damage, we shut the gas off. Here's my documentation.

Okay, why don't you go ahead and give that to MaryLou.

Here's the report for the eight triage victims and this is a current report.

Why don't you just head up there and then come on back when you've finished your report.

All right, I will.

Is there anything you need?

No, that's it.

I'll see you guys as soon as I can.

Wayne, why don't you go ahead and mark the building as searched.

Good thinking.

And we'll continue to attend to the victims.

Will do.

I got my marker right here.

Thanks.

Thanks Rachel, thanks for checking in.

Okay, I got it.

Hi Marylou

Hi, how are you doing?

Well, how's it going there?

We have one room with heavy damage in the ceiling we can't even enter there and we do have one room that's locked, we couldn't get inside.

Okay.

We have eight victims in our triage area.

Two "Immediates" and then three "Delayed" and three "Minor."

All right, all right.

Barb and Wayne turned off the gas at one house - I've got the addresses for the two places they checked and some information from Vivian here.

Okay, and I'm going...here's my stuff...But I'm going to head back to the community center.

Appreciate it, thank you MaryLou.

I'm going to call in those two immediates right now. I'll let them know down there.

Hey, Aaron.

Joe.

Janice, nice to meet you.

I'm Joe, I'm the CERT leader here. I can give you the report, okay? We got incidental damage around the community but we've been really focused on the community center. We've searched it all except for two rooms that are inaccessible to us. One has ceiling damage and the other one's locked. We can't get in. We've got eight victims in triage. Two immediates I've already called in but we've also got three delayed and three minors.

I'll take you over there now. I've got these forms for you. Are there any patients in the two inaccessible rooms?

We don't know.

Okay. Glad you guys are here.

No problem.

Community Emergency Response Team members are trained to help themselves and others after a disaster. Until professional help arrives, CERTs work together, providing basic medical assistance, putting out small fires, searching for, and rescuing people who are trapped, acting as the eyes and ears for professional responders. By doing the greatest good for the greatest number, they make a difference when it is needed the most.