

FEMA Region III 2010 National Preparedness Month Results

Region III came in first place among the FEMA regions for the greatest number of National Preparedness Month (NPM) Coalition Members, both by final count and per capita in 2010. By September 30, Region III had 769 coalition members signed up (based on statistics collected by the *Ready* campaign and FEMA's Individual & Community Preparedness Division).

To recognize the successful efforts of its many partners, Region III held its 3rd Annual NPM Challenge. The NPM Challenge encourages Citizen Corps Programs and partners in Region III to plan, execute, and support emergency preparedness initiatives and events at the state and local levels. Both states and localities receive awards for unique and significant contributions throughout the month. In order to promote the NPM Challenge and to encourage general support for NPM, Region III's acting regional administrator sent a letter to state emergency management directors, announcing the Challenge and requesting their support for NPM.

In total, Region III collected more than **664** events and initiatives – a 29 percent increase over last year's numbers. The following state and local jurisdictions received award certificates and letters from the regional administrator for their outstanding service during NPM 2010:

State Awards

Pennsylvania

The Pennsylvania Citizen Corps program received the **2010 FEMA Region III Leading by Example Award** for superior collaboration among various state agencies and private sector partners in producing and supporting 159 emergency preparedness public education and engagement events during NPM 2010. In particular, Lehigh, Schuylkill, Cumberland, Philadelphia, Potter, Franklin, and York counties succeeded in executing a significant number of capacity-building activities during the month. Equally impressive was the breadth and quality of the more than 30 initiatives and activities executed by the state staff. Their creative efforts resulted in enhanced outreach to older residents, youth, low-income families, pet owners, Hispanic communities, and the private sector, among others.

The Pennsylvania Citizen Corps program also received the **2010 FEMA Region III Preparing Our Youth Award**. This award recognized Pennsylvania Citizen Corps and ReadyPA for implementing an initiative aimed at educating youth about emergency preparedness. Pennsylvania's new *Super Safety Squad* initiative engages children both in and out of school, and educates children in grades K-4. The award supports FEMA's

priority to educate youth in order to educate families about every individual's responsibility to be prepared for all hazards.

Delaware

The Delaware Citizen Corps Program received the **FEMA Region III 2010 Making a Difference Award**. Delaware was recognized for achieving an outstanding 46 percent increase in the number of events and activities supported during NPM; for conducting the greatest number of events and activities per capita in the region; and for being especially inclusive of access and functional communities during outreach efforts. Delaware's capstone project was another highly successful Annual Family Emergency Preparedness Day executed again this year in collaboration with more than 40 partners.

The Delaware Citizen Corps Program also received the **FEMA Region III Keeping Our Country Safe Award** for their efforts to bolster the public's role in combating terrorism. The award supports the tenets of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's new "See Something, Say Something" campaign and recognizes Delaware's efforts to raise public awareness about indicators of terrorism, crime and other threats, and the importance of reporting suspicious activity to law enforcement authorities. In partnership with the Governor's Office, Delaware's Secretary of Safety and Homeland Security, and the Delaware State Police, Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) and Delaware Citizen Corps were able to successfully implement a comprehensive statewide media campaign aimed at educating and engaging residents about this important topic.

Maryland

The Maryland Citizen Corps Program received the **2010 FEMA Region III United We Stand Award** for supporting and participating in the largest number of preparedness-related events in Region III during NPM this year – 204 events. Maryland boasted an extraordinary 80 percent increase in the number of events and activities supported through their Citizen Corps Program. In particular, Harford, Montgomery, Baltimore, Anne Arundel, Prince George's, Dorchester, Worcester, Washington, and Carroll counties succeeded in conducting and supporting an impressive number of high-quality capacity-building activities during the month. Efforts throughout the state were greatly encouraged and supported by personal communications from Maryland's director of emergency management this year.

West Virginia

The West Virginia Citizen Corps Program received the **2010 FEMA Region III Together We Succeed Award** for extraordinary leadership in executing and supporting 95 events and initiatives throughout the state during NPM 2010. The program was recognized for superior collaboration among various state agencies and partners and for an impressive number of initiatives promulgated by the state, including a comprehensive NPM statewide media campaign. In particular, Jefferson, Tyler and Greenbrier counties



succeeded in executing a significant number of exceptional capacity-building activities throughout the month. Equally impressive were the substantial efforts made by those who chose to focus on far-reaching collaborative endeavors, like the 17th Annual West Virginia People First Conference: Getting Prepared...Being Prepared, as well as initiatives like the Charleston Police Department's utilization of its Neighborhood Assistance Officers to guide third-graders through "Safety City." In addition, the West Virginia Citizen Corps' 2010 Youth Preparedness Project educated and engaged teachers, children, and families in Logan, Mingo, and Kanawha county schools, churches and YMCA/YWCA programs.

District of Columbia

The DC Citizen Corps program received the **2010 FEMA Region III Together We Succeed Award** for superior collaboration among multiple agencies and partners in executing and supporting 105 NPM events and initiatives in 2010. In particular, DC Citizen Corps' and Serve DC's strong partnership with the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) resulted in the execution of a significant number of quality capability-building initiatives, serving to both educate and engage DC residents. Especially noteworthy were events like September's Neighborhood Corps Academy; CERT in Spanish; multiple CERT trainings for senior assistant living programs; multiple preparedness trainings and presentations for residents with access and functional needs; MPD's Beat the Streets; the NCR Volunteer Mobilization F/S Exercise; the Ft. McNair Emergency Preparedness Expo; the HSEMA Clergy and Leadership Conference; the National Preparedness Expo; the OPM Security Expo; Preparedness in the Muslim Community; Preparedness Kids Fest; and the Commander Ready Kick-Off.

Virginia

The Virginia Citizen Corps Program received the **2010 FEMA Region III Pursuit of Excellence Award**. The award acknowledged the outstanding efforts of Virginia counties and local communities. Multiple Virginia counties, localities and voluntary organizations succeeded in conducting and supporting an impressive number of high-quality capacity-building activities during the month. Noteworthy events included Fairfax County's SUV Volunteer Management Exercise and emergency preparedness presentation at the Hijrah Islamic Center; Hampton's Citizens Police Academy; Gloucester's "A Prayer and A Plan" event and annual Emergency Preparedness Expo; Eastern Shore's Tangier Island health & preparedness outreach event and mass prophylaxis dispensing exercise, along with a flu and rabies clinic; Virginia Beach's first aid training for the homeless; and the City of Winchester's Community Safety Fair targeting children. In addition, the state promulgated an impressive number of initiatives this year, inclusive of partnerships with Lowe's, Radio Disney, Virginia Department of Transportation, and others.

Local Awards



Harford County, MD

Harford County Citizen Corps Council received a **2010 FEMA Region III Leading by Example Award** for dedicated service and tireless commitment to engaging and educating Harford County residents during NPM 2010. Harford County Citizen Corps developed and executed an astounding 37 separate preparedness initiatives during the month of September. In addition to a capstone event hosted at Ripken Stadium in collaboration with Minor League Baseball and the *Ready* campaign, Harford Citizen Corps worked creatively to engage and educate citizens in schools and libraries, and via cable television and other strategic forums. They also hosted a tabletop exercise and developed and aired a television show addressing planning considerations for residents with access and functional needs. Harford County Citizen Corps Council also held a series of workshops, teaching college employees how to respond to violent incidents on campus and discussing the continued efforts of the Joppatowne High School Homeland Security Management program to engage students.

Jefferson County, WV

Jefferson County Citizen Corps Council received the **2010 FEMA Region III United We Stand Award** for dedicated service and commitment to engaging and educating Jefferson County residents about what it really means to be prepared for emergencies. Jefferson County developed and executed an impressive 23 separate preparedness initiatives during the month of September. Particularly impressive was the quality and breadth of the Jefferson events, including those assisting homebound seniors, and those engaging children, families and businesses.

Leigh County, PA

Leigh County Citizen Corps received a **2010 FEMA Region III Together We Succeed Award**, recognizing their Council for developing and executing an impressive 13 separate preparedness initiatives during the month of September. In partnership with Lehigh Carbon Community College, and others, Leigh County was successful in holding a series of preparedness seminars, including those engaging families, businesses, public sector employees, older residents and pet owners. In addition, the Council executed a "Ready...Pack...Go" initiative and the county's 3rd Annual Emergency Preparedness Day.

Other State and local awards

In addition to the 2010 FEMA Region III NPM Challenge awards, state jurisdictions were provided the opportunity to recognize their counties, localities and Citizen Corps Councils with *2010 FEMA Region III Making A Difference Award* certificates, signed by both the regional administrator and the state emergency management director.